



AGENDA STAFF REPORT

Control: 26001467

MEETING DATE: 09/15/2026
LEGAL ENTITY TAKING ACTION: Board of Supervisors
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS DISTRICT(S): All Districts
SUBMITTING AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: Social Services Agency
DEPARTMENT CONTACT PERSON(S): An Tran, 714-541-7773
James Cho, 714-245-6268

SUBJECT: Approve Memorandum of Understanding for System of Care

CEO CONCUR

Concur

COUNTY COUNSEL REVIEW

Approve agreement to form

CLERK OF THE BOARD

DISCUSSION

3 Votes Board Majority

Budgeted: N/A

Current Year Cost: N/A

Annual Cost: N/A

Staffing Impact: No

Sole Source: No

Current Fiscal Year

Funding Source: N/A

County Audit in Last 3

Revenue: N/A

years: No

Levine Act Review

Completed? Yes

Prior Board Action: 8/24/2021 #29

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):

1. Authorize the Agency Directors or designees to execute the non-financial Memorandum of Understanding between the Social Services Agency, Health Care Agency, Probation Department, Orange County Superintendent of Schools, Regional Center of Orange County, and the Children and Families Commission of Orange County to continue development of a System of Care for Children, Youth and Families in Orange County, led by an Interagency Leadership Team, for the term of October 1, 2026, through September 30, 2031.
2. Authorize the County Procurement Officer or Deputized designee to make future modifications to the Memorandum of Understanding on behalf of the Interagency Leadership Team for the designation of agencies not currently identified in the agreement as members of the System of Care for Children, Youth and Families in Orange County, establishment of data sharing agreements and mechanisms associated with the System of Care, and the incorporation of language required by state law and regulation, as applicable.
3. Authorize the acceptance of non-standard insurance and indemnification language within the Memorandum of Understanding.

SUMMARY:

