



Board Agenda Item 58

DATE: March 28, 2023
TO: Board of Supervisors
SUBMITTED BY: Sanja Bugay, Director, Department of Social Services
SUBJECT: Marjaree Mason Center Annual Report

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):

Accept the Marjaree Mason Center Annual Report for the period of October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022.

There is no Net County Cost associated with the recommended action, which will allow Marjaree Mason Center, Inc. (MMC) to submit the annual report to your Board in accordance with Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC), Section (§)18300. This provision requires an annual report be submitted by the domestic violence shelter-based program receiving funding from the State's Domestic Violence Fund to the County Board of Supervisors. This item is countywide.

ALTERNATIVE ACTION(S):

There is no viable alternative action. Should the recommended action not be approved, the County will be out of compliance with WIC §18300.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no increase in Net County Cost associated with the recommended action.

DISCUSSION:

In accordance with WIC §18300, the County disperses revenue from the Domestic Violence Fund on a quarterly basis to domestic violence shelters meeting all service requirements contained within WIC §18294. The Domestic Violence Fund was established for income generated by marriage license fees, court ordered debt revenue, and fines and fees imposed by the courts for domestic violence cases. On January 17, 2023, the Department completed the MMC site visit to determine their eligibility based on WIC §18294. The Department has confirmed MMC is still in compliance with all provision.

To be eligible for these funds, WIC §18294 requires that an agency provide services that include:

- Shelter on a 24-hour a day, seven days a week basis;
- 24-hour a day, seven days a week telephone hotline for crisis calls;
- Temporary housing and food facilities;
- Psychological support and peer counseling provided in accordance with §1037.1 of the Evidence Code;
- A drop-in center that operates during normal business hours to assist victims of domestic violence who have a need for support services;
- Arrangements for school age children to continue their education during their stay at the domestic

- violence shelter;
- Emergency transportation as feasible; and
- Referrals to existing services in the community.

Currently, MMC is the only Fresno County domestic violence provider meeting all requirements in regulation. Additionally, the WIC stipulates that any agency receiving this funding prepare an annual report that details the total number of persons requesting services, the number of persons served based on the services provided, and a description of the social and economic characteristics of persons receiving services. This MMC annual report is for services provided October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022.

Over the last year, Marjaree Mason Center provided supportive services to 7,539 individuals including 5,937 adults and 1,365 children and 80,390 nights of emergency and longer-term safe shelter. 87% of MMC's clients were considered low-moderate income and lived below the poverty line.

REFERENCE MATERIAL:

BAI #33, February 1, 2022

ATTACHMENTS INCLUDED AND/OR ON FILE:

On file with Clerk - Federal FY 2021-22 Annual Report

CAO ANALYST:

Ron Alexander