DATE: January 14, 2020
TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: David Campos, Deputy County Executive
Protima Pandey, Director, Office of Women's Policy
SUBJECT: 2020 Human Trafficking Conference Sponsorship

RECOMMENDED ACTION
Approve County sponsorship of Community Solutions in the amount of $5,000 from the Division of Equity and Social Justice, Office of Women's Policy Fiscal Year 2019-2020 budget, to support the Human Trafficking Symposium 2020.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS
There is no adverse impact to the General Fund. There are sufficient funds in the Office of the County Executive’s Fiscal Year (FY) 2019-20 adopted budget to cover the sponsorship amount of $5,000.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION
Since 2012, the South Bay Coalition to End Human Trafficking, whose fiscal agent is Community Solutions, has been offering the biennial conference for professionals who work with survivors of human trafficking. It serves as an opportunity for not only victim and legal service providers but also representatives from law enforcement agencies, County departments and other stakeholders to learn the latest strategies, trends and legislation affecting their work. The specialized training supports coordinated, collaborative, trauma-informed, and survivor-centered approaches to improve services for survivors.

The highly anticipated conference routinely sells out, and the sponsorship will allow the admission price to remain low-cost to increase the event’s accessibility. The event this year is focusing on media issues and their role in prevention, education, and services, among other topics that the conference routinely covers. The sponsorship will also include a limited number of stipends for survivors to serve as guest speakers and fully participate in the conference. Any donations in excess of the conference costs will be used to strengthen the Coalition Emergency Fund to support survivor needs including the cost for relocation. Such cost is associated with traveling, hotel, and meals for first responders during local rescue
operations, paying for a survivor’s medical tests and treatment. Additionally, funding will support other crucial assistance not always covered under existing grants or funding.

**CHILD IMPACT**

The recommended action will have a positive impact on children who are affected by human trafficking.

**SENIOR IMPACT**

The recommended action will have a positive impact on seniors who are affected by human trafficking.

**SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS**

The recommended action will have no/neutral sustainability implications.

**BACKGROUND**

The South Bay Coalition to End Human Trafficking (SBCEHT) is the local effort that responds to human trafficking in the counties of Santa Clara and San Benito. Utilizing a victim-centered approach, they strengthen local capacity to respond to and identify human trafficking survivors. Their mission is to ensure the protection of victims, the prosecution of offenders, and the prevention of human trafficking and slavery through an effective coordinated partnership. SBCEHT has coordinated the collaborative effort among law enforcement, human trafficking victim services agencies, and the U.S. Attorney’s Office to identify and rescue victims of trafficking in persons and successfully prosecute traffickers. The County of Santa Clara is a long-time member of the SBCEHT.

**CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION**

The County will not be able to provide financial support for the 2020 Human Trafficking Symposium.

**STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL**

Clerk of the Board should notify Protima Pandey in the Office of Women’s Policy Protima.pandey@ceo.sccgov.org

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- 2020 Symposium Sponsor Letter (PDF)
- 2020 Symposium (PDF)