

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



530

FROM: Department of Public Social Services-
Department of Community Action (DPSS-DCA)

SUBMITTAL DATE:
5/24/05

SUBJECT: Approval of Project B.L.I.S.S. (Building Links Impacts Self-Sufficiency) Agreements with Catholic Charities San Bernardino/Riverside, MFI Recovery Center and S.A.F.E. Alternatives for Everyone.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors:

- 1) Ratifies and authorizes the Chairman of the Board to sign the attached Agreements, without competition, between DPSS-DCA and the Contractors listed below to develop and nurture five (5) Circles of Support each in their designated Supervisorial Districts:

<u>Contract No.</u>	<u>District</u>	<u>Contractors</u>	<u>Contract Amount</u>
DC 1914-01	1	Catholic Charities San Bernardino/Riverside	\$15,000
DC 1914-02	2	MFI Recovery Center	\$15,000
DC 1914-03	3	S.A.F.E. Alternatives for Everyone	\$15,000

- 2) Authorize the Purchasing Agent to sign amendments and renewal options on behalf of the County for an aggregate amount not to exceed \$45,000 per fiscal year;
- 3) Authorize the Director of DPSS-DCA to administer the Agreements; and

(CONTINUED - 3 Pages in total)

Lois J. Carson

Lois J. Carson, Executive Director
Department of Community Action

FINANCIAL DATA	Current F.Y. Total Cost:	\$ 45,000	In Current Year Budget:	No
	Current F.Y. Net County Cost:	\$ 0	Budget Adjustment:	Yes
	Annual Net County Cost:	\$ 0	For Fiscal Year:	FY 04/05

SOURCE OF FUNDS: 100% Federal CSBG Funds	Positions To Be Deleted Per A-30	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Requires 4/5 Vote	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION **APPROVE**

County Executive Office Signature *Dan Martinez*

SCAL PROCEDURES APPROVED BY PURCHASING: *Billy Curran* Director
 ROBERT E. BYRD, Auditor-Controller
 BY *Sue Ward* 5/16/05 Departmental Concurrence Deputy

Dept' Recomm.: Policy
 Per Exec. Ofc.: Policy
 Consent:

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE
 02 MAY 18 AM 11:05
 RECEIVED RIVERSIDE COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE
 EXECUTIVE

Prev. Agn. Ref: **ATTACHMENTS FILED WITH THE CLERK OF THE BOARD** District: 123 Agenda Number:

3.34

FROM: DPSS-Department of Community Action

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4) Instruct the Auditor-Controller to adjust the DPSS-DCA budget as follows:

Increase Appropriation:

CAARC 21050-5200100000-536240-54000 Other Contract Agencies \$15,000

Increase Estimated Revenue:

CAARC 21050-5200100000-767200 Fed -Block Grants \$15,000.

BACKGROUND:

Poverty is devastating in human terms. It is usually hidden away and not widely noted by the greater community. Project B.L.I.S.S. is the implementation of the vision: BLISS County. Ending poverty not only impacts the poor but the community at large.

Compelling data tells us that:

- 1 out of every 7 people in Riverside County struggles to meet basic needs
- 1 out of every 2 adult residents have a minimum high school education or less
- 9 out of 10 persons arrested each year in the county live in poor neighborhoods

People leaving poverty can join their community as productive members of society. People leaving poverty develop to their full potential and use their assets to give back to the community – financially by paying taxes, and physically by becoming a new crop of community volunteers. The entire community is stronger, safer and more productive.

Project BLISS develops Circles of Support: a small group of neighbors (3-5) who form friendships, offer encouragement, secure material and non-material resources for an identified family in poverty. The intent of Project BLISS is to end the isolation felt by most families in poverty. The family leader selects volunteers (3-4 allies) to help the family develop their Personal Family Plan and implement strategies that support the family plan (short and long-term). Each ally takes a vested interest in, cares about, listens to, and shares resources with a poverty family that has made a commitment to make positive changes in their lifestyle.

Project BLISS began officially in 2004 with the recruitment and implementation of Circles of Support in the City of Banning and the City of Coachella. These pilot sites have provided invaluable insight into the dynamics of connecting a diverse group of people and working toward a common goal of moving a family out of poverty. DPSS-DCA aka CAP Riverside will continue to work in these two districts to nurture more Circles of Support. The expansion will be undertaken with the assistance and facilitation of three carefully selected community-based organizations to develop and nurture 5 Circles of Support each in their designated Supervisorial Districts.

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**JUSTIFICATION
FOR DELAY:**

In order to have as great an impact on as many families as possible and to ensure that the program vendors have adequate time to expend allocated funding by the end of the contract term, the program vendors began start-up activities as of April 1, 2005.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: No County General Funds will be required.

ATTACHMENTS: (1) Catholic Charities San Bernardino/Riverside Agreement (3 Copies)
(2) MFI Recovery Center Agreement (3 Copies)
(3) S.A.F.E. Alternatives for Everyone Agreement (3 Copies)

CONCUR/EXECUTE: County Counsel
Auditor-Controller