

MEMORANDUM
PLACER COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Children's System of Care

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: Jeffrey S. Brown, M.P.H., M.S.W., Director of Health and Human Services
Richard S. Knecht, Director of Children's System of Care

DATE: May 20, 2014

SUBJECT: RFP Award and Contract for Provision of Transitional Housing Placement-Plus Program

ACTION REQUESTED:

1. Approve the award of Request for Proposals (RFP) No. 10320 for a Transitional Housing Placement-Plus (THP-Plus) Program for housing assistance and intensive services to emancipated foster youth, and
2. Approve a contract with Whole Person Learning, Inc. in the amount of \$1,188,000 (no net County cost) from July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2016, and authorize the Director of Health and Human Services to sign subsequent amendments up to a total of \$49,999, consistent with the agreement's subject matter and scope of work.

BACKGROUND:

Young adults exiting the foster care system often face unique challenges. In order to provide the most effective support services to these vulnerable young people, specialized support and care services are delivered through community partnership. Through this agreement, the Children's System of Care provides transitional housing, counseling, career education, problem solving, budgeting, and support for youth to access needed community resources. These services prevent homelessness, substance abuse and deter criminal behavior for emancipating foster youth struggling to transition to adulthood.

This year, an RFP was released for these services. Notification of the RFP was distributed to 31 agencies of which 17 downloaded the RFP. A total of three interested agencies responded to this RFP, out of a total of 31 who were invited to compete. The evaluation panel, comprised of staff from Children's System of Care, Adult System of Care, and another community-based agency with expertise in this area, reviewed and rated the proposals. The proposers were rated as follows:

1. Whole Person Learning, Inc., Auburn, CA
2. Unity Care Group, San Jose, CA
3. Remi Vista, Inc., Redding, CA

The evaluation panel recommends award of the Transitional Housing Placement-Plus contract to Whole Person Learning, which received a total score of 405.3 out of a possible 420 maximum points. The evaluation panel determined that Whole Person Learning was the most qualified, is a local vendor, and presented a well written proposal, which not only addressed the needs for services by Placer youth, but demonstrated the agency's exceptional outcomes with this population in recent years.

Whole Person Learning, Inc. has provided services to youth at risk of homelessness and substance abuse for more than 20 years. In FY 2012-13, a total of 36 emancipating foster youth successfully transitioned to adulthood. Of these, 66 percent continued on to college, compared to 10 percent of former foster youth nationwide, and 100 percent completed high school, compared to 50 percent of nationally emancipated foster youth.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Total two year expenditures of \$1,188,000 are unchanged from the previous annual contract amount of \$594,000. \$594,000 is included in the Department's FY 2014-15 Requested Budget and the remainder of \$594,000 will be included in the Department's FY 2015-16 Requested Budget. This contract is funded entirely by State funds and no County General Funds are required.

This contract is on file with Clerk of the Board for review.

