



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence

Probation Department

DATE: July 20, 2009
BOARD MEETING DATE: August 4, 2009
SPECIAL NOTICE/HEARING: None
VOTE REQUIRED: Majority

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors
FROM: Stuart J. Forrest, Chief Probation Officer
SUBJECT: Acceptance of Juvenile Accountability Block Grant Program

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a Resolution:

- A. Authorizing the Probation Department to accept and utilize \$42,272 of federal funds available for FY 2009-10 through the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG) Program administered by the state Corrections Standards Authority (CSA); and
- B. Authorizing the Chief Probation Officer or Chief's Designee to submit and accept FY 2010-11 and FY 2011-12 JABG Program applications when Congress appropriates the funds through CSA.

BACKGROUND:

The Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG) Program provides funds to states and units of local government to enhance their efforts to combat serious and violent juvenile crime through accountability-based reforms. Accountability in juvenile justice means assuring that, as a result of their wrongdoing, juvenile offenders face consequences that make them aware of and answerable for the loss, damage, or injury perpetrated upon the victim.

In 2003, the San Mateo County Probation Department first applied for this grant to support the Victim Impact Awareness (VIA) program in an effort to promote victim awareness and active reparation to victims. The VIA program provides ten hours of classroom facilitation over approximately seven weeks covering topics including



gang violence, dating violence, property crimes, drunk driving and its victims, drugs and crime, and violent crime robbery and assault. Offenders who complete the VIA program are statistically less likely to recidivate than youth who do not complete the program.

DISCUSSION:

The Probation Department has submitted the FY 2009-10 grant proposal due on May 28, 2009 to the Juvenile Crime Enforcement Coalition advisory board for their review (see attached grant application). Per grant requirements, acceptance of the grant requires a resolution by the Board of Supervisors. Receipt of continued Federal funding provided by the JABG Program covers the cost of Probation's collaboration with community-based organizations which facilitate group counseling. Probation will be entering into individual contracts through a selection process to provide these services. The contract helps underscore the importance of making a commitment to change behavior in youths involved in the program.

County Counsel has reviewed and approved the Board memo and Resolution as to form.

Approval of this Resolution contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of a Collaborative Community by allowing receipt of Federal JABG Program funding to support the VIA Program and to have an ongoing impact on the quality of life for our youth and the community through collaboration. This performance target reflects a decrease in recidivism from the previous year.

Performance Measure(s):

Measure	FY 2008-09 Actual	FY 2009-10 Projected
Percentage of VIA program graduates who do not recidivate within the grant reporting period	82%	80%

FISCAL IMPACT:

The term of the JABG is July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010. The total obligation is \$42, 272. The grant requires an \$8,824 matching funds and is 100% Net County Cost. Funds have been included in the FY 2009-10 Tentatively Adopted Budget. Applications for JABG for FY 2010-11 and FY 2011-12 will be submitted by Probation when Congress appropriates the funds.