MARIPOSA COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

DEPARTMENT: Human Services Dept.
Social Services Division

BY: Cheryle Rutherford-Kelly
Phone: 966-3609

AGENDA
ACTION FORM
AGENDA ITEM NO.: CA-5

DATE: April 3, 2001

RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION: (Policy Item: Yes ___ No X)

SEE ATTACHED

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

SEE ATTACHED

LIST ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

SEE ATTACHED

COSTS:
( ) Not Applicable
A. Budgeted current FY $________
B. Total anticipated costs $________
C. Required additional funding $0
D. Internal Transfers $0

SOURCE: ( ) 4/5ths 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 the pages consecutively:

CLERK’S USE ONLY:
Res. No.: 01-100
Ord. No. ____________________________
Vote - Ayes: 5
Noes: __________
Absent: ______
(#) Approved ( ) Denied
(#) Minute Order Attached ( ) No Action Necessary

The foregoing instrument is a correct copy of the original on file in this office.
Date:

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

BY: _____________________________
Deputy

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER’S RECOMMENDATION:
This item on agenda as:

_______ Recommended
_______ Not Recommended
_______ For Policy Determination
_______ Submitted with Comment
_______ Returned for Further Action

Comment: ________________________

A.O. Initials: ___________________

Action Form Revised 5/92
March 20, 2001

TO: Members, Board of Supervisors
FROM: Cheryle Rutherford-Kelly
RE: Contract for Professional Services / Child Welfare and Protection

**Recommendation**

It is respectfully recommended that your Board authorize us to enter into a short-term contract with Betty Massey, LCSW, who has agreed to provide clinical counseling in Child Welfare Services/CPS.

**Discussion**

Child Welfare Services is seriously understaffed and there is a need to professionalize the unit. One of our residents, Ms. Betty Massey, was a Social Service Supervisor II in Monterey County. She has agreed to work up to 2 ½ days per week under contract until such time as we can secure staff for child welfare/CPS.

Ms. Massey will provide services to battered children and their families. She will not be focused on emergency response and will therefore be able to assist parents to solve the problems that brought them to the attention of child welfare and, in some cases, the Juvenile Court. She will also be counseling the children. This approach will be the first move towards specialized caseloads and will commence the movement from case management to clinical social work practice.

Ms. Massey will be expected to work within the perimeters of systematic risk assessment (consensus model) which has just been implemented in the department. An explanation of how risk assessment works is included in a letter forwarded to our community partners and is attached for your information.

**Financial**

We will contract out of our current year allocation and there is absolutely no impact on County general funds. We will pay this professional $35 per hour, which is an extremely reasonable rate. There is a lack of MSWs/LCSWs throughout California and the United States. To secure the services of these individuals, especially one with expertise in CWS/CPS, requires competitive wages and contracts.

**Alternatives**

The current staff is working long hours, nights and weekends. We could continue this practice but it is risky because staff needs to be focused and rested to accomplish their difficult jobs.