County of Santa Clara Board of Supervisors Supervisorial District Two Supervisor Cindy Chavez



75099

DATE:

February 24, 2015

TO:

**Board of Supervisors** 

FROM:

Cindy Chavez, Supervisor

SUBJECT: Children, Seniors, and Families Committee Report

## RECOMMENDED ACTION

Receive report from the Children, Seniors, and Families Committee relating to the meeting of February 5, 2015. (Chavez)

## REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

The Children, Seniors and Families Committee met on February 5, 2015. Chairwoman Chavez and Vice Chair Cortese were present.

The Committee received the progress report presented by the Office of the County Executive relating to Unaccompanied Immigrant Minors. The Committee commended the work of the CEO and the nonprofit partners for the timely response and quick action on this matter. Supervisor Chavez requested feedback from the CEO for opportunities to address new and pending legislation related to the expanded Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals and the Deferred Action for Parent Accountability. Finally, the Committee requested future reports include a discussion of the outreach conducted for host homes to inform ongoing efforts to recruit foster parents. The Committee accepted the report.

The Social Services Agency presented the quarterly status update relating to the Child Welfare Systems Improvement Plan. SSA identified staffing issues and the tracking and monitoring of data to be key areas of need. Chairwoman Chavez requested further information relating to the recruitment and retention challenges and that staff determine an approach to discuss and analyze staffing issues within the Department of Family and Children Services. The Committee accepted the report.

The Committee accepted the quarterly status report from the Social Services Agency and the Department of Family and Children Services (DFCS) relating to the Receiving, Assessment and Intake Center Planning Process (RAIC). Completion of the stakeholder planning phase is projected for completion in May 2015. The Committee requested the next report to include a

short term and long term security plan as construction of the downtown medical center nears completion; and the practice of prioritizing placements of returning children with previous foster families in the planning process.

DFCS and the Kinship, Adoptive and Foster Parent Association (KAFPA) presented the report back relating to recommendations for additional foster parent support services and resources for caregivers. The report and recommendations were a result of a series of focus group discussions, surveys, and interviews conducted by KAFPA with foster, kinship and adoptive parents. The Committee requested an off agenda report back from DFCS relating to the recommendations of the report and the feasibility of adopting such recommendations in early April. The Committee accepted the report.

The Committee accepted the report from the Department of Behavioral Health Services relating to the Older Adult Summit Implementation Plan. Vice Chair Cortese requested an off agenda report with recommendations for additional resources relating to how the County can respond to the demographic changes trending towards an aging population.

SSA presented the report relating to Contracting Processes. Chairwoman Chavez requested a report back at the Mid-Year Budget process relating to the planning process and next steps of SSA's current efforts to enhance contract management and monitoring. The Committee accepted the report.

The Committee accepted the report from the Office of Women's Policy relating to the Workers' Rights Program for Vulnerable Workers through the Katharine and George Alexander Community Law Center. The Committee accepted the report with a recommendation for multi-year funding support of the Workers' Rights Program at the annual budget process.

The Committee accepted the verbal reports from the Director of the Social Services Agency and the Director of the Department of Child Support Services.

## LINKS:

Linked To: 74918: 74918

• Linked To: 74779: 74779

• Linked To: 74583: 74583

Linked To: 74284: 74284

• Linked To: 74902: 74902

Linked To: 74979: 74979

Linked To: 73694: 73694