RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2019-131

MEETING: March 12, 2019

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Chevon Kothari, Health and Human Services Director

RE: 2018-2023 County Self Improvement Plan for California Child and Family Services Review

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:
Approve the 2018-2023 County Self Improvement Plan (SIP) for the California Child and Family Services Review (C-CFSR); Authorize the Board of Supervisors Chair to Sign the SIP; and Authorize Health and Human Services Agency to Submit the SIP to the California Department of Social Services (CDSS).

As part of a five year cycle, each California County must create two distinct reports, County Self Assessment (CSA) and the System Improvement Plan (SIP). The purpose of the CSA is to focus the County on areas needing improvement and to involve the entire child and family service community in developing an assessment of where strengths and needs exist. The County is required to conduct a comprehensive self-assessment every five years, including a report and analysis of how the County performed on each of the Federal and State outcomes and indicators. The purpose of the SIP is to create an operational agreement between the County and the State outlining county strategies and actions to improve the Child Welfare and Juvenile Probation systems. The County will provide CDSS with an annual update to the County SIP. These updates will show both progress made during the year and changes needed based on additional information. Only the SIP requires Board of Supervisors approval and signature.

Both of these reports incorporated input from various child welfare constituents and required input from numerous County and community agencies that serve families and children. Also included were families who have been served by either Child Welfare Services or Probation. The CSA found the needs and concerns of our county to include better communication between social workers and children/youth/families, housing shortages, lack of public transportation, lack of resources in the North County area, heeding youth voices, expediting the RFA process, and more parent support groups.

The SIP builds from the CSA and identifies strategies that work to improve the needs and concerns. For the next five years Child Welfare Services and Juvenile Probation will work on three Strategies which include: Continue to improve services to Resources Families, improve our presence on the north side of the County, and more services for
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biological parents and legal guardians. Each of the strategies has a number of action steps that identify exactly what is needed. Examples of action steps include a fatherhood program, a support group for biological parents, a full time social worker in North County, and more specialized trainings for Resource Families.

In addition to the SIP, prevention and community-based services that utilize CAPIT/CBCAP/PSSF funds are also part of the SIP and currently Mariposa Safe Families and CASA provide these services.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:
The Board has approved similar actions in the past. On September 3, 2013, the Board adopted Resolution 2013-371 approving the 2013 County Self Assessment for California’s Child and Family Services Review.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:
Make changes to the report and re-submit for approval. Delay in approval will delay and shorten the time available to develop the next steps in the SIP.

ATTACHMENTS:
System Improvement Plan 2018-2023 (DOCX)

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Rosemarie Smallcombe, District I Supervisor
SECONDER: Merlin Jones, District II Supervisor
AYES: Smallcombe, Jones, Long, Cann, Menetrey