

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

857



FROM: PROBATION DEPARTMENT

SUBMITTAL DATE: August 6, 2003

SUBJECT: Approval of the FY 03/04 Agreements with Blanch Brandt, Ph.D., and Dr. Benjamin Kohn

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Approve the attached agreements with Blanch Brandt, Ph.D., and Dr. Benjamin Kohn and authorize the Chairman to sign the agreements.

BACKGROUND: These contracts will continue the services of Blanch Brandt, Ph.D., who administers the Structure of Intellect/Vision Program, and Dr. Benjamin Kohn, Developmental Optometrist for the Structure of Intellect/Vision Therapy Treatment Program, at Twin Pines Ranch, Van Horn Youth Center, Desert Youth Academy (Indio Juvenile Hall), and the Day Reporting Centers in Riverside and Indio.

Research has shown that cognitive problems can be revealed through delinquency; the individual doesn't properly process information being read, and perceives that they are not intelligent, which reduces self-esteem and self-respect. Through the Structure of Intellect program, clients are given written tests, which are designed to identify obstacles to learning. Dr. Brandt provides an interpretation of the test results; if vision problems are indicated, clients are referred to the program optometrist, Dr. Benjamin Kohn. Where cognitive problems are indicated, Dr. Brandt provides the diagnosis and/or treatment plan. The treatment, Vision Therapy, involves exercises designed to improve reading and information processing skills. Following this, clients have shown marked improvement in their self-esteem and self-worth, providing them with the desire to improve behavior.

The agreements are in the following amounts: Blanch Brandt, Ph.D., \$52,000; and Dr. Benjamin Kohn, \$28,000. This funding is contained in the approved FY 2003/04 Final Budget; no additional funding is required.

These agreements have been approved as to form by the Office of County Counsel.

Marie Whittington

MARIE WHITTINGTON, Chief Probation Officer

FINANCIAL DATA:

CURRENT YEAR COST	\$80,000	ANNUAL COST:	\$80,000
NET COUNTY COST	\$30,400	IN CURRENT YEAR BUDGET:	Yes
		BUDGET ADJUSTMENT:	No FY 03/04

SOURCE OF FUNDS: Federal – 20%; State – 41%; County – 38%; Other – 1%

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:

APPROVE

Sally A. Seaman
County Executive Officer Signature

Department Recommendation: Consent Policy

Per Executive Office: Consent Policy

Prev. Agn. ref. 3.30 7/31/02; 3.25 10/18/02

Dist. All

AGENDA NO.

3.46