



COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

For the meeting of: 11/5/2024

File #: 24-1467

To: Board of Supervisors

From: DHHS: Social Services

Agenda Section: Consent

Vote Requirement: Majority

SUBJECT:

Memorandum of Understanding with the Humboldt County Office of Education Regarding the Continued Operation and Administration of an Education-Based Foster Youth Services Coordinating Program in Humboldt County

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve, and authorize the Chair of the Board to execute, the attached memorandum of understanding with the Humboldt County Office of Education regarding the continued operation and administration of an education-based foster youth services coordinating program in Humboldt County for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2028;
2. Authorize the Department of Health and Human Services - Child Welfare Services Director, or a designee thereof, to execute any and all subsequent amendments to the attached memorandum of understanding with the Humboldt County Office of Education, after review and approval by County Counsel, Risk Management and the County Administrative Office; and
3. Direct the Clerk of the Board to return one (1) fully executed original copy of the attached memorandum of understanding with the Humboldt County Office of Education to the Department of Health and Human Services - Contract Unit for further processing.

STRATEGIC PLAN:

The recommended actions support the following areas of the Board of Supervisors' Strategic Plan:

Area of Focus: Core Services/Other

Strategic Plan Category: 9999 - Core Services/Other

DISCUSSION:

The Humboldt County Office of Education currently receives state grant funding to operate an education-based foster youth services coordinating program, which provides educational support for foster youth residing in Humboldt County in order to ensure coordinated and nonduplicative service delivery and minimize changes in school placement. Pursuant to Section 42925 of the California Education Code, such funding must be used to leverage funds received pursuant to Title IV-E of the federal Social Security Act, and any other local, state and federal funds, that may be used to specifically address the education needs of foster youth.

The attached memorandum of understanding sets forth the rights and responsibilities of the Humboldt County Department of Health and Human Services - Child Welfare Services ("DHHS - Child Welfare Services"), the Humboldt County Probation Department and the Humboldt County Office of Education with regard to the expenditure of Title IV-E funds for the purpose of addressing the educational needs of foster youth residing in Humboldt County, which include, without limitation, sharing educational status and progress information required for inclusion in court reports by Section 16010 of the California Welfare and Institutions Code, responding to information requests from the juvenile court and referring foster youth to mentoring, counseling, transitional, emancipation, tutoring, vocational training and other services designed to enhance the educational prospects of pupils in foster care, as required by Section 42925 of the California Education Code. It should be noted that the attached memorandum of

understanding with the Humboldt County Office of Education comes to the Board after the start date thereof due to inadvertent delays that occurred during the contract development process.

Accordingly, DHHS - Child Welfare Services recommends that the Board approve, and authorize the Chair of the Board to execute, the attached memorandum of understanding with the Humboldt County Office of Education regarding the continued operation and administration of an education-based foster youth services coordinating program in Humboldt County for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2028. It is also recommended that the Board authorize the DHHS - Child Welfare Services Director, or a designee thereof, to execute any and all subsequent amendments to the attached memorandum of understanding with the Humboldt County Office of Education, after review and approval by County Counsel, Risk Management and the County Administrative Office, in order to avoid any unnecessary interruptions in the operation and administration of an education-based foster youth services coordinating program in Humboldt County.

SOURCE OF FUNDING:

Social Services fund (1160-508)

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The maximum amount payable for any and all costs and expenses incurred pursuant to the terms and conditions of the attached memorandum of understanding with the Humboldt County Office of Education shall not exceed the actual federal share of allowable costs for Title IV-E activities. The County of Humboldt will compensate the Humboldt County Office of Education for any and all costs incurred pursuant to the terms and conditions of the attached memorandum of understanding at the quarterly federal Title IV-E discount rate for Humboldt County. The federal Title IV-E discount rate will be based on the total number of federally eligible foster youth served by the education-based foster youth services coordinating program operated and administered by the Humboldt County Office of Education during each calendar quarter. The Humboldt County Office of Education will be responsible for providing matching funds for any and all non-federal costs and expenses incurred pursuant to the terms and conditions of the attached memorandum of understanding.

Expenditure appropriations related to the attached memorandum of understanding with the Humboldt County Office of Education have been included in the approved fiscal year (FY) 2024-2025 budget for DHHS - Social Services budget unit 1160-508. Funding for the attached memorandum of understanding with the Humboldt County Office of Education is available through federal Title IV-E revenues received by DHHS - Child Welfare Services. These funds are reimbursed 100% from federal funds through the quarterly expense claim. In FY 2023-24, \$86,687 is owed to Humboldt County Office of Education pursuant to approval of this MOU. Annually, it is anticipated that this will be under \$100,000.

STAFFING IMPACT:

Approval of the attached memorandum of understanding with the Humboldt County Office of Education will not impact current staffing levels.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

None The Board may choose not to approve the attached memorandum of understanding with the Humboldt County Office of Education regarding the continued operation and administration of an education-based foster youth services coordinating program in Humboldt County. However, this alternative is not recommended since it will severely impact the level of educational support services provided to foster youth residing in Humboldt County.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Memorandum of Understanding with the Humboldt County Office of Education Regarding the Continued Operation and Administration of an Education-Based Foster Youth Services Coordinating Program in Humboldt County

PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:

Meeting of: 8/20/2019; 6/7/2022

File No.: 19-1103; 22-676