MARIPOSA COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
BY: Cheryle Rutherford-Kelly
PHONE: 966-3609

RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION: POLICY ITEM: YES ( ) NO (X )

SEE ATTACHED

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

SEE ATTACHED

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

COSTS: ( ) Not Applicable
A. Budgeted CURRENT FY$________________
B. Total anticipated costs $___________
C. Required add'l funding $___________
D. Internal transfers $___________
   SOURCE: ( ) 4/5's vote required
A. Unanticipated revenues $___________
B. Reserve for Contingencies $___________
C. Source description: __________________________________________

Balance in Reserve for Contingencies,
if approved: $___________

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: List the attachments and number pages accordingly:

CLERK'S USE ONLY:
Resolution No.: 02 - 45
Ordinance No.: ______________________
Vote: Ayes: ______ Noes: ______
   Absent: ______ Abstain: ______
   Approved ( ) Denied
   ( ) Minute Order attached.
   ( ) No Action Necessary.
The foregoing instrument is a correct copy of the original on file in this office.
Date: ______________________

MARGIE WILLIAMS
Clerk of the Board,
County of Mariposa,
State of California

BY: ________________
Deputy

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:
This item on Agenda as:
( ) Recommended
( ) Returned for further action
( ) Not recommended
( ) Submitted w/ comment
( ) Policy determination

Comment: ______________________

A.O. Initials: __________

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Date: January 30, 2002

TO: Members, Board of Supervisors
FROM: Cheryle Rutherford-Kelly
RE: Mental Health/Authorization to Apply for Grant

Recommendation

In conjunction with Mariposa County Unified School District, it is respectfully recommended that your Board authorize the Mental Health Department, Kingsview, to apply for a grant in the amount of $150,000 from Proposition 10 for outreach and treatment for children zero to five years old.

Background

Mariposa Counseling Center continues to see a growth in referrals for counseling services for families with children from birth to 5 years old. The Center currently has no therapists specialized in the assessment and treatment of children from birth to 5 yrs. of age. In addition, there is inadequate funding available through existing mental health funds to serve this population for such needed contracted services as psycho-neurological testing and evaluation or child psychiatry medication evaluations. The school does not have monies available for these needed services.

Current Situation

Mariposa Counseling Center seeks to apply for a grant from local Prop 10 funding to work collaboratively with the school district, specifically Healthy Start. This program, entitled Parents As First Teachers, aims to provide outreach services to families at risk, teach healthy parenting skills, mentor families on positive parent-child behaviors, teach appropriate developmental tasks to children, fund outside specialists for psycho-neurological and/or child psychiatric services and provide small groups, individual as well as family therapy, to parents and their pre-school children.

The goal of this joint collaborative is to increase effective parenting by using parents as the most appropriate teachers and school staff and a therapist as assistants. Through this method, Parents As First Teachers intends to reduce the incidences of out of control children and decrease underdeveloped and unhealthy children, which draw untold resources from our community, as they grow older.

Justification

This program is aimed at addressing an unmet need in our community, namely professional mental health services to children birth to 5 yrs. of age. Historically those in this target group that need the services the most are reluctant to seek it out, embarrassed or in denial about needing assistance. Others are unable to afford transportation to obtain services, if they exist. This program would work to overcome those barriers.

This service will be provided countywide, at designated sites as well as in family homes.

Financial

The joint request from both the school district and mental health is $150,000 per year. This funding includes a full time therapist, staff costs for two different school individuals, travel expenses, parenting supplies, rent, administration costs, and county department overhead.

The joint grant amount requested will be $150,000 per year. There is no cash match required and there will be no impact on the County General Fund.