



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, California 93009

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZE THE PROBATION AGENCY AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO PARTICIPATE IN A GRANT PROGRAM DESIGNED TO EXPAND SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT CAPACITY FOR JUVENILE DRUG COURT AND JUVENILE MENTAL HEALTH COURT PARTICIPANTS; AUTHORIZE THE HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR TO ESTABLISH TWO FIXED-TERM POSITION ALLOCATIONS IN ORGANIZATION 5150 (HEALTH CARE AGENCY-ALCOHOL AND DRUG PROGRAMS) (REQUIRES 4/5THS VOTE)

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that your Board:

1. Ratify the participation of the Ventura County Probation Agency and Ventura County Behavioral Health Department in the *Reclaiming Futures Ventura County* grant program designed to expand substance abuse treatment capacity for Juvenile Drug Court and Juvenile Mental Health Court participants for a period of four years beginning on October 1, 2009, through September 30, 2013.
2. Authorize the Human Resources Director to establish 2.0 fixed-term position allocations in Organization 5150 (Alcohol and Drug Programs), effective December 8, 2009, and expiring September 30, 2013.

Job Code	Description	Business Unit	Dept. (Org)	FTE	Compensation Frequency	Annual Salary Range
1474	Alcohol/Drug Treatment Specialist II	HCAVC	5150 Alcohol and Drug Programs	2.0	Hourly	\$33,140.62 - \$46,401.08
			Total	2		

3. 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	\$ 46,322
INCREASE	Services and Supplies	\$ 26,533
INCREASE	Intergovernmental Revenue	\$ 70,188
INCREASE	Miscellaneous Revenue	\$ 2,667

Budget Unit 5150: Alcohol and Drug Programs

INCREASE	Salaries and Benefits	\$ 91,159
INCREASE	Services and Supplies	\$107,059
INCREASE	Intergovernmental Revenue	\$176,766
INCREASE	Charges for Services	\$ 21,452

FISCAL MANDATES/IMPACT:

Budget Unit 4200: Probation Agency

Mandatory:	No [x] Yes [] Cite Authority:_____
Source of Funding:	US Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency (OJJDP) and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) - Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT)
Funding Match Required:	\$10,000 annually from General Fund \$ 8,000 annually from Youth Services Juvenile Benefit Fund (6250/7604)
Impact on Other Departments:	None

Summary of Revenue and Total Costs:

	<u>FY 2009-2010</u>	<u>FY 2010-2011</u>
Revenue:		
SAMHSA and OJJDP Funds	\$70,188	\$129,362
Cash Match-Youth Services Juvenile Benefit Fund (YSJBF-6250/7604)	\$ 2,667	\$ 8,000
Total Revenues	\$ 72,855	\$137,362

REASON FOR RATIFICATION:

Due to the tight submission deadline, insufficient time was available to seek Board authorization for participation in the *Reclaiming Futures Ventura County* grant program prior to submission of the application. Also, County Executive Office approval was not obtained due to an oversight. In the future, we will attempt to adhere to grant application policies. The application was submitted electronically by the Superior Court of California, County of Ventura, to OJJDP and SAMHSA/CSAT on May 5, 2009.

On September 11th and 22nd, 2009, the OJJDP and SAMHSA/CSAT notified the Administrative Office of the Superior Court of California, County of Ventura, that the *Reclaiming Futures Ventura County* program was awarded grant funding for a period of four years.

DISCUSSION:

In April 2009, the Superior Court of California, County of Ventura, received notification that grant applications were being accepted to expand the substance abuse treatment capacity of existing Juvenile Drug Courts. The grant is funded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)/Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT), in partnership with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (independent philanthropy devoted to improving health policy and practice).

The grant proposal required that the Courts be the official applicant and lead agency. Ventura County Probation Agency and Ventura County Department of Behavioral Health partnered with the Courts in completing the grant application. The completed grant application was submitted to OJJDP and SAMHSA/CSAT electronically on May 5, 2009. In September 2009, Superior Court of California, County of Ventura, received notice of grant awards totaling \$1,225,000 in funding for the period beginning October 1, 2009, through September 30, 2013 (Exhibits 1 and 2). The County of Ventura is one of three grant recipients nationwide. The other two recipients are Colorado Judicial Department, Denver, Colorado, and Cherokee Nation, Tahlequah, Oklahoma.

