

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS

ACTION AGENDA SUMMARY

DEPT: Auditor-Controller

BOARD AGENDA # *B-4

Urgent

Routine

AGENDA DATE January 19, 2010

CEO Concurs with Recommendation YES NO
(Information Attached)

4/5 Vote Required YES NO

SUBJECT:

Accept Report of Gift in Excess of \$10,000 from Community Transitional Resources to Behavioral Health and Recovery Services

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Accept Report of Gift of \$17,190 from Community Transitional Resources to Behavioral Health and Recovery Services.

FISCAL IMPACT:

On November 4, 2003, the Board of Supervisors approved a resolution pursuant to Government Code Section 25355 designating the Auditor-Controller as the County Officer authorized to receive a gift on behalf of Stanislaus County. Gifts with a value in excess of \$10,000 must be formally reported to the Board of Supervisors. The Auditor-Controller was recently made aware of a gift of \$17,190 from Community Transitional Resources which was received on July 2, 2009, by Behavioral Health & Recovery Services to pay for youth attending the Passages Program held at the YMCA Camp Jack Hazard.

BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS:

No. 2010-036

On motion of Supervisor Chiesa, Seconded by Supervisor DeMartini and approved by the following vote,

Ayes: Supervisors: O'Brien, Chiesa, Monteith, DeMartini, and Chairman Grover

Noes: Supervisors: None

Excused or Absent: Supervisors: None

Abstaining: Supervisor: None

1) X Approved as recommended

2) Denied

3) Approved as amended

4) Other:

MOTION:

Christine Ferraro

ATTEST: CHRISTINE FERRARO TALLMAN, Clerk

File No.

Accept Report of Gift in Excess of \$10,000 from Community Transitional Resources to Behavioral Health and Recovery Services
Page 2

DISCUSSION:

On July 2, 2009, the Behavioral Health & Recovery Services Department received \$17,190 from Community Transitional Resources to pay for children enrolled in the Passages Program held at YMCA Camp Jack Hazard. Upon performance of a quarterly review of donations on October 5, 2009, the Auditor-Controller's Office became aware of the donation. The Auditor-Controller's Office requested review and research by Behavioral Health & Recovery Services to determine if the donation was a singular donation or multiple donations. If a singular donation is less than \$10,000, no report is necessary. Research and review was completed in early December, 2009 and was determined to be a singular donation. The donation covered the cost for 38 youth to attend the YMCA of Stanislaus County Camp Jack Hazard. This program provides interactive groups, social skills building and personal growth for youth. Without these funds these children would not be able to experience the many program benefits.

Stanislaus County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services (BHRS), Children's System of Care (CSOC) is a non-profit government agency that provides mental-health services to youth and their families throughout the County. The Passages program was developed to offer opportunities to help youth develop life skills in an unfamiliar challenging environment. BHRS, along with the local YMCA program, has developed a unique strength-based experiential program for working with high-risk youth.

Passages is for high-risk youth who are linked with our mental-health system. The mission of the Passages experience is to provide the opportunity for participants to develop new friends, acquire skills to work with others as a team, build trust, and enhance their respect for others. It also strives to increase their self-confidence, insight, judgment, and verbal skills, allowing them to identify feelings, and to make appropriate responses as it relates to common life experiences. A goal of the Passages team is to help the participant's transfer their Passages experience into their personal and community life.

Passages is a 7-day program that is conducted in partnership with the YMCA during the summer months out of Camp Jack Hazard in the beautiful high Sierra Mountains. Passages is jointly staffed by YMCA personnel and BHRS staff. The YMCA personnel provide the expertise on the ropes course, rock climbing, hiking, backpacking, outdoor cooking, tent building, along with daily groups and debriefings; they also provide the lifeguards when the participants are involved in swimming activities. BHRS staff is on site to provide support, therapeutic interventions, and group facilitation; they also participate with the youth in daily camp activities. The BHRS staff works at helping the youth make the transition from the Passages experience into their *lebensvelt* (lived life) out in the mountains.

During the passage experience BHRS and YMCA staff work together to identify potential leaders for possible further training and employment the following year as peer camp counselors. The Passages experience offers a string of experiences with the potential of being the beginning of a shift from high-risk life activities (drugs, alcohol, gang, unprotected sexual activity) to healthier and more acceptable activities (repelling, backpacking, cliff jumping 30 feet into a lake, high-ropes and rock climbing).

DISCUSSION (continued):

All Passages participants are expected to keep a daily journal to record their Passages experience. The proof of the effectiveness of the Passages experience lies in the dramatic changes expressed in their journals and in their ability to express their feelings and struggles throughout the week. Often participant's journals show an increase in their insight, growth in their verbal expression of feelings, and a movement from anxiety and fear to accomplishment, from a feeling of powerlessness to that of self-confidence and personal growth. Many go home with a renewed sense of a future filled with hope, expectations and a grander plan in which to approach their life.

POLICY ISSUES:

The Board must determine that acceptance of this report helps to fulfill the Board's priority of A healthy community and Effective partnerships.

STAFFING IMPACTS:

There are no staffing impacts associated with this report.