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CITY OF OAKLAND



ONE FRANK OGAWA PLAZA • 2ND FLOOR • OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA 94612

BUDGET MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 17, 2015

To: Council President Lynette Gibson McElhaney and members of the Council

Copy: Kiran Bawa, Budget Director

From: Councilmember Noel Gallo, District 5

RE: Amendments to Council President's Budget Proposal FY 2015-17

I would like to submit the following amendments to the FY 2015-17 Budget for your consideration:

Legal Services to Unaccompanied Minors in Oakland – Add FY 2015-16 (\$400,000) and FY 2016-17 (\$400,000) for legal services to unaccompanied minors in Oakland. In November 2014, the City of Oakland entered into a one year Grant Agreement with Centro Legal De La Raza (lead agency and fiscal sponsor of the Unaccompanied Minors Collaborative) in the amount of up to \$577,231.00 to provide urgently needed legal and coordination services to Central American Unaccompanied Children (UAC) living in Oakland that have fled to the United States to escape violent and other oppressive conditions in their countries.

From November 2014 to April 2015, the legal service providers in the collaborative [Collaborative: East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (EBSC), Catholic Charities of the East Bay (CCEB), Immigrant Center for Women and Children (ICWC), and East Bay Community Law Center (EBCLC)], have conducted 497 consults with unaccompanied minors (UCs) and migrant families (the funding is for 520 consults from November 2014 to November 2015) who reside in Oakland. As a collaborative, they are representing 293 cases of Oakland UCs and migrant families (which includes more people as many cases are a mom and 2-5 children; the year-long contract is for 350 cases). The Collaborative has conducted 16 clinics in collaboration with the Oakland Unified School District (OUSD) (the yearlong contract requires for 24 clinics). Centro Legal has been and continues to staff the attorney of the day program at the San Francisco Immigration Court for unrepresented children and families weekly as stated in the Oakland City contract. Also pursuant to the City's contract, Centro Legal continues to convene monthly legal services collaborative meetings.

Based on the numbers above, the Collaborative will have completed the terms of the contract within the next two months (the contract runs through November 2015), but the need for services is ongoing and the stakes continue to be very high as children who are deported face grave harm and likely death.

Thanks to the Collaborative's legal work, over 100 individuals have either been granted asylum or Special Immigrant Juvenile status. Furthermore, the Collaborative has yet to receive any denials. The rest of the cases are pending or in process. The Collaborative is continuing to accept as many cases as possible, but all of the legal organizations in the collaborative are either at or very close to capacity. That said, without additional funding for the remaining of 2015, it is unlikely that any of the organizations will be able to keep up the same level of services and the consequences the unaccompanied minors and their families face are life threatening.

Housing & Services to Human Trafficking/Prostitution Victims – Add FY 2015-16 (\$300,000) and FY 2016-17 (\$300,000) for housing & services to human trafficking/prostitution victims. Allocation of funds to DreamCatcher, Covenant House, and Victory Outreach Oakland who service homeless and exploited youth on the streets of Oakland.


DreamCatcher – a community based, multi-service agency. A shelter and support center for youth and human trafficking/prostitution victims. DreamCatcher services homeless youth, ages 13-18 and provides a safe place to sleep. The Shelter is free, voluntary and confidential. Also, available to youth are case management services, to access other community resources. Youth have access to computers, dinner/snacks, a laundry facility, health care, recreational activities, job training, case management, and much more.

Covenant House – a non-profit agency whose mission is to reach out to at-risk homeless youth and human trafficking/prostitution victims living on the streets of Oakland. Covenant House services youth ages 13-24. They offer hope and opportunities to turn youth’s lives around. They help abused or neglected youth who have nowhere else to go. A large number have been thrown out of their homes while others have aged out or left the foster care system with no family, no support, and no one to turn to.

Victory Outreach - an international, church-oriented Christian ministry founded in 1967 is committed to planting and developing churches, rehabilitation homes, and training centers in various cities. Victory Outreach Oakland offers a variety of ministries aimed at transforming people and creating leaders, such ministries include Recovery Home, G.A.N.G., KIDZ G.A.N.G., and DRAMA. Year-round Victory Outreach Oakland organizes and participates in safety walks aimed at building communities against violence, human trafficking and robberies on International Boulevard. Victory Outreach Oakland offers services, assistance and hope to those who are victims of crime and human trafficking in the City of Oakland; it provides positive guidance and inspirational motivation to its members, especially to youth, and is especially committed to ending sexual exploitation in Oakland.

Eliminate/Question Items from Council President’s FY 2015-17 Budget Proposal -

Item #	DESCRIPTION	TOTALS
#22	RESTORE: prior-year staffing cuts for each Council Office	\$901,559
#21	ADD: (1)Deputy City Atty III, (1) Paralegal	\$646,798
#16	ADD: Funding to reduce chronic absenteeism	\$210,000
#32	ADD: Parks Prioritization study and conceptual plans	\$200,000
#33	ADD: GPF investment in Workforce Investment Strategies & Programs to leverage additional support	\$450,000
#34	ADD: Matching funds to establish City/County Re-entry Job Corps Pilot Program	\$300,000
#12	ADD: CAO Discretionary Pool for Labor Negotiations for TPT	\$872,901

Respectfully

 Noel Gallo
 Oakland City Councilmember, District 5