



**MEMORANDUM**  
**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**  
**CHILDREN'S SYSTEMS OF CARE DIVISION**  
County of Placer

**TO:** Honorable Board of Supervisors **DATE:** June 28, 2022  
**FROM:** Robert Oldham, Director of Health and Human Services  
**BY:** Joey Wojtowicz, Staff Services Analyst II  
**SUBJECT:** Agreement with Social Change Partners, LLC for Specialized Consulting Services

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**ACTION REQUESTED**

Approve an agreement with Social Change Partners, LLC to conduct specialized collaborative planning, needs assessment, and development of the federal Families First Prevention Services Act Comprehensive Prevention Plan, California Department of Social Services required Child and Family Self-Assessment for Child Welfare, the CalWORKS required Self-Assessment, and the Child Abuse Prevention Council Strategic Plan from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023, in an amount not to exceed \$225,000 and authorize the Director of Health and Human Services to sign the agreement with Risk Management and County Counsel concurrence, and to sign subsequent amendments up to \$22,500 consistent with the agreement's subject matter and scope of work with Risk Management and County Counsel concurrence.

**BACKGROUND**

The Families First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) reforms federal child welfare financing to authorize the use of Title IV-E funding for specified services to families who have a child at imminent risk of entering into foster care. The FFPSA and California's implementation plan, created by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS), has impacts on Title XIX and contains eight parts, which contains many components and requirements that counties must quickly learn and comply with. FFPSA Part I, and the newly enacted Welfare & Institutions Code (WIC) 16586 and 16587, which allows for the use of funding for these prevention services, specifies the requirements for counties to opt into the program by submitting a local plan developed in consultation with relevant entities. The Comprehensive Plan must include a continuum of primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention and intervention strategies, in accordance with instructions from CDSS, and must meet all federal requirements as well.

The California Department of Social Services is required by federal statute to have Child Welfare and Probation Departments in counties conduct a County Self-Assessment, Child and Family Services Review (C-CSFR) every 5 years to review data, identify gaps and areas of improvement needed, conduct community planning processes, and eventually leading to a System Improvement Plan (SIP), which also then requires annual updates to track progress on goals and outcomes.

The CalWORKs program is required to conduct CalWORKs Outcomes and Accountability

Review (Cal-OAR), a local, data-driven process to facilitate continuous improvement of the county CalWORKs program by collecting, analyzing, and disseminating outcomes and best practices. As required by WIC 11523, Cal-OAR consists of three core components: performance indicators, a county CalWORKs self-assessment (Cal-CSA), and a CalWORKs System Improvement Plan (Cal-SIP). The Cal-OAR process (including the Cal-CSA and Cal-SIP) takes place over five-year cycles. Cal-OAR was implemented July 1, 2021 with Placer's first qualitative assessment report, the Cal-CSA, due March 31, 2023. This planning process would also be conducted as part of this agreement.

Counties are required to have local Child Abuse Prevention Councils (CAPC) to promote awareness and provide education in and to the community on the presence and impacts of child abuse. The CAPCs also monitor child abuse and neglect prevalence data, review geographical data to determine needs in the community, and are responsible to create a community prevention plan. This strategic prevention plan would also be created as part of this agreement.

A review by the Placer County Procurement Department has deemed this contract to be exempt to the competitive process due to professional services per procurement policy 3.5b. FFPSA is new federal legislation and many firms are not qualified at this time to provide this specialized consulting to create the required Comprehensive Prevention Plan. Social Change Partners, LLC is a consulting firm who has been qualified by CDSS to be a vendor to provide this specialized consulting service and currently holds contracts in multiple counties to provide services leading to the new Comprehensive Prevention Plan. Placer County Children's System of Care and Human Services, as divisions within Health and Human Services, are proposing to streamline the data gathering process, needs assessments, and community planning process for these multiple required plans, by hosting joint focus groups and aligning similar goals and objectives where possible. This will lend an efficiency to the process and ensure that community partners are brought together for multiple purposes and will eliminate the need for them to attend a series of meetings, asking for redundant information and input into similar processes.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Total expenditures under this contract are \$225,000 and are included in the Department's FY 2022-23 Budget. Funding for this contract consists of State and Federal funding and no County General Funds are required.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

None

The agreement is on file with Clerk of the Board for review.