BACKGROUND:

The existing Ventura County Juvenile Drug Court, one of the first in the nation, was established in 1999. Since its inception, Juvenile Drug Court has been providing comprehensive, intensive, coordinated and integrated services to non-violent juvenile offenders. These offenders' primary reason for their delinquency is substance abuse. This specialty court is supported by the collaborative efforts of the Superior Court, Ventura County Probation Agency, Ventura County Behavioral Health Department – Alcohol and Drug Programs, the District Attorney's Office, and the Public Defender's

Office. Juvenile Drug Court participants are monitored by two Deputy Probation Officers (DPO) in the community and are held strictly accountable for non-compliance with their court-ordered terms and conditions of probation. Participants receive intensive substance abuse treatment through the County's Alcohol and Drug Program and regularly appear in court to report and assess their progress towards rehabilitation.

Since 2003, juvenile offenders with a primary diagnosis of mental illness have received specialized probation supervision services and intensive mental health treatment with court oversight through the County's Juvenile Mental Health Court. Now known as Solutions Court, the program is a collaborative effort between the Superior Court, Ventura County Probation Agency, Interface Child and Family Services (a Full Services Partnership contract monitored by VCBHD), District Attorney's Office, and Public Defender's Office. Participants are monitored closely in the community by two DPOs who work with them to ensure compliance with the court-ordered terms and conditions of probation. Participants receive intensive mental health services provided by Interface clinicians and regularly appear in court to report and assess their progress towards rehabilitation.

While both Juvenile Drug Court and Solutions Court have proven to be successful, there exists a gap in services, namely individualized treatment to address the dual diagnosis/co-occurring needs of participants in each program. Mental Health treatment services are not readily available to Juvenile Drug Court participants. Conversely, alcohol and drug counseling services are not readily available to Solutions Court participants.

Reclaiming Futures Ventura County:

This OJJDP and SAMHSA/CSAT grant provides for system-wide improvements related to the supervision and treatment available to Juvenile Drug Court and Solutions Court participants. This will be achieved through the use of quality, evidence-based substance abuse and mental health treatments, as well as advocacy services and gender-based classes. Additionally, the *Juvenile Drug Court: Strategies in Practice* and the *Reclaiming Futures* program models will be integrated into the existing Juvenile Drug Court and Solutions Court programs:

- The *Strategies in Practice* model encompasses 16 elements: collaborative planning; teamwork; clearly defined target population and eligibility criteria; judicial involvement and supervision; monitoring and evaluations; community partnerships; comprehensive treatment planning; developmentally appropriate services; gender-appropriate services; cultural competence; focus on strengths; family engagement; educational linkages; drug testing; goal-oriented incentives and sanctions; and confidentiality.

- The *Reclaiming Futures* program model is composed of three major elements: improvement in treatment services for drug and alcohol use; a comprehensive system of care that coordinates social services; and the involvement of the community in creating new opportunities for youth. The *Reclaiming Futures* model involves a “coordinated individualized response” through “community-driven engagement” and “family focused service coordination.” This is accomplished through six steps: initial screening, initial assessment, service coordination, initiation, engagement, and completion.

This grant program has been named *Reclaiming Futures Ventura County*. *Reclaiming Futures Ventura County* will serve a minimum of 130 and a maximum of 150 participants each year for four years. Participants will be aged 12 to 18, and may reside throughout Ventura County. The program will continue with two tracks: Track one, Juvenile Drug Court, will be for participants whose primary diagnosis is alcohol or substance abuse who may also have a secondary mental health diagnosis. Track two, Solutions Court, will be for participants with more serious mental health problems, whose primary diagnosis is one or more mental health issues and who usually have a secondary diagnosis of alcohol or substance abuse.

