

**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
Richard S. Knecht, M.S., Director of Children's System of Care

DATE: June 24, 2008

SUBJECT: Contract with Whole Person Learning for mandated Independent Living Skills services

ACTION REQUESTED:

Approve a contract with Whole Person Learning in the amount of \$241,461 to provide mandated Independent Living Skills services to eligible Placer County youth ages 16-21 from July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009, and authorize the Director of Health and Human Services to sign the contract and subsequent amendments up to 10% of the total amount. An additional expenditure of approximately \$2,500 in Chaffee Post Secondary Education and Training Vouchers is also included as a component of these services. There are no County General Funds within this contract and these costs are reflected in the department's 2008/09 Proposed Budget.

BACKGROUND:

Federal and state guidelines require that foster care adolescents and emancipated foster youth, ages 16 to 21, receive services specifically designed to assist them in transitioning into adulthood successfully. These services include life skills training, educational and vocational/career preparation, problem solving and budgeting, and support in accessing needed community resources. These services are demonstrably effective in preventing homelessness, substance abuse, and criminal behavior. A recent comparison of Placer's Independent Living Skills Program outcomes to other counties found that Placer's exiting foster youth exceed state averages in rates of graduation, employment, and living in non-subsidized housing.

Whole Person Learning has provided these services within Placer County for 20-plus years by delivering both one-on-one mentoring and group workshops. In the most recently completed year, nearly 200 youth received these key services to effectively prepare them for adulthood.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Funding for this contract is included in the Children's System of Care FY2008/09 proposed budget, and is unchanged from the prior year's amount. The funding consists of \$241,461 in state (\$100,716) and federal (\$140,745) dollars, and approximately \$2,500 in the form of a Chaffee Post Secondary Education and Training Vouchers allocation. No County General Funds are required.

The following document:

Whole Person Learning

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

June 24, 2008