

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

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: Richard J. Burton, M.D., M.P.H.
Placer County Health Officer and Director of Health & Human Services
C.B. Bautista, Director, Children's System of Care

DATE: December 5, 2006

SUBJECT: Amendment to contract with Child Abuse Prevention Council to add Supervised Visitation and Team Decision Making services

ACTION REQUESTED:

Approve an amendment to Contract #CN012263 with Child Abuse Prevention Council of Placer County (CAPC), adding Supervised Visitation and Team Decision Making (TDM) services from July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007 in the amount of \$62,832, for a revised total contract amount of \$401,832, and authorize the Director of Health and Human Services to sign this amendment and subsequent amendments.

BACKGROUND:

Placer County averages approximately 200 children each month who are participating in a family reunification process. Over 90% of these children have been removed from their families due to a potential safety risk or inability to appropriately supervise their child. Although the child was removed, the bond as a family remains high and there remains potential to return the child home. Reunification of the family is the highest priority if at all possible. Visitation between the parents and the child is often a requirement of the court. However, due to the risk factors to the child in the early part of the reunification process, it is required that these visits be performed under supervision.

The previous Supervised Visitation agreement with another provider was unexpectedly discontinued in June 2006. Immediate provision of services was required in order to satisfy court orders regarding reunification of families and visitation rights of the parents. CAPC is qualified to conduct the services, and was willing to provide quick access to space and staff resources to complete the required visitation requirements. Evaluation regarding whether this arrangement would be temporary or permanent delayed the finalization of this amendment.

Team Decision Making is a family team process that focuses on placement issues. It improves decision making on out-of-home placement, encourages support and "buy-in" of the family, extended family, and community to placement decisions, and helps develop specific, individualized interventions to help reunite the family. This process is an evidence-based practice in which the courts have reported a significant reduction in contested hearings. In FY2005-06, the pilot year for the project, we conducted 121 TDMs. With full implementation of TDMs in FY2006-07, this number is expected to increase significantly. Between July and September 2006, 68 TDMs had already been completed.

CAPC is the primary resource for families through the Family Resource Centers and is an excellent source of knowledge about community resources for Team Decision Making meetings, coordination of times, etc. CAPC has been involved in other aspects of the Child Welfare Services (CWS) redesign process for the past two years. Other agencies have been invited repeatedly to participate in the planning, training, and implementation of the TDM functions, but have not expressed a desire to participate.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The expenditures for this amendment have been budgeted in CSOC for FY 2006-07. TDM scheduling is funded with \$32,832 in Federal and State CWS Outcome and Improvement allocation – formerly described as CWS Redesign. Supervised visitation is funded by CWS State general funds (\$15,000), sales tax realignment funds (\$11,000), and County general funds (\$4,000).

The following Contract for:

**Child Abuse Prevention
Council of Placer County**

is on file with the Clerk of the Board
for BOS meeting:

December 5, 2006