



NEVADA COUNTY
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
AGENCY

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NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE: November 14, 2017

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: **Mike Dent**

SUBJECT: Resolution approving execution of Amendment #2 to the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) funded Contract with Child Advocates of Nevada County pertaining to increasing the maximum amount from \$25,560 to \$27,720 (an increase of \$2,160) for the term of July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2018 related to Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) services as part of the "CASA of Nevada County" Project.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the attached Resolution.

FUNDING: Contract services are supported by available 2016 Federal Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) funding awarded to the County to support the priorities of County's approved Community Action Plan (CAP). A budget amendment is not necessary and there are no County General Fund dollars required in the Agreement.

BACKGROUND: Per Resolution No. 15-276, the Board of Supervisors approved the 2016/17 Nevada County Community Action Plan and authorized its submittal to the State Department of Community Services and Development (CSD). The County was subsequently awarded funds via the State CSBG funding Agreement.

The County in conjunction with the Adult and Family Services Commission (AFSC) issued a combined Request for Funding (RFF) for Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) and/or Community Initiative Fund (CIF) dollars to provide funding for community projects which support low income members of the community as identified in the CAP.

Per Resolution No. 16-297, the Board of Supervisors approved a personal services contract with Child Advocates of Nevada County to provide funding related to Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) services as part of the "CASA of Nevada County" Project, and which was subsequently amended per Resolution No. 17-044.

Child Advocates of Nevada County will use funding to cover staff time training and supervising well qualified Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs) and coordinating with agencies. CASA improves the quality of life for a child in Dependency Court and serves as a safety net so the child's needs are met. CASA is often the first to know when there are problems at school, a living situation, or when medications are missed. A CASA devotes time and attention to listen and connect a child to mental health, educational support, and other services to improve educational and social-emotional success. CASA lessens the trauma associated with the confusing and seemingly endless Court and child welfare process. CASA volunteers ensure the services and decision recommended by the Court are carried out for the children they mentor.

It is recommended that the Board approve this amendment as it further supports the educational needs identified in the 2016/2017 CAP by assisting children grow up safe, secure, and ready for the future.

Item Initiated and Approved by: Mike Dent, Department of Social Services Director