

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 and Human Services
Richard S. Knecht, Director of Children's System of Care

DATE: June 18, 2013

SUBJECT: Placer County Children's System of Care System Improvement Plan 2013-2018

ACTION REQUESTED:

1. Approve the Placer County Children's System of Care five-year System Improvement Plan (SIP) and authorize the Director of Health and Human Services to submit the plan to the California Department of Social Services, and
2. Approve the Notice of Intent to designate the Placer County Children's System of Care as the public agency to administer funding as specified in the SIP, and indicate the County's intent to contract with public or private non-profit agencies to provide services.

BACKGROUND:

The Placer County Children's System of Care conducts routine quality improvement and review processes in all service sectors. One element of this ongoing process is the federal Administration for Children and Families requirement that states and counties participate in routine and ongoing review of core mandates that comprise the children's welfare and probation systems. There are 14 outcomes in all, including functions related to child protective services, foster care, adoption, probation services and related programs.

Placer County recently completed its most recent process, first conducting an initial county self-assessment of local program operations and systemic factors, and hosting peer counties in a review of processes and policies. Finally, teams developed a five-year SIP to set objectives and goals for selected outcomes. The Placer Model, celebrated for its efficiency and quality in many areas, continues to be successful in many areas, including reducing demand for group home care by 25 percent since 2006, reducing out-of-state placements by 60 percent, and reducing the number of wards in the county's Juvenile Detention Facility by 50 percent.

The 2013-2018 SIP was developed through an analysis of countywide data for County-provided and community-based program activities. Staff and community-based focus groups reviewed the data and helped design an action plan. This required improvement plan builds on historic successes by addressing four priorities in Placer County, including placement stability, timeliness of data entry, use of the least restrictive residential services by Probation youth, and increased use of specialty services for Native American youth.

The System Improvement Plan, once approved by your Board, will be submitted to the State and will become the guiding document for ongoing Child Welfare and Probation improvement processes.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Expenditures of \$155,000 for the System Improvement Plan are included in the Department's FY 2013-14 Proposed Budget, including \$140,000 in federal and State funding, and \$15,000 in County General Funds. Funding for these activities will be included in the Department's Requested Budgets for the subsequent four years of this plan.

The System Improvement Plan is on file with the Clerk of the Board for review.

