



**NEVADA COUNTY  
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES  
AGENCY**

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**NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**Board Agenda Memo**

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**MEETING DATE:** February 14, 2017

**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** **Mike Dent**

**SUBJECT:** Resolution approving execution of a contract with Sierra Forever Families for Psychosocial Assessments and Adoption Services activities for Resource Families in the amount of \$231,250 for the term of January 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.

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**RECOMMENDATION:** Approve the attached Resolution.

**FUNDING:** Contract services will be supported by the Department's 2011 Realignment funds for Adoptions Administration. Services are within the Department's FY 16/17 budget and there are no county general fund dollars required in the Agreement.

**BACKGROUND:**

Resource Family Approval (RFA) is a result of the legislation AB 403 also known as Continuum of Care Reform (CCR). One of the basic tenants of CCR is that all children and non-minor dependents (NMD) in foster care have normalcy in development while establishing permanent life-long family relationships. To that end, RFA (the new process by which families become approved to foster children) was created to provide a uniform process to replace several existing processes. Foster families, relative caregivers, and non-related extended family members (NREFMs) are required to go through the same approval process which includes a home assessment, background checks, preapproval and post-approval training, psychosocial assessment, and a health screening. Through this process Resource Families are approved to foster children but also to adopt and provide guardianship. This eliminates a separate adoptions approval process and allows Resource Families to provide permanency to children in their care (if needed) in a timelier manner. Nevada County Child Protective Services (CPS) will meet the mandated implementation date of January 1, 2017 for RFA through this contract.

Under this Agreement, the Contactor will provide psychosocial assessments and adoption services to Resource Family homes in Nevada County. Additionally, the contractor will provide a written

home study that will approve or deny an applicant and provide the reasons for that determination. Contractor will also provide post adoptive services to all Nevada County families referred by CPS who have a finalized adoption.

It is recommended that the Board approve the attached Resolution to contract with SFF for psychosocial assessments and adoption services to implement the Continuum of Care Reform and Resource Family Approval in order to approve Resource Families for fostering and providing permanency to children within the county.

**Item Initiated by:** Nicholas Ready

**Approved by:** Mike Dent, Director of Social Services