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

Discussion and Action Regarding the Addition of an Afternoon Session at the
Mariposa Head Start Center and a Corresponding Reduction in the Provision
of Home Base Services. (Based on community and parent needs).

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

The Board has supported the Head Start Program for three years.

LIST ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

Retain current Program option of one morning session at the Mariposa
Center.

COSTS: (x) 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: $__________

CLERK’S USE ONLY:
Resolution No.: 95-407
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: ____________________________

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

BY: ____________________________
Deputy

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS
List the attachments and number pages accordingly:
2 Page Letter

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER’S RECOMMENDATION:

This item on Agenda as: Recommended
( ) Not recommended
( ) Policy determination
( ) Submitted w/ comment
( ) Returned for further action
Comment: ____________________________

A.O. Initials: ____________________________
September 1, 1995

Marcia Beersdorf
US HHS/ACYF
Office of Family Supportive Services
50 United Nations Plaza, Room 483
San Francisco CA 94102

RE: MARIPOSA COUNTY HEAD START. 09CH0202.

Dear Ms. Beersdorf:

The Mariposa County Head Start Program requests your approval to provide double sessions at the Mariposa Center. Sessions would be provided from 8:00 AM - 12:15 PM and 12:30 PM - 4:30 PM. This request is made in response to the needs of the parents of Head Start children. Over 90% of eligible applicants have requested Center-based services. If you approve this request, the Mariposa County Head Start Program would provide services for 77 children as follows:
* Mariposa Center (2 sessions X 17 children) ......... 34
* Greeley Hill Center (1 session X 20 children) ....... 20
* Countywide Home Base Program ..................... 23.

The double session at the Mariposa Center can be accomplished by simply reassigning existing personnel. Any increased expenses associated with increased usage of the center such as food and utilities would be more than offset by reductions in Home Teacher travel and other efficiencies. Coordination with the Mariposa County Unified School District, providing family services (particularly to children with special needs), and other important aspects of the local Head Start Program will not be adversely affected. In fact, services and coordination will likely be provided with even greater efficiency. This proposal also makes better usage of the Mariposa classroom and equipment.

Cross training and a flexible staff allow a rapid response to the needs of parents and the community. The Mariposa Center Teacher will provide overall supervision of the
double session program and be responsible for required reports and home visits. 1 1/2 positions will be reassigned from the Home Base program to the Center Program. The Teachers Aide and Head Start Cook schedules will be also be revised. All aspects of the Mariposa County Head Start Program will be operated in accordance with Head Start regulations and Performance Standards and California Community Care Licensing regulations.

The Policy Council has approved the double session. Mariposa County Board of Supervisors approval will be requested on September 12, 1995.

Thank you for your consideration of my request. Staff and parents believe approval of this request will improve services to Head Start families.

Please feel free to contact me regarding this or any other matter.

Sincerely,

DEBRA A. DAWSON,
Head Start Program Director

cc: James F. Evans, Director