The *Reclaiming Futures Ventura County* grant will pay for additional staffing, new programming, training, and support that were not previously a part of either program. As the Ventura County Superior Court is the lead agency, they will receive the direct funds and allocate such to VCBHD and VCPA. Such funds will pay for one .5 FTE Change Coordinator. This coordinator position will be filled by an existing VCPA Supervising Deputy Probation Officer (SDPO). This SDPO will guide the establishment of an integrated care system based on the *Reclaiming Futures* model. These responsibilities are grant funded at \$61,762 annually for a period of four years. For FY 2009-10, however, the cost for this position will be \$46,322 because a significant portion of the fiscal year has already passed. Grant funds, totaling \$97,852 over four years, will also be used for a VCBH Project Lead/Treatment Supervisor, who will be in charge of the supervision of treatment staff members and treatment-related data collection.

Additionally, two (2) fixed-term Alcohol and Drug Treatment Specialists are also needed to support the efforts of the *Reclaiming Futures Ventura County* Grant Program. VCBH is requesting that the Board authorize the Human Resources Director to establish two fixed-term Alcohol/Drug Treatment Specialist II position allocations in Organization 5150 (Alcohol and Drug Programs), effective December 8, 2009. The Alcohol/Drug Treatment Specialist II staff will be responsible for providing substance abuse treatment services for the Juvenile Drug Court and Solutions Court participants. Specifically, they will provide individual, family, and group counseling.-

The total annual cost for these two positions is estimated at \$221,554 (salary, benefits, and services/supplies). For FY 2009-10, however, the cost for these two positions will be \$122,382 because a significant portion of the fiscal year has already passed. The *Reclaiming Futures* Grant will provide \$87,552 annually in support of these positions for

four years. The difference in the amount that the grant provides and the amount needed to fully fund these positions will be covered by Drug Medi-Cal funding from the Alcohol and Drug Programs Budget Unit 5150. For FY 2009-10, \$34,830 in Drug Medi-Cal funding will be provided in support of these positions. For FY 2010-11, \$134,002 in Drug Medi-Cal funding will be provided in support of these positions. These positions are needed in order to comply with the grant and ensure that both the Juvenile Drug and Solutions Courts have adequate substance abuse and treatment services in place to support participants struggling with substance abuse and delinquency issues. Since the grant funding is specifically for four years, we are asking the Board to provide a single exception to its policy of limiting fixed-term positions to three years for just this grant. The positions will expire when the grant funding expires on September 30, 2013.

The grant requires that we include cash matches totaling \$8,000 per year for the next four years. The cash match is comprised of the following: (a) \$6,000 to be used for incentives for youth, which will be funded by the JBF trust account, and (b) \$2,000 to be used for transportation costs (e.g., bus tokens), funded by the JBF trust account. For FY 2009-10, however, the match funds will total \$2,667 because a significant portion of the fiscal year has already passed.

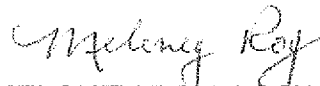
The funding received from OJJDP and SAMHSA/CSAT will allow *Reclaiming Futures Ventura County* to engage in system-wide improvements to both Juvenile Drug Court and Solutions Court. Ventura County's long history of strong working relationships among partner agencies and community-based organizations will only lend to the success of *Reclaiming Futures Ventura County*. The new evidence-based programming and community involvement will further assist participants in meeting their goals of sobriety, mental health stability, and deterrence from delinquent behavior. Ultimately, the implementation of *Reclaiming Futures Ventura County* will enhance public safety.

This letter has been reviewed by County Executive Office, Auditor-Controller's Office, County Counsel, Behavioral Health, and Risk Management. If you have any questions, please call me at 654-2100 or Division Manager Gina Johnson at 973-5168.

Sincerely,



KAREN J. STAPLES
Director/Chief Probation Officer
Ventura County Probation Agency



MELONEY ROY, LCSW
Director
Behavioral Health Department

KS/GJ:gj/smw

Attachments: Exhibit 1-OJJDP Notice of Grant Award
Exhibit 2-SAMHSA Notice of Grant Award
Exhibit 3-Program Components-OJJDP/SAMHSA Grant