



NEVADA COUNTY
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
AGENCY

Michael Heggarty, MFT
Agency Director

Department of Social Services

Mike Dent, MPA
Department of Social Services
Director

950 Maidu Ave., PO Box 1210 Nevada City, CA 95959
Ave., Ste 202 Truckee, CA 96161

Telephone (530) 265-1340
Telephone (530) 582-7803

FAX (530) 265-9860 10075 Levon
FAX (530) 582-7729

NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE: July 19, 2016

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: **Mike Dent**

SUBJECT: Resolution approving execution of Amendment #1 to the renewal contract CDSS Agreement Number 15-RCVBL-01115 A-1, with the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) for Agency Adoption Services to extend the termination date of the Agreement from June 30, 2016 to June 30, 2017 and increase the contract maximum from \$146,927 to a 2-year maximum of \$293,854 (an increase of \$146,927) to cover the additional fiscal year.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the attached Resolution.

FUNDING: Services are funded through Realignment dollars and are within the Department's budget. There are no County General Fund dollars required in the Agreement.

BACKGROUND: Counties are authorized to contract with the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) for the provision and administration of agency adoption services pursuant to Government Code Section 30029.7. The Board of Supervisors approved the renewal Agreement on June 16, 2015, per Resolution 15-258, for the provision of Agency Adoption Services to the County under the authority of Welfare and Institutions Code (W & I Code), Section 16130 and in accordance with Title 22 California Code of Regulations (CCR), Sections 35127 through 35239.

Under this Agreement CDSS provides home-finding and placement services including investigation, making assessments and written reports upon petitions for adoptions filed in the Superior Court; acting as a placement agency in the placement of children for adoption, and other functions related to adoptions as deemed necessary. Nevada County and CDSS coordinate efforts to promote concurrent permanency planning services with the goal of insuring that each child has the most stable home available in which to grow up.

In March 2016, CDSS sent out a notice to County Directors that CDSS is experiencing some issues with implementation of the Resource Family Approval Program, while trying to renew current contracts. The implementation date for the Resource Family Approval (RFA) Program, January 1, 2017, is in the middle of the contract period for this next fiscal year. With the implementation of the RFA Program, the Scope of Work for Adoptions Services Contracts will need to be amended to reflect the changes in services. RFA is a new family-friendly and child-centered caregiver approval process that combines elements of the current foster parent licensing, relative approval, and approvals for adoption and guardianship processes and replaces those processes. The RFA process will seek to improve the way caregivers (related and non-related) of children in foster care are approved and prepared to parent vulnerable children, whether temporarily or permanently.

In an effort to streamline the contract process, CDSS is extending current contracts with counties beyond the current June 30, 2016 expiration date to June 30, 2017. This will allow counties and CDSS Regional/Field offices time to develop a revised Scope of Work which can be added via future contract amendment.

Nevada County is dedicated to protecting children in our community and identifying permanent families for those children who have been removed from their home due to abuse and/or neglect and cannot return home. It is recommended that the Board approve this Amendment to extend the Agreement an additional fiscal year, and increase the maximum contract price to cover the additional term, as Nevada County and CDSS further their goals towards increasing well-being and permanence, while keeping children safely in the least restrictive environment.

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