



COUNTY of VENTURA

MELISSA LIVINGSTON
Director

July 26, 2022

HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

855 Partridge Drive
Ventura, CA 93003
805-477-5100

Board of Supervisors
County of Ventura
800 S. Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

JENNIE PITTMAN

Deputy Director
Administrative Services

MARISSA MACH

Deputy Director
Adult & Family Services

Subject: Approval of, and Authorization for the Human Services Agency Director, or Designee, to Sign, a Contract with Aspiranet, Effective August 1, 2022, Through July 31, 2023, in an Amount Not to Exceed \$674,000, to Conduct Child & Adolescent Needs & Strengths Assessments and Facilitate Child and Family Teams; and Authorization for the Human Services Agency Director, or Designee, to Approve and Sign Limited Contract Modifications Upon Certain Conditions.

JUDY WEBBER

Deputy Director
Children & Family Services

ELAINE MARTINEZ

Deputy Director
Community Services

Recommendations:

1. Approve, and authorize the Human Services Agency (HSA) Director or designee to sign, a contract with Aspiranet, effective August 1, 2022, through July 31, 2023, in an amount not to exceed \$674,000, to conduct Child & Adolescent Needs & Strengths Assessments (CANS) and facilitate Child and Family Teams (CFT).
2. Authorize the HSA Director, or designee, to approve and sign limited contract modifications to (a) decrease, or increase up to ten percent (10%), the amount of the contract, (b) extend the time for performance up to six months, and (c) make corrections, clarifications, technical changes and modifications, when the changes are consistent with the original purpose of the contract, subject to County Executive Office and County Counsel review and approval.

Fiscal/Mandates Impact:

Mandatory:	Yes
Source of Funding:	Federal, State, and County funds.
Funding Match Required:	No
Impact on other Departments:	None

Summary of Revenue and Costs:

	<u>FY 2022-23</u>	<u>FY 2023-24</u>
Revenue:		
Direct	\$556,050	\$50,550
Total Revenue	\$556,050	\$50,550
Costs:		
Direct	\$617,833	\$56,167
Indirect Costs	Minimal	Minimal
Total Costs	\$617,833	\$56,167
Net County Cost	\$61,783	\$5,617

FY 2022-2023 Adopted Budget for HSA Program Operations – BU 3410				
	Adopted Budget	Adjusted Budget	Projected Budget	Estimated Savings/(Deficit)
Appropriations	\$206,984,752	\$206,984,752	\$206,984,752	\$0
Revenue	\$178,000,155	\$178,000,155	\$178,000,155	\$0
Net Cost	\$ 28,984,597	\$ 28,984,597	\$ 28,984,597	\$0

Sufficient revenue and appropriations for this contract are included the FY 2022-23 Adopted Budget.

Discussion

The Child & Adolescent Needs & Strengths Assessment (CANS)/Child & Family Teams (CFT) co-implementation is an inter-agency effort between Child Welfare Services, Behavioral Health and Juvenile Probation, and operates as part of an integrated System of Care. There is an increasing body of evidence showing that services for children and families are most effective when delivered in the context of a single, integrated team that includes the child or youth, his/her/their family, natural and community supports and professionals.

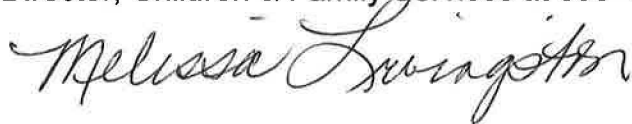
The CFT process is key to the success of the Continuum of Care Reform efforts and the well-being of children, youth and families served by public agencies and their partners. It is based on the belief that children, youth and families have the capacity to resolve their problems if given sufficient support and resources to help them do so. The CFT process begins when a child or youth enters foster care and a child welfare social worker or juvenile probation officer engages with a child or youth and his/her/their family, then uses a variety of strategies to identify other team members, the child or youth's strengths, the child, youth and family's concerns, and a plan to help achieve positive outcomes for safety, permanency and well-being. This strengths-based approach to practice recognizes that families are experts in their own lives and can achieve success when they have an active role in creating and implementing solutions.

The CANS is the functional assessment tool to be used with the CFT process to guide case planning and placement decisions. The CANS is a validated tool that assesses the individual strengths and needs of the family as well as the caregiving environment. The CANS supports engagement with youth and families by assessing well-being and identifying a range of social and behavioral needs of youth, the parents and the current caregivers. CANS-informed CFT meetings assist in care coordination, collaborative decision-making and monitoring progress and outcomes for the family. The CANS includes the gathering of information, completion of a draft CANS, and bringing the initial results back to the team for discussion and consensus.

In April 2022, General Services Agency (GSA) Procurement Services released a request for proposals for the CANS/CFT program. Four applicants responded and Aspiranet was selected to be the provider of services for a one-year period, with an option for the County to extend the contract for additional years based on performance. The RFP and applicant proposals are on file in HSA.

We ask that your Board approve and authorize the HSA Director or her designee to sign the contract with Aspiranet (Exhibit 1.) We also ask that your Board delegate to the HSA Director or her designee the authority to approve and sign limited contract modifications within the parameters described in recommendation two.

This letter has been reviewed by the County Executive Office, the Auditor-Controller's Office, County Counsel and the General Services Agency Procurement Services. If you have any questions regarding this item, please contact me at 805-477-5301, or Judy Webber, Deputy Director, Children & Family Services at 805-477-5311.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Melissa Livingston".

Melissa Livingston
Director

Attachment:
Exhibit 1 – Aspiranet Contract