

County of Santa Clara
Social Services Agency
Department of Aging and Adult Services Programs
In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Bureau



SSA01 102009

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Director

DATE: October 20, 2009

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: 
Will Lightbourne
Agency Director, Social Services Agency

SUBJECT: In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Fraud Investigation and Program Integrity Efforts Plan

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Authorize the Social Services Agency to submit the In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Fraud Investigation and Program Integrity Efforts Plan to the California Department of Social Services.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

There is no negative impact to the County General Fund associated with approval of the Recommended Action.

The State has advised counties of the availability of state and federal funding for IHSS Fraud Investigations and Program Integrity (IHSS FIPI) efforts. The State has provided counties with the option to participate by submitting a plan for State funding approval for FY 2010. The total state-wide proposed funding is \$26,446,000 with \$10,000,000 in state funding, \$12,160,000 in federal match funding, and \$4,286,000 in county match funding.

The proposed funding allocation for Santa Clara County is \$1,034,435 with \$391,150 in state funding, \$475,638 in federal match funding, and \$167,647 (16%) in county match funding. The Social Services Agency has submitted a funding request in the amount of \$1,034,435. If the funding request is approved by the State, no additional County General Funds are needed as the Agency will use current FY 2010 budget appropriation to achieve the match requirement.

CONTRACT HISTORY

Not applicable.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

The State requires that all IHSS Fraud Investigation and Program Integrity plans be submitted to and approved by County Board of Supervisors by November 1, 2009 to be eligible for consideration. The state deadline of November 1, 2009 did not allow the Social Services Agency to submit the In-Home Supportive Services, Fraud Investigation and Program Integrity Efforts Plan. (IHSS FIPI) to the Children, Families, and Seniors Committee, prior to submitting to the Board of Supervisors.

BACKGROUND

On September 25, 2009, the State of California Health and Human Services Agency, Department of Social Services notified Counties' Boards of Supervisors of the opportunity for counties to apply for IHSS Fraud Investigations and Program Integrity (IHSS FIPI) funding. The IHSS FIPI funding is for the purpose of fraud prevention, detection, referral, investigation and additional program integrity efforts related to IHSS. The attached proposal is forwarded for your approval to allow Santa Clara County Social Services Agency and the District Attorney's Public Assistance Fraud Division (PAFD) to build on existing IHSS fraud prevention programs.

Since 2004, Santa Clara County has implemented quality assurance efforts that support program integrity in the growing IHSS caseload. As a Medi-Cal funded program, IHSS fraud referrals have been directed to the state's Department of Health Care services. Their staffing for fraud investigation has been extremely limited, and there have been some opportunities to work with the PAFD on certain cases. Through this work, Santa Clara County established strong quality assurance procedures and built on existing best practices with the PAFD. The focus of these efforts has been, and will continue to be, on early fraud prevention.

With approval from the Board, Santa Clara County will be able to submit the attached plan to expand on these efforts for state consideration. If state approval is obtained, the Social Services Agency and PAFD will be able to pilot expanded fraud prevention efforts.

CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION

Negative action will result in the County being unable to submit the attached proposal for participation in the FY 2010 effort.

STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL

The Clerk of the Boards's office is requested to send Keyboard notification of completed processing to Jeanne Gonzales, Social Services Agency (SSA), Financial Management Services (FMS).

ATTACHMENTS

- IHSS Fraud Investigations and Program Integrity Proposal
- Enclosure D