

**ALAMEDA COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS'
SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE**

Monday, June 30, 2014

12:00 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. Child Welfare System Improvement Plan

Michelle Love, Assistant Agency Director, Department of Children and Family Services presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Agency's Child Welfare System Improvement Plan (SIP) for 2014 through 2019.

In 2001, Assembly Bill 636 was enacted to provide a framework for outcome based reviews in all counties. It is intended to monitor and assess the quality of services provided on behalf of children in the welfare system with an emphasis on safety, well-being and permanency.

The SIP serves as the operational agreement between the California Department of Social Services and the County. It provides an outline for how the County will improve its system of care for children and families over the next five years. The SIP includes input community members, County staff and other external stakeholders and supports the Agency's Title IV-E Waiver Plan and goals.

SIP Goals 2014-2019

- Reduce the number of children entering foster care by increasing the availability of early intervention/prevention strategies
- Increase the percentage of children appropriately placed in relative homes (reducing unnecessary group home care)
- Increase the percent of children who are reunified safely, permanently and timely; reducing the percentage of children who re-enter foster care
- Increase the percent of timely adoptions and guardianships

The Social Services Agency seeks the approval of the Social Services Committee to move this item to the full Board of Supervisors for approval.

Purpose:

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

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

II. General Assistance Update

Lori Cox, Director, Social Services Agency, presented introductory comments and introduced Dr. Noha Aboelata of Roots Community Health Center, who presented a PowerPoint presentation on the evaluation of the County's General Assistance (GA) program.

The recommendations from the evaluation of the General Assistance program include:

- 1) Define targeted outcomes and goals of the GA program as a foundation for all changes and future strategies
- 2) Implement a paradigm shift with the aim of promoting the elevation, empowerment and self sufficiency clients
- 3) Invest in data management and data capturing to better inform GA strategies
- 4) Create an environment that is client-centered
- 5) Create an environment that is supportive to and ensures the success of agency staff
- 6) Create and support clear paths to self-sufficiency

Dr. Aboelata concluded the presentation with recommendations for an implementation process that included developing a three-year strategic plan with a 1 year implementation strategy of clearly defined targeted outcomes and goals of the GA program.

Supervisor Miley thanked Dr. Aboelata for the extensive report.

Purpose:

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

Recommendation from the Social Services Committee: The Social Services Agency will respond to the GA evaluation at the next Committee meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

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