RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2016-252

MEETING: May 24, 2016

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Chevon Kothari, Human Services Director

RE: Authorize Submission of County Victim Services Program Grant

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:
Authorize the Submission of the County Victim Services Grant through the California Office of Emergency Services; and Authorize the Board of Supervisors Chair to Sign the Application.

Mariposa County Human Services is requesting permission to submit a grant application through the California Office of Emergency Services County Victim Services (XC) Program. Funds in the amount of $141,488 over a 24-month period (July 1, 2016-June 30, 2018) will be used to develop a plan and implement supports to address gaps and unmet needs for victims of crime.

The Human Services Department convened a steering committee and facilitated a planning process with our partners from the following agencies: District Attorney’s Office, Victim Witness Services Program, Sheriff’s Department, Probation Department, Alliance for Community Transformations, Mariposa Safe Families, Kene-Me-Wu, Valley Educational Services, Mariposa County Superior Courts, etc. The results of the planning process demonstrated that the following were the top needs/gaps in services for victims in the County: Children’s and Adults’ Mental Health Services; services for victims who don’t go through criminal justice system (33%); transportation, especially linking victims from the North County area to services; and emergency funds for items that cannot be paid for out of existing funds, such as the Victim Compensation Funds.

The attached proposal and plan was developed as a response to the planning process findings to fund the following strategies should funds be awarded:

- Development of a Mental Health Fund to pay private providers to serve victims who may not have access to other supports (either as a result of not being eligible for Victim Compensation Funds or having a cost prohibitive share of cost for other Mental Health Services).

- Funding for an advocate from the Mariposa County District Attorney’s Office-Victim Witness Services Program to provide services one day per week via the Human Services Office in the North County area to better serve that community.

- Funding for the Alliance for Community Transformations to provide
transportation to victims to and from court, interviews and essential services.

- Funding for an emergency fund to pay for unanticipated or unfunded costs incurred by victims due to loss of property or need to relocate, etc.

Matching funds for the grant, in the amount of $35,372 will be provided by Mariposa County Human Services in administration of the grant as well as in-kind office space in our North County office in Coulterville.

If the County does not apply for these grants, certain needs of victims in our County will continue to go unaddressed until we are able to identify other funding sources to meet them.

There will be no cost to the County General Fund.

**BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:**
The Board has previously authorized victim services grant applications.

**ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:**
If this grant is not submitted, the County will continue to have gaps in mental health and transportation services for victims living in the North County area. There will also be less emergency funding for items that cannot be paid for out of our existing funds than if the grant were submitted and approved.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**
If approved, this grant will bring approximately $141,488 over two years in federal revenue into Mariposa County. Dependent on timing, a budget action will accompany the request for grant acceptance or the grant award will be included in the Requested/Recommended Fiscal Year 2016-17 Budget. There will be no impact to the County General Fund.

**ATTACHMENTS:**
Victim Services Program Grant Application (PDF)

**CAO RECOMMENDATION**
Requested Action Recommended

Mary Hodson, CAO
5/19/2016

**RESULT:** ADOPTED BY CONSENT VOTE [UNANIMOUS]
**MOVER:** Kevin Cann, District IV Supervisor
**SECONDER:** Marshall Long, District III Supervisor
**AYES:** Smallcombe, Jones, Long, Cann, Carrier