



Monterey County

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Board Report

Legistar File Number: 16-338

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Current Status: Agenda Ready

Version: 1

Matter Type: General Agenda Item

Approve and authorize the Chair of the Board of Supervisors to sign the Memorandum of Understanding with the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) for the purpose of operating the Resource Family Approval Program for the period March 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors:

Approve and authorize the Chair of the Board of Supervisors to sign the Memorandum of Understanding with the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) for the purpose of operating the Resource Family Approval Program for the period March 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016.

SUMMARY/DISCUSSION:

Resource Family Approval (RFA) was authorized through Senate Bill 1013 (Chapter 35, Statutes of 2012) and requires the State Department of Social Services, in consultation with the county welfare agencies, foster parent associations, and other interested community parties, to implement a unified, family friendly and child-centered resource family approval process. RFA replaces and streamlines the existing multiple processes for licensed foster family homes, approving relative and nonrelative extended family members as foster care providers, and approving adoptive homes.

RFA upgrades and unifies approval standards for all caregivers. It incorporates a combined home environment and comprehensive psychosocial assessment of all families and relatives. And it will require pre-approval and post-approval training for all families. RFA will prepare families to better meet the needs of vulnerable children in the foster care system and allows seamless transition to permanency.

RFA implementation will be required for all counties on January 1, 2017. Monterey County was selected as an early implementation county and began implementation on March 1, 2016. The Department is recommending approval of the CDSS Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

Contracts/Purchasing has reviewed and approved this MOU. County Counsel has approved the MOU as to form.

FINANCING:

This MOU puts into place measures necessary for the continued receipt of Title IV-E funding for placements with relative caregivers and foster family homes. There is no impact to the County General Fund contributions.

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Approved by: Elliott Robinson, Director of Social Services, x4430

Attachments: CDSS Memorandum of Understanding

Proposed MOU is on file with Clerk of the Board as an attachment to this Board Report