

408



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

FROM: DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES

SUBMITTAL DATE:
January 3, 2008

SUBJECT: Professional Services Agreement #CS3614-00 with Public Consulting Group

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors approve and:

1. Authorize the Chairman of the Board to sign the attached Agreement #CS3614-00, between Public Consulting Group and the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) to provide Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Advocacy Services for the period January 1, 2008 through June 30, 2008, with two-(2) one year renewal options in an amount not to exceed \$259,262;
2. Authorize the Purchasing Agent to sign any future ministerial amendments and renewal options for an amount not to exceed the contract maximum; and
3. Authorize the Director of DPSS to administer the program.

Susan Loew

Susan Loew, Director

(CONTINUED)

FINANCIAL DATA	Current F.Y. Total Cost:	\$ 259,262	In Current Year Budget:	Yes
	Current F.Y. Net County Cost:	\$ 129,631	Budget Adjustment:	No
	Annual Net County Cost:	\$ 0	For Fiscal Year:	2007/2008

SOURCE OF FUNDS: Federal - 50%, County - 50%	Positions To Be Deleted Per A-30	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Requires 4/5 Vote	<input type="checkbox"/>

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:

APPROVE

BY: *Debra Cournoyer*
Debra Cournoyer

County Executive Office Signature

M. Seller
M. Seller, Assistant Director
County Purchasing Department

Laura R. McKenna
Laura R. McKenna
County Counsel

2/11/08

Dept't Recomm.: Consent Policy Policy

Per Exec. Ofc.: Consent Policy Policy

Prev. Agn. Ref.:

District: All

Agenda Number:

ATTACHMENTS FILED
WITH THE CLERK OF THE BOARD

3.22

TO: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

DATE: 01/03/2008

Page: 2

SUBJECT: Professional Services Agreement #CS3614-00 with Public Consulting Group

BACKGROUND:

The implementation of Assembly Bill 1633 (Chapter 641, Statutes of 2006) requires counties to assist foster youth in gaining access to important federal disability benefits while in foster care and to assist youth in having those benefits in place when leaving or emancipating from the foster care system.

Riverside County desires to maximize the use of federal and state funds while ensuring the child's individual needs are met during the stay in foster care and ensuring that funding will be available to the child upon leaving the system and/or upon emancipation. Many children qualify for federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and State Supplementary Payment (SSP) benefits but often go without simply because no one is there to assist them in the arduous application process. Riverside County has approximately 4,000 - 5,000 children in care requiring the potential review for SSI/SSP Advocacy Services.

On July 16, 2007, a Request for Proposal (RFP) was released to solicit vendors interested in offering to provide SSI advocacy services. An invitation for bid was sent to 64 new and local community partners and bidders and it was also advertised on the County Purchasing website. The RFP resulted in the submission of one proposal from Public Consulting Group. The evaluation team thoroughly reviewed the contents of the proposal, particularly the description of services and how well the bidder responded to the requirements of the RFP. Based on the quality of service, the proposal fully meets the requirements of the RFP for Riverside County.

PCG was established in 1986 and is a privately held small-business corporation based in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. PCG has worked with agencies all over the country including Los Angeles County, Santa Clara County, Alameda County, San Bernardino County, and the Riverside County Special Education Local Planning Area (SELPA) which includes 22 school districts within the county and the Office of Education.

PCG has specific experience with completing the SSI application process ensuring that benefits are used in the best interest of the child while also providing additional funding resources that allow agencies to offset the cost of care and maintenance provided to the child. PCG offers agencies a 'turn-key' solution for the benefits management process – from performing a business process review through development, implementation and full-scale operation.

TO: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

DATE: 01/03/2008

Page: 3

SUBJECT: Professional Services Agreement #CS3614-00 with Public Consulting Group

BACKGROUND (cont'd):

Therefore, the Director of DPSS requests that the Board approve and execute the attached Agreement #CS3614-00 between Riverside County Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) and Public Consulting Group.

PRICE REASONABLENESS:

In an effort to ascertain the reasons for the limited response, DPSS conducted follow up phone calls to vendors who were sent personal bid invitations to research why they did not respond to the RFP. DPSS received various responses. The majority of the vendors were not interested in bidding for the service; several did not provide this specific type of service and they were not familiar with the requirements of AB 1633 and the process for filing SSI benefits; some mentioned they lacked staff to work on the RFP due to vacation time-off; and two did not receive the personal invite since the contact person listed was no longer with their organization/agency.

The total proposed cost of \$259,262 annually is believed to be reasonable. Based on current SSI trends and past contractor performance, the yearly caseload is projected to be 4,000. Of the 4,000 cases, 140 cases (3.5%) are projected to be successful candidates for approval per month. And, as a result of the County share abatement applied at 60%, Riverside County is expected to recoup \$604,800 within a 12-month period.

Public Consulting Groups proposed cost was compared with our neighboring county, San Bernardino. The County of San Bernardino has maintained a contract agreement with this vendor since 1994 and has been satisfied with the service they provide and the contribution to maximize SSI children benefits. San Bernardino County's current contract agreement amount with this vendor is \$373,000 for fiscal year 2007/2008. In comparison with San Bernardino County, the proposed cost of \$259,262 is approximately 44% lower than our neighboring county's existing contract amount. Riverside County hopes to maximize SSI benefits that will offset the amount of the contract. Therefore, we are confident that the pricing is reasonable and at fair market value for the services that would be provided by the vendor.

FINANCIAL DATA: (FY2006/2007) Federal – 50%, County – 50%.

ATTACHMENT(S) – Request for Single Source Procurement
Professional Services Agreement # CS3614-00

CONCUR/EXECUTE – County Purchasing

SL:ns