County of Santa Clara  
Board of Supervisors  
Supervisiorial District Three  
Supervisor Dave Cortese

BOSD3 22 06-05-12

DATE: June 5, 2012

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM:  
Dave Cortese  
Supervisor, District 3

SUBJECT: BUDGET INVENTORY ITEM: CAST Program Funding

RECOMMENDED ACTION
a. Allocate up to $125,000.00 for two consultants: one to assist in the development of the trauma informed system and one to assist with cross systems data integration.

b. CLT will work with the appropriate departments on this project.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS
The Mental Health Department will provide $25,000.00 for the development of the trauma informed system. For the remaining $100,000.00, the County Executive will determine alternative sources.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION
The CAST program requires a coordinated effort on the part of a number of county and other agencies. The work of the CAST team needs additional support to coordinate the efforts of the team and keep it moving forward toward implementing trauma-informed system of care.
(TISOC). A consultant will be able to provide the additional assistance required to make the TISOC model a reality.

The consultant who would be hired to facilitate the development of the TISOC logic model would be a consultant with demonstrated experience designing, implementing and executing a broad based stakeholder input process. This consultant would also have demonstrated experience in the child welfare and health or behavioral field, understanding the workforce development needs and concerns of professional programming. The consultant would need to be familiar with research and practice issues related to trauma and be able to translate that knowledge to a broad based group of stakeholders who are not professionally trained.

Given that this TISOC logic model would form the basis of a set of core competencies and a work force development plan, some experience with management systems and/or organizational development is also desirable.

A consultant is also required to develop a strategy for integrating the data from the various systems currently being used by the various agencies in order to monitor the families and resources in their systems. Data coordination is an integral part of the success of the program. Proper coordination of resources will both promote efficiency and enhance effectiveness in the program overall.

**CHILD IMPACT**

This action will ultimately have a positive impact on children and their families.

**BACKGROUND**

The Cross Agency Services Team (CAST) was initially put in place in 2009 to identify the agencies (both county departments and community-based organizations) that provide services to those in the child welfare system. A number of departments serve on this team, including the Social Services Agency (SSA), the Mental Health Department (MHD), the Department of Drug and Alcohol Services (DADS), the Department of Family and Children's Services (DFCS), the Public Health Department (PHD), the Presiding Juvenile Court Judge, the lead Judge Dependency Court (Superior Court), the current President of the NAACP, and representatives from Probation, the District Attorney’s Office, and the County Executive’s Office of Budget Analysis.

More recently, the CAST reported a desire to expand their work. In addition to the continued focus on the departmental programmatic prioritization of CWS families, the group requested
that it also focus on key strategies across departments which create the conditions for effective service delivery. One of these is the trauma-informed system of care (TISOC). The TISOC model was presented to Children, Seniors, and Families Committee in May and it will be presented to the Board later in June.