

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS
ACTION AGENDA SUMMARY

DEPT: Chief Executive Office

BOARD AGENDA # B-7

Urgent

Routine

AGENDA DATE March 20, 2012

CEO Concurs with Recommendation YES NO

4/5 Vote Required YES NO

(Information Attached)

SUBJECT:

Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to Apply for the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) Fiscal Year 2012 Grant to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders Program (FY 2012 Arrest Program) in the Amount of \$650,000 and to Accept Funding if Awarded

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to submit an application for funding to the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) Fiscal Year 2012 Grant to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders Program in the amount of \$650,000 and accept funding if awarded.
2. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer, or her designee, to sign and execute the grant application due on March 26, 2012.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact at this time. However, if the FY 2012 Arrest Program grant is approved, it will partially fund two years of staffing and program services at the Stanislaus Family Justice Center, two years of one Criminal Investigator in the District Attorney's Office, two years of one Haven Family Justice Center Coordinator and one Haven Advocate for Haven Women's Center of Stanislaus. All personnel funded through the grant will be co-located at the Stanislaus Family Justice Center. If granted, the funds will be eligible for drawdown once the budget is submitted and approved by OVW and will be administered on a cost reimbursement basis through the Chief Executive Office. All costs of administering the grant funds are eligible for reimbursement through the grant.

BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS:

No. 2012-119

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

Ayes: Supervisors: Chiesa, Withrow, Monteith, De Martini and Chairman O'Brien

Noes: Supervisors: None

Excused or Absent: Supervisors: None

Abstaining: Supervisor: None

1) Approved as recommended

2) Denied

3) Approved as amended

4) Other:

MOTION:



ATTEST: CHRISTINE FERRARO TALLMAN, Clerk

File No.

Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to Apply for the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) Fiscal Year 2012 Grant to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders Program (FY 2012 Arrest Program) in the Amount of \$650,000 and to Accept Funding if Awarded
Page 2

DISCUSSION:

Stanislaus County will serve as the lead agency for the FY 2012 Arrest Program application. Partners will include Stanislaus Family Justice Center Foundation, Stanislaus County District Attorney's Office, and Haven Women's Center of Stanislaus. Program eligibility is restricted to entities that have a current open award from the Arrest Program and/or an award that was closed within the last 12 months. Stanislaus County currently has an open FY 2010 Arrest Program award for the grant period October 1, 2010 – September 30, 2012 for \$675,000 and is eligible to apply for \$650,000 in continuation funding for the period October 1, 2012 – September 30, 2014 through this grant application.

The FY 2012 Arrest Program recognizes that sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking are crimes that require the criminal justice system to hold offenders accountable for their actions through investigation, arrest, and prosecution of violent offenders, and through close judicial scrutiny and management of offender behavior. This discretionary grant program encourages local government to treat these crimes as serious violations of criminal law requiring the coordinated involvement of the entire criminal justice system. The Arrest Program challenges the entire community to listen, communicate, identify problems, and share ideas that will result in new responses to ensure victim safety and offender accountability.

The FY 2012 Arrest Program will continue to support comprehensive victim service and support centers in Stanislaus County through the Stanislaus Family Justice Center (SFJC). The Stanislaus Family Justice Center opened on November 1, 2010 and is operated by the Stanislaus Family Justice Center Foundation, which a 501 (c)(3) not-for-profit charitable organization. The mission of the agency is *to offer victims and survivors a path to safety and hope through compassion and coordinated services.*

The Family Justice Center model provides for the co-location of services to support victims of abuse, enabling them to go to a single location, tell their story one time, and get the services and assistance they need. The Family Justice Center model is identified as an evidence-based practice in the field of domestic, family violence and sexual assault intervention, and prevention services. It is a collaborative effort of a multi-disciplinary team of professionals focused on addressing the needs of victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, or elder abuse, and offers a combination of programs, services and interventions at a single location. The working partners of the SFJC are Behavioral Health and Recovery Services, CAIRE Center, Community Services Agency, Stanislaus County District Attorney, Memorial Medical Center, Haven Women's Center, Stanislaus County and City law enforcement agencies, Stanislaus County Probation, Stanislaus County Chief Executive Office, Stanislaus County Office of Education, Stanislaus Elder Abuse Prevention Alliance, Stanislaus County Superior Court, and Children's Crisis Center.

Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to Apply for the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) Fiscal Year 2012 Grant to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders Program (FY 2012 Arrest Program) in the Amount of \$650,000 and to Accept Funding if Awarded

Page 3

Major services that are provided to victims at the SFJC include advocacy, basic needs, counseling, crisis intervention, housing and shelter assistance, law enforcement and prosecution, legal assistance, life skills, chaplaincy, and translation services. This combination of victim assistance, support and strengthening works to decrease the rate of abuse in our County.

Results for the first year in operation include services provided to 913 first time clients (Adults and Children) and 1,747 subsequent visits to the Stanislaus Family Justice Center. As the agency increases visibility in the community and as more people learn about the SFJC's mission, the numbers should increase substantially. Approximately 92% of adults and 67% of child abuse victims were female. Services such as counseling, shelter assistance, legal assistance, chaplaincy services, and criminal justice system assistance were provided to victims onsite.

The Stanislaus Family Justice Center (SFJC) values the current partnership with Stanislaus County for the FY 2010 Arrest Program grant. The SFJC is grateful to have the support of the Board of Supervisors and a variety of other County agencies. As the one stop center for victims and their families, the agency is charting the course for services for the future. The SFJC further express their appreciation of the County's support of the Arrest Program grant funding and providing individuals from departments to work onsite to aide and assist victims. The Sheriff's office, the District Attorney's Office, Community Services Agency, Child Protective Services, and Behavioral Health and Recovery Services have all been exemplary in their support and dedication to enhance programming at the SFJC. Since the agency is new to the community, the partners are still determining what level of services need to be provided to best assist victims. In addition to providing guidance, the Chief Executive Office is responsible for the grant administration and have been diligent in the grant requirements to ensure timely processing of the current Federally funded FY 2010 Arrest Program.

If this grant is approved by the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women, funding from the FY 2012 Arrest Program would provide partial funding for Stanislaus Family Justice Center (SFJC) staff, one Investigator for the District Attorney's Office, one Haven FJC Coordinator, and one Haven Advocate for Haven Women's Center for a twenty four month period. Notification of award will be announced in September, 2012.

POLICY ISSUES:

The existence and sustainability of the Family Justice Center fulfills the Board of Supervisors priority of A safe community, Effective partnerships and Efficient delivery of public services.

Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to Apply for the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) Fiscal Year 2012 Grant to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders Program (FY 2012 Arrest Program) in the Amount of \$650,000 and to Accept Funding if Awarded

Page 4

STAFFING IMPACT:

Existing Chief Executive Office staff will administer the FY 2012 Arrest Program grant funds working with the Stanislaus Family Justice Center and the District Attorney's Office.

CONTACT:

Stan Risen, Assistant Executive Officer. Telephone (209) 525-6333.