



COUNTY of VENTURA

MELISSA LIVINGSTON
Director

October 11, 2022

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

HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

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

JENNIE PITTMAN

Deputy Director
Administrative Services

MARISSA MACH

Deputy Director
Adult & Family Services

JUDY WEBBER

Deputy Director
Children & Family Services

ELAINE MARTINEZ

Deputy Director
Community Services

Subject: Approval of, and Authorization for the Human Services Agency Director, or Designee, to Sign, an Agreement with, and Accept Funding From, the Hueneme Elementary School District, in the Amount of \$217,914, for the Healthy Start Program, and Ratify the Agreement Effective July 1, 2022, Through June 30, 2023; and Delegation of Authority to the Human Services Agency Director, or Designee, to Enter Into and Sign All Future Agreements with School Districts in Ventura County for Healthy Start Programs That Are Similar in Scope, Subject to County Executive Office and County Counsel Review and Approval.

Recommendations:

1. Approve and authorize the Human Services Agency (HSA) Director, or designee, to sign an agreement with, and accept funding from, the Hueneme Elementary School District, in the amount of \$217,914, for the Healthy Start Program, and ratify the agreement effective July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023 (Exhibit 1).
2. Delegate authority to the HSA Director, or designee, to enter into and sign all future agreements with, and accept funding from, school districts in Ventura County for Healthy Start Programs that are similar in scope and for which the school district reimburses the County for at least 50% of the staffing-related costs, subject to County Executive Office and County Counsel review and approval.

Fiscal/Mandates Impact:

Mandatory:	No
Source of Funding:	50% from Hueneme Elementary School District, 50% from Federal, State, and County General Fund
Funding Match Required:	50%
Impact on other Departments:	None

Summary of Revenue and Costs:

	<u>FY 2022-23</u>	<u>FY 2023-24</u>
Revenue:		
Direct	\$ 217,914	\$ 0
Total Revenue	\$ 217,914	\$ 0
Costs:		
Direct	\$ 435,828	\$ 0
Indirect Costs	Minimal	\$ 0
Total Costs	\$ 435,828	\$ 0
Net County Cost	\$ 217,914	\$ 0

Net County Costs associated with this program may vary depending on other available federal and state funding sources. The costs above reflect the full cost of the positions and related fringe benefits and are included in HSA's FY 2022-2023 Adjusted Budget. Hueneme Elementary School District will reimburse the County for 50% of staffing-related costs, in the amount of \$217,914.

FY 2022-23 Adopted Budget for HSA Program Operations - BU 3410				
	Adopted Budget	Adjusted Budget	Projected Budget	Estimated Savings/(Deficit)
Appropriations	\$206,984,752	\$210,927,834	\$210,927,834	\$0
Revenue	\$178,000,155	\$178,000,155	\$178,000,155	\$0
Net Cost	\$28,984,597	\$32,927,679	\$32,927,679	\$0

Discussion:

The Healthy Start Program provides comprehensive, school-community integrated services at school sites to improve the lives of children, youth and families by ensuring each child receives the physical, emotional and academic support necessary to learn. Healthy Start offers strength-based support to students and families through early intervention and prevention strategies aimed at helping families strengthen their protective factors, build community connections, and develop a network of safety and support to meet their needs when they encounter challenges. Healthy Start Social Workers support positive educational outcomes through collaboration and the integration of school, home and child welfare partnerships.

Given the importance of offering services that can help prevent entries to the child welfare system, HSA's Children & Family Services department will place a Child Welfare Social Worker and Case Aide at two schools within the Hueneme Elementary School District, Haycox Elementary School and Williams Elementary School, and will equally share the cost of those staff. Some of the services for which the assigned Healthy Start Child Welfare

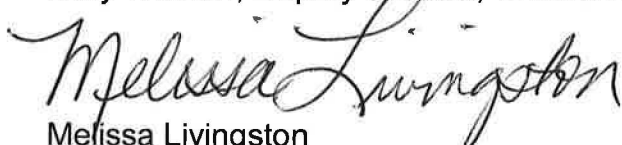
Social Workers are responsible include: 1) assessing children who show early signs of being at risk of child abuse and neglect; 2) providing case management services (including case planning and service brokering) to at-risk families on a voluntary basis; 3) consulting with school personnel on a wide range of psychosocial issues; and 4) providing a flexible range of services for at-risk children. Clerical assistance is also needed to support program activities at each site and will be provided by the case aide positions.

Each school will refer high-risk families for services. The services are designed to help parents understand and meet their children's developmental needs, assist parents to improve their use of effective discipline methods, and improve parents' ability to nurture their children and to express anger/stress in acceptable methods. Such services are intended to strengthen families to reduce risk of maltreatment of children. The primary focus of the program is on preventative interventions to prevent separation of children, decrease time in care, produce better outcomes for families, and provide nontraditional responses to concerns of abuse or neglect. In addition, the program will continue to help to positively impact student variables important to school performance, such as attendance, family stability, nutrition, self-sufficiency, and health care. Program staff and collaborative partners will make every effort to be responsive to the unique language and cultural needs of the children and families served.

The Healthy Start model is instrumental in strengthening at-risk families. HSA anticipates working closely with other school districts, especially those in communities that have been identified as having high rates of referrals and cases of abuse and neglect, to establish Healthy Start Programs at more schools so as to increase early intervention and supports for families. As with the Hueneme Elementary School District agreement, future Healthy Start Program agreements are expected to be equally funded by HSA and the school district.

We ask that your Board approve, and authorize the HSA Director to sign, the agreement with the Hueneme Elementary School District for the Healthy Start Program and to accept funding in the amount of \$217,914. For administrative efficiency, we also request your Board delegate authority to the HSA Director to enter into and sign all future agreements with, and accept funding from, school districts in Ventura County for Healthy Start Programs, subject to County Executive Office and County Counsel review and approval.

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


Melissa Livingston
Director

Attachment:
Exhibit 1- Hueneme Elementary School District Healthy Start Agreement