



HUMAN RESOURCES AGENCY

CECILIA ESPINOLA, ADMINISTRATOR

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March 10, 1999

Agenda: March 23, 1999

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

County of Santa Cruz
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

ANSWERS BENEFITING CHILDREN

Dear Members of the Board:

On February 23, 1999, your Board authorized the Human Resources Agency to submit a proposal to the Office of Child Abuse Prevention and Governors Office of Criminal Justice Planning for the Answers Benefiting Children (ABC) program. Your Board directed the HRA Administrator to return to your Board on March 23, 1999 with a copy of the proposal and financing plan. As you will recall, ABC provides two years of start-up funding for communities to develop an integrated service delivery approach for the prevention and treatment of child abuse and neglect. Core elements of ABC include family support home visiting services to families with children under the age of six and victim assistance treatment services for children up to 18 years old. Services are to be provided through the non-profit sector and be located at a Family Resource Center in a targeted community. The Santa Cruz County ABC design, which targets families in south County, was developed by a planning collaborative with representatives from the Children's Network, the Watsonville Healthy Families Collaborative, the Family Resource Center Network and local government.

A copy of the ABC proposal is on file with the Clerk of the Board. The proposal provides a detailed description of the local program design and financial components, which include a mix of state, federal and local cash and in-kind funds from a variety of sources. The state OCAP and OCJP expects to notify counties of awards by mid-May. If Santa Cruz County is funded, HRA will return to your Board at budget time with follow-up actions for implementing the program in FY 1999-2000.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
March 23, 1999
Answers Benefiting Children

IT IS THEREFORE RECOMMENDED that your Board:

1. Accept and file this report on the status of the Answers Benefiting Children proposal; and
2. Direct the Human Resources Agency Administrator to return to your Board during the FY 99/2000 budget process with follow-up actions if awarded a grant.

Very truly yours,



Cecilia Espinola
Administrator

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RECOMMENDED:



for Susan A. Mauriello
County Administrative Officer