



# Ventura County Probation Agency

Karen J. Staples  
Director/Chief Probation Officer

December 15, 2009

Board of Supervisors  
County of Ventura  
800 South Victoria Avenue  
Ventura, CA 93009

**SUBJECT: RATIFY THE SUBMITTAL OF A GRANT APPLICATION FOR, AND THE SUBSEQUENT ACCEPTANCE OF, ENHANCED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FUNDING THROUGH THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITATION TO EVALUATE LOCAL DISPROPORTIONATE MINORITY CONTACT (DMC) (REQUIRES 4/5THS VOTE)**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that your Board:

1. Ratify the submittal of a DMC Grant Application – Technical Assistance Project II (TAP II) for \$125,000 grant funding over a twelve-month period to support the Ventura County Probation Agency (VCPA) in evaluation of local DMC issues and to assist VCPA in developing and/or strengthening community-based DMC reduction activities.
2. Authorize the acceptance of above-mentioned DMC Grant Application – TAP II grant funding in the amount of \$125,000 over a twelve-month period to support local DMC efforts.
3. Authorize the Chair to sign the Resolution authorizing the Chief Probation Officer to submit to the Corrections Standards Authority (hereinafter referred to as "CSA") the TAP II Grant Application and sign the Grant Award Agreement (see attached Resolution).
4. Authorize the Auditor-Controller to process the necessary accounting transactions to establish appropriations as follows:

FY 2009-10

**Budget Unit 4200: Probation Agency**

|          |                       |           |
|----------|-----------------------|-----------|
| INCREASE | Salaries and Benefits | \$ 18,000 |
| INCREASE | Services and Supplies | \$ 44,500 |
| INCREASE | Revenue               | \$ 62,500 |

**REASON FOR RATIFICATION:**

Due to the tight submission deadline, insufficient time was available to seek Board approval prior to submission of the DMC Grant Application. Preliminary authorization to submit the application was obtained from the CEO and a Letter of Support from the Chair of the Board, Steve Bennett, was attached to the application (Exhibit 1). The application was mailed to CSA on October 2, 2009.

On November 19, 2009, CSA notified our Agency that we had been awarded DMC-TAP II grant funding in the amount of \$125,000 for a period of twelve months from January 1, 2010, to December 31, 2010.

**FISCAL MANDATES/IMPACT:**

|                              |                     |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Mandatory:                   | No                  |
| Source of Funding:           | Formula Grant Funds |
| Funding Match Required:      | No                  |
| Impact on Other Departments: | None                |

**Summary of Revenue and Total Costs:**

|                                      | <u>FY 2009-10</u> | <u>FY 2010-11</u> |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Revenues: Formula Grant Funds        | \$62,500          | \$62,500          |
| Total Revenues                       | \$62,500          | \$62,500          |
| Costs:                               |                   |                   |
| Direct:                              | \$56,250          | \$56,250          |
| Funding Match                        | 0                 | 0                 |
| Indirect – Dept.                     | <u>\$ 6,250</u>   | <u>\$ 6,250</u>   |
| Indirect – County Cap (B)            | <u>Minimal*</u>   | <u>Minimal*</u>   |
| Total Costs:                         | <u>Minimal*</u>   | <u>Minimal*</u>   |
| Net County Cost, Including Indirects | \$0               | \$0               |

\*Indirect costs are not material as they are for minimal monitoring of the contract.

| FY 2009-10 Budget Projection for Probation Agency |                   |                    |                     |                               |
|---|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|
|   | Adopted<br>Budget | Adjusted<br>Budget | Projected<br>Budget | Estimate<br>(Savings/Deficit) |
| Appropriations                                    | \$60,964,626      | \$61,630,899       | \$61,630,899        | \$0                           |
| Revenue   | \$28,916,865      | \$28,916,865       | \$28,916,865        | \$0                           |
| Net Cost  | \$32,047,761      | \$32,714,034       | \$32,714,034        | \$0                           |

### **DISCUSSION:**

The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 2002 reauthorized the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) to administer the Formula Grants Program, which supports state and local delinquency prevention/intervention efforts and juvenile justice system improvements. The United States Congress appropriates the funds and OJJDP awards such funds to individual states based on their proportionate population under the age of 18.

In order to receive Formula Grants funding, individual states must comply with four core requirements of U.S. Federal Law. One of these requirements is that individual states must demonstrate a good faith effort to address disproportionate minority contact (DMC) within their jurisdictions as it applies to the overrepresentation of youth of color within the juvenile justice system in comparison to the ethnicity breakdown of the jurisdiction's population. All points within the juvenile justice system (arrest, confinement, case filings, and court appearances) are reviewed and evaluated.

In January 2004, the Board of Corrections (now named the Corrections Standards Authority) assumed responsibility for administering California's Formula Grants funds. To ensure compliance with the federal DMC requirement, the Corrections Standards Authority (CSA) formed a statewide workgroup to develop/present recommendations for strategies the State may enact to address DMC using federal funds. As such, CSA established a full time DMC coordinator position and implemented the original Technical Assistance Project (TAP I) Application in 2006. In response to the findings from the ongoing assessment of the TAP I, the CSA elected to continue and expand the project using additional federal funds for an additional three years (TAP II).

Through direct service, education, and support, the DMC Subcommittee has helped California reduce the overrepresentation of youth of color coming into contact with the juvenile justice system in specific jurisdictions. DMC is now a statewide initiative and a priority of the CSA. The success of the TAP I grants led the State Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (SACJJDP) to concentrate its efforts on funding for purposes of reducing racial/ethnic disparities within the system. As such, CSA launched a second round of funding, TAP II, in July 2009.

TAP II awards focus on five goals:

1. Educate juvenile justice professionals in DMC, specifically all departmental staff and peripherally stakeholders; and engage all levels of the departmental staff in the development of strategies to reduce racial and ethnic disparities;
2. Collect and analyze data to identify the decision points where disparity/disproportionality occurs;
3. Enhance data system capacity for the purpose of determining the extent of racial and ethnic disparities in the system and identify the causes and correlating trends;
4. Develop and produce comprehensive countywide DMC reduction plans, including issues identification and correlating county-specific solutions;
5. Ensure that viable processes/mechanisms are in place for monitoring DMC in the future.

Our Agency applied for DMC – TAP II in October 2009. On November 19, 2009, our Agency received notification of funding in the amount of \$125,000 for a period of twelve months. Second- and third-year funding at the same annual rate may be available should Congress appropriate funds and the project continue to demonstrate effectiveness.

It is requested that your Board ratify the submittal of the DMC Tap II Grant Application and accept funding in the amount of \$125,000 over a twelve-month period. It is further recommended that your Board authorize the Chief Probation Officer to sign the Application, Grant Award Agreement, and related certification/assurance forms.

This letter has been reviewed by the County Executive Office, Auditor-Controller's Office, and County Counsel. If you have any questions, please call me at (805) 654-2100 or Division Manager Theresa Hart at (805) 981-5545.

Sincerely,



KAREN J. STAPLES  
Director/Chief Probation Officer

Attachments: Resolution – DMC TAP II Grant  
Exhibit 1 – Board of Supervisors' Letter of Support