

**3  
Action**

**Emerging Critical Needs: Funding for Cal-SAFE Programs**  
Supporting Documents

**Overview:**

The request before the Commission is to approve Emerging Critical Needs funding of up to \$2,000,169 for three years, to support Cal-SAFE programs in six local school districts. The six districts are: Carlsbad Unified School District, Escondido Union High School District, Grossmont Union High School District, Oceanside Unified School District, San Marcos Unified School District, and Vista Unified School District.

The intent of the Emerging Critical Needs funding is to support the Commission's Strategic Plan to fund a "*targeted response to critical needs emerging from state and local economic conditions*" and to address urgent needs to fund projects that address the most critical gaps in the safety net for young children and families.

The Cal-SAFE Program receives funding from the California Department of Education to serve teen parents and their children (0-5) at school sites. Without support programs, two-thirds of all school-age parents fail to graduate from high school (only 33% graduate), whereas 75% of teen parents participating in Cal-SAFE graduate from high school. Cal-SAFE provides comprehensive support services to the teen parents and appropriate developmental activities/environments and assessment for their children, ages 0-5, while they attend school. Cal-SAFE teen parents also receive parent education, health care education and access, and the knowledge, skills and ability to prepare their children for pre-school.

There are currently seven (7) local education agencies (LEA's) operating Cal-SAFE Programs in San Diego County; six of these agencies [as noted above] are requesting Emerging Critical Needs funding. Statewide, the Cal-SAFE Program sustained about a 20% cut to funding, due to the State fiscal crisis. Not only has funding for the program decreased, but the number of children, ages 0-5, in need of services has increased. Due to the reduction of State funding, each district's efforts to continue to provide the needed services to these teen parents and their children have been severely impeded.

**Staff Recommendation:**

- 1) Find that the proposed Emerging Critical Needs allocation to provide Cal-SAFE services is consistent with the Commission's Strategic Plan, furthers the support and improvement of early childhood development within the County and provides a public benefit.
- 2) Receive and approve recommendations from the Source Selection Committee for contract awards to the following organizations and authorize the Executive Director or her designee to negotiate and execute a contract with the six organizations listed below for up to \$2,000,169 as a project length budget for three years to provide Cal-SAFE services and identify full funding for these projects to be allocated from the Emerging Critical Needs line in the approved FY 2010 – 11

**Executive Director  
Jiménez**

**Grace Young  
Contracts and  
School Readiness  
Program Manager**

budget:

<b>School District</b>	<b>Total Funding (Three Years)</b>
Carlsbad Unified School District	Up to \$ 90,000
Escondido Union High School District	Up to \$ 420,000
Grossmont Union High School District	Up to \$ 350,169
Oceanside Unified School District,	Up to \$ 375,000
San Marcos Unified School District	Up to \$ 450,000
Vista Unified School District	Up to \$ 315,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>Up to \$2,000,169</b>

**Fiscal Impact:**

A total of up to \$2,000,169 will be allocated from the Emerging Critical Needs line in the approved FY 2010-11 budget. If approved the balance in the Emerging Critical Needs line for FY 2010-11 will be \$166,624.