TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Jeffrey S. Brown, M.P.H., M.S.W., Director of Health and Human Services
SUBJECT: Contract with Placer County Office of Education for Childcare Services

DATE: June 7, 2016

ACTION REQUESTED
1. Approve a contract with Placer County Office of Education (PCOE) for Childcare Services, for California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) Welfare to Work programs for the period July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017 in the amount of $2,215,000 (no net County cost), and authorize the Director of Health and Human Services (HHS) to sign subsequent amendments up to five percent (5%) of the total contract amount, consistent with the agreement’s subject matter and scope of work.

BACKGROUND
The childcare funding continuum for CalWORKs clients is comprised of three stages. Stage One funds are allocated to County welfare agencies for childcare to families receiving cash assistance who do not have stable employment. Stages Two and Three are allocated to PCOE for childcare for families who have stable employment or who have transitioned off of cash assistance.

Since the implementation of CalWORKs in 1998, HHS has contracted with PCOE for the administration of Stage One funds. By contracting with PCOE to make the direct childcare provider payments, a seamless system for the delivery of childcare services is established, maximizing the efficiency and cost effectiveness of managing the three program stages.

For the two prior years, the State has increased funding in the Welfare to Work program to increase the number of participants who find employment and leave cash aid for self-sufficiency. While the State and Placer County are currently meeting the prescribed federal requirements for work participation, we continue to have a large number of participants in the program who need childcare services, particularly those with young children. Additionally, provider costs have increased.

Under the new contract, an average of 250 children per month will receive childcare services for FY 2016-17, which facilitates their parent’s efforts in finding and maintaining employment.

FISCAL IMPACT
This contract totaling $2,215,000, which includes childcare payments and PCOE administration, is included in the Department’s FY 2016-17 Requested Budget. It is funded exclusively with Federal and State funds; therefore, no County General Funds are required.

A copy of this contract is on file with Clerk of the Board for review.