

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

DEPT: Chief Executive Office

BOARD AGENDA # B-5

Urgent

Routine

AGENDA DATE March 19, 2013

CEO Concurs with Recommendation YES NO
(Information Attached)

4/5 Vote Required YES NO

SUBJECT:

Accept a Report on the Partnership with Valley Recovery Resources (VRR) for the Provision of Sober Living Environment Services, Recognize VRR for Their Commitment to the Community and Related Actions

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Accept a report on the Partnership with Valley Recovery Resources (VRR) for the Provision of Sober Living Environment Services.
2. Recognize VRR for their commitment to the Community and desire to preserve sober living environment services for families with children.
3. Authorize staff to apply for award recognition for this unique public-private partnership through the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) and National Association of Counties (NACO) and/or other professional associations that might benefit from knowledge of this model.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with acceptance of the report of the partnership with Valley Recovery Resources. This unique relationship is a public-private partnership that has leveraged funding for critical Sober Living Environment Services in our community through contributions of local match beginning in May 2011 with an initial commitment of approximately \$150,000 which could leverage additional State and Federal funds ranging between \$2.7 million to \$3.3 million. The VRR partnership continues today and their contribution in Fiscal Year 2012-2013 is estimated at \$181,783. This contribution along with other sources of local match funding totaling \$2.2 million, allows the

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BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS:

No. 2013-116

On motion of Supervisor O'Brien, Seconded by Supervisor Withrow

and approved by the following vote,

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

Noes: Supervisors: None

Excused or Absent: Supervisors: Monteith

Abstaining: Supervisor: None

1) Approved as recommended

2) Denied

3) Approved as amended

4) Other:

MOTION:



ATTEST: CHRISTINE FERRARO TALLMAN, Clerk

File No.

FISCAL IMPACT: (Continued)

Community Services Agency to access Federal and State/2011 Realignment of \$12.7 million in base Child Welfare Services allocation. Further, once the base Child Welfare Services allocation is matched, augmentation funding of \$2.7 million in additional resources is available to benefit our Community. One-time 2011 realignment funds of \$249,765 have been dedicated to enhance supportive services. As a result, total CWS funds budgeted for Fiscal Year 2012-2013 are estimated at \$18 million supporting critical case management and supportive services for at risk children and families. This partnership is already recognized in the CSA Budget; there are no changes required to current year budget appropriations or estimated revenues. Existing budgeted funds are available for minimal costs associated with the recognition process.

DISCUSSION:

Sober Living Environment services performed through community-based organizations provide a benefit to this community by allowing parents and their children the opportunity to live in a structured and drug free setting while they work toward fulfilling the requirements of their Child Welfare and/or StanWORKs case plan. The focus of these plans is on child safety and family self-sufficiency.

These local Sober Living Environment services for the community are not mandated by the State or Federal Government, however are recognized as an essential service for women in substance abuse recovery. Child Welfare funding for Sober Living Environment services is made available by the State but requires a 30% local match for Child Welfare eligible cases. CalWORKs Welfare to Work funding for Sober Living Environment services is made available by Federal and State sources with no local match required beyond the County's initial maintenance of effort requirement for the CalWORKs cases. Absent available local match for non-mandated services, the County can partner with local non-profit agencies to contribute the local match requirement.

In late 2010 and early 2011, a local group of committed citizens approached Supervisor O'Brien to strategize on ways to respond to a serious decline in available sober living services in the community. This situation was a direct result of three years of economic decline in which local budget reductions to minimum mandate match levels significantly reduced CWS funding by over 30% culminating in elimination of clean and sober living support for CWS families. As a result of the generosity of local donors and the creation of a new non-profit organization, Valley Recovery Resources, on May 10, 2011 the Board of Supervisors approved a creative strategy and approach to leverage privately donated funds to meet the local matching fund requirements to use Child Welfare Funds for these non-mandated, but critically needed programs.

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On May 10, 2011 the Board of Supervisors authorized the Community Services Agency (CSA) to enter into an agreement with Valley Recovery Resources to provide these services to a maximum of 40 families per month. Included in the agreement was a commitment from Valley Recovery Resources to provide the annual local match requirement of \$144,540. The Board also directed CSA to work with the General Services Agency to issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) in Fiscal Year 2011-2012 for the provision of Sober Living Environment Services for contracts beginning July 1, 2012.

On June 26, 2012 the Board of Supervisors approved to award agreements for Sober Living Environment services to Valley Recovery Resources in the amount of \$983,675 and Nirvana Drug and Alcohol Treatment Institute in the amount of \$108,000, since amended to \$120,450. These contracts provided a consistent level of service to our community and meet the forecast customer needs for a total of 55 beds a month; 49 beds provided through Valley Recovery Resources and 6 provided through Nirvana.

For the 2012-13 fiscal year, this unique and caring public-private partnership will allow the use of State and Federal funds to provided non-mandated but critically needed clean and sober living programs in Stanislaus County. Through this partnership and the generosity of donors and volunteers committed to serving the underserved and focusing on preventing further damage to families and the community by focusing on recovery and strengthening the families served by these programs. This partnership demonstrates the ability of a community to come together, particularly in these continuing difficult fiscal times and find solutions for the community we serve.

At Board direction, staff will work to further recognize this unique public private partnership through application for award recognition with the goal of sharing lessons learned and a road map for other government agencies to use as a model. This partnership has provided valuable community support, recovery services and financial leveraging opportunities that are a win-win approach for all stakeholders adding richness to the safety net in our County.

POLICY ISSUE:

Acceptance of this report on the status of the partnership with Valley Recovery Resources for the Provision of Sober Living Environment Services supports the Board's priorities of A Healthy Community, Effective Partnerships and Efficient Delivery of Public Services by meeting a community need for services that improve the health and well being of families in our community.

STAFFING IMPACT:

Existing Community Services Agency staff are available to support the community partnerships to provide Sober Living Environment Services in Stanislaus County.

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CONTACT PERSON:

Patricia Hill Thomas, Chief Operations Officer. Telephone: (209) 525-6333

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