

ALAMEDA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Monday, May 23, 2016

12:30 p.m.

Supervisor Nate Miley, Chair
Supervisor Richard Valle

Location: Board of Supervisors' Chambers – Room 512 – 5th Floor
County Administration Building
1221 Oak Street, Oakland, CA 94612

Summary/Action Minutes

I. Discussion on AB 833 Childcare Pilot

[Attachment](#)

Angie Garling, Early Care and Education Program Administrator, General Services Agency, presented a PowerPoint presentation on the AB 833 Childcare Subsidy Pilot.

The Childcare Subsidy Pilot (AB 833) program seeks to address families in high cost areas that do not normally qualify for childcare subsidies. Also, state reimbursement rates to direct service contractors are too low to cover true costs of childcare. This program would authorize the County to develop and implement individualized child care subsidy plans and provide only limited flexibility.

With the support of the Committee, the Early Care and Education Childcare Program will begin a needs assessment and developing a plan for the pilot.

Purpose:

- Report progress
- Advocacy or Education
- Request Social Services Committee Recommendation or Position**
- Other:

Recommendation from Social Services Committee: Approve. Move to the full Board of Supervisors.

II. Discussion on Adult Protective Services Media Campaign

[Attachment](#)

Randy Morris, Assistant Agency Director, Adult & Aging, Social Services Agency presented introductory comments and Alicia Morales, Division Director, Division of Adult Protection presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Adult Protective Services Media Campaign.

There is one in fourteen allegations of abuse reported in Alameda County and the Adult Protective Services (APS) staff is not adequately staffed to respond to all reports of abuse throughout the abuse reporting hotline. Due to space and location restraints the Social Services Agency has been delayed in hiring new staff for APS.

In October of 2015, the Board of Supervisors approved a contract to target elder financial abuse, in which the APS staff has used some of the funds to implement a media campaign to encourage reporting of financial elder abuse. The campaign has three (3) components: 1) print materials in multiple languages; 2) community commercial and 3) TV & Social Media advertising. The goals of the campaign are to increase awareness and reduce the number of incidents not reported.

Purpose:

- Report progress**
- Advocacy or Education
- Request Social Services Committee Recommendation or Position
- Other:

This item was informational only and required no Committee action.

III. Update on Another Road to Safety Program

[Attachment](#)

Michelle Love, Assistant Agency Director, Department of Children & Family Services, presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Agency's Another Road to Safety Program.

Another Road to Safety (ARS) is a community based, early intervention and prevention program that utilizes the Strengthening Families approach. The program provides three to six months of intensive in home support programs for families at risk of intervention by the Department of Children and Family Services. Services, including assessment, case management and referrals to resources are provided by community based organizations.

ARS provides services to families in teams which include: Teams include: Family Partners, Family Support Specialists, Clinical Supervisors, and Program Directors. The team approach, developed by ARS, is considered to be a major strength for the program. The partnership provides a multi-layered, culturally responsive approach for families as a result of the service providers' diverse experiences. Both partners are supervised by a Clinical Supervisor and routinely participate in team meetings and consultations with Children's Hospital.

Families referred to the Child Abuse Hotline, that do not meet the criteria for investigation, but who may benefit from intensive in home support are eligible for the ARS program.

The program's goals include:

- Increased safety and protection of children at risk for child abuse and neglect;
- Children maintained safely in their home with strength based community services and support resulting in fewer children involved in the child welfare system;
- Greater family and community involvement in protection of children, resulting in increased child well-being and family stabilization;
- Promote fairness and equity for families referred to ARS by providing culturally appropriate services; and
- Promote family autonomy and self-sufficiency through community services and partnerships.

Speakers

Aaron Ortiz, Executive Director, La Familia Counseling Services, stated that La Familia has been a part of the ARS program since 2003, however due to conflicts with the lead agency A Better Way, as of May 30, 2016, La Familia will no longer be a part of the contract. The change will affect the families that are served by La Familia as they are not familiar with A Better Way. Mr. Ortiz requested that the contract for the ARS program go out for bid again by the end of this calendar year as they would like to continue serving their clients.

Myeeka Calhoun, La Familia Counseling Services, and former client, stated that a lot of the families that she serves, it will be very hard for them to transition to working with another agency.

Ana Ochoa, La Familia Counseling Services, stated that she has been a part of the ARS program for the last eight years and she is concerned about the level of services her clients will receive as a result of losing the contract.

Speakers

Elizabeth Ventura, La Familia Counseling Services, stated that she has been working with the ARS program for four years, and it will be difficult losing these services in South County, and a lot of families do not want to transfer services to A Better Way.

Quiana Broussard, La Familia Counseling Services, stated that she has been with the ARS program for eighteen months and several families are not willing to transfer to A Better Way, as La Familia staff has developed trust with the clients.

Purpose:

- Report progress
- Advocacy or Education**
- Request Social Services Committee Recommendation or Position
- Other:

Recommendation from the Social Services Committee: The Social Services Committee will agendaize a presentation from the community based organization, A Better Way, to present their plan to provide ARS services to South County and their transition plan with families.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

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