COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

For the meeting of: September 14, 2010
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Date: August 4, 2010

To: Board of Supervisors

From: Phillip R. Crandall, Director
             Department of Health and Human Services

Subject: Approve Memorandum of Understanding between the Humboldt County District Attorney
             and the Humboldt County Department of Health and Human Services for the Child Abuse
             Services Team (C.A.S.T.).

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Humboldt County Department of Health
    and Human Services and the Humboldt County District Attorney for Child Abuse Services Team.

2. Authorize the Chair to execute three (3) copies of the Agreement.

3. Direct the Clerk of the Board to return two (2) fully executed copies of the Agreement to the
    Director of the Department of Health and Human Services, Social Services Branch.

SOURCE OF FUNDING:

Social Services Branch Funds.

Prepared by _Ivy Breen, Administrative Analyst_	CAO Approval _____	

REVIEW:
Auditor _____ County Counsel _____ Personnel _____ Risk Manager _____ Other _____

TYPE OF ITEM:
X   Consent
_____ Departmental
_____ Public Hearing
_____ Other _____

PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:

Board Order No. ___C-6___

Meeting of: September 27, 2005

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT
Upon motion of Supervisor Smith
Seconded by Supervisor Wallace
And unanimously carried by those members present,
The Board hereby adopts the recommended action
contained in this report.

Dated: September 21 2010
Kathy Hayes, Clerk of the Board

By: _____

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DISCUSSION:

In 1996, the Humboldt County Child Abuse Services Team (C.A.S.T.) was established as a Multidisciplinary Team Response that includes agencies involved in the investigation, intervention, and on-going treatment of child abuse. This team approach brings existing resources together, in an effort to more effectively and efficiently respond to and resolve child abuse cases. On September 27, 2005, the first Memorandum of Understanding was approved by the Board of Supervisors to articulate Department of Health and Human Services' funding of the Child Abuse Services Team and the District Attorney Office's responsibility to provide staffing. The Memorandum of Understanding approved on September 27, 2005 has a term that may automatically renew annually, if neither party of the Agreement provides written notice of its intention to not renew the Agreement.

With the execution of this new Agreement, the term would be modified to terminate on June 30, 2011 with the option to extend the Agreement for two (2), one-year (1-year) terms. Additionally, the Department of Health and Human Services and the District Attorney's office have collaborated to further articulate in this new Memorandum of Understanding the information to be included in the quarterly invoices provided by the District Attorney Office's for C.A.S.T.

With the execution of this agreement, the Department of Health and Human Services would like to continue to provide funding for the Child Abuse Services Team, which provides a coordinated and collaborative interagency communication of important details and has proven successful in the criminal investigation and prosecution of child abuse cases.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The $280,000 for the District Attorney Office's participation with the Child Abuse Services Team has been budgeted in the adopted 2010 – 2011 Fiscal Year Budget in the 1160 fund budget unit 508.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

District Attorney, County Counsel, Risk Management

ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Board of Supervisors may choose to not approve this recommendation. This is not recommended as the Department of Health and Human Services feels that this funding is critical in providing an effective and efficient response and resolution to child abuse cases.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1:   Memorandum of Understanding between the Humboldt County District Attorney and the Humboldt County Department of Health and Human Services.