

First 5 Commission of San Diego
February 7, 2011
CalWORKs Stage 3 Child Care Services Contract Amendments

Overview

The action before the Commission is to approve no-cost amendments to extend the two Alternative Payment Program (APP) contracts for two months.

Background

There are three stages to the CalWORKs child care program. Stage 1 is administered by the county welfare departments. Stage 2 and 3 are administered by the Alternative Payment Program (APP) agencies under contract with the California Department of Education (CDE). The State approved APP agencies for San Diego County are YMCA-Childcare Resource Service (CRS) and Child Development Associates (CDA). Stage 3 Child Care is for former CalWORKs recipients who have transitioned off aid.

On October 8, 2010, Governor Schwarzenegger signed the FY 2010-2011 State Budget and used his power of veto to eliminate child care services for 81,000 children in 60,000 families transitioning from Welfare to Work as of October 31, 2010. In San Diego County, this act impacted an estimated 2,829 children of which, 1,023 are children ages 0-5. An average of 40 children transition out of Stage 3 each month.

On November 17, 2010, Alameda County Superior Court Judge Carvill approved a settlement, that kept child care services available to Stage 3 recipients through December 2010. As a result of this action, funds were not needed for the months of November or December 2010.

On January 10, 2011, Governor Brown released his budget proposal for FY 2010-11 and FY 2011-12 in which funding has been set aside to continue services for Stage 3 families effective April 2011. As a result of this action, no funding is available for the months on February and March 2011. With this recommended action today, the Commissions has the opportunity to fill this gap using the unspent funding from November and December 2010.

Commission History

On November 1, 2010 (Item 5), the Commission authorized the Executive Director, or her designee to negotiate and execute 3-month (November 1, 2010 – January 31, 2011) contracts with YMCA-CRS for up to \$908,040 and Child Development Associates (CDA) for up to \$1,348,665 to provide Stage 3 Child Care transition services payments.

Link to the Strategic Plan

Child Care Stage 3 supports the Strategic Plan Key Objective: *Increase parents' and caregivers' access to needed services for their children.*

Staff Recommendations

- 1) Find that the proposed actions are consistent with the Commission's Strategic Plan, furthers the support and improvement of early childhood education within the County and provides a public benefit.
- 2) Authorize the Executive Director or her designee to work with YMCA-CRS and Child Development Associates to negotiate and execute two month (February 1, 2011 – March 31, 2011) no-cost amendments.

Fiscal Impact

There is no fiscal impact from this request. The funds currently encumbered for November and December 2010, would be used to fund Stage 3 Child Care for the months of February and March 2011.