

**MEMORANDUM
PLACER COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Human Services Division**

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: Richard J. Burton, M.D., M.P.H.
Placer County Health Officer and Director of Health & Human Services
Maureen Bauman, Director, Adult System of Care

DATE: May 13, 2008

SUBJECT: Contract with Legal Services of Northern California

ACTION REQUESTED:

Approve the two-year contract with Legal Services of Northern California in the amount of \$85,000 to provide SSI/SSP and Medi-Cal advocacy services for the period from May 1, 2008 through April 30, 2010, and authorize the Director of Health and Human Services to sign the contract and subsequent amendments up to 10% of the total contract amount.

BACKGROUND:

The purpose of this agreement is to provide legal advocacy to clients to assist them in applying for and receiving eligibility for programs that are federal- and state-funded. This results in a transfer of fiscal responsibility and often includes a retroactive reimbursement to Placer County. Through client advocacy, often a client can be linked to a program that is federal- and/or state-funded. In addition to benefiting the client, this contract has been a successful tool in reducing the cost of the General Relief and Medical Care Services programs, and in enhancing revenues for services provided by both the Adult System of Care and Community Clinics.

Placer County HHS has contracted with Legal Services of Northern California for advocacy services since 1999. Prior to this contract, the County was only able to provide a limited amount of advocacy. The working relationship between Legal Services of Northern California and the County has been very successful over the years of operation, resulting in an average annual reimbursement to Placer County of approximately \$100,000. These reimbursements are generated through the successful advocacy on the part of Legal Services of Northern California in obtaining Social Security and Medi-Cal benefits for these clients.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Funds are available within the Client and Program Aid Budget to cover these contract payments. While the contract is 100% funded with County General Funds, the reimbursements received through successful client advocacy exceed the cost of the contract.

The following documents:

Legal Services of Northern California

is on file with Clerk of the Board

for BOS meeting:

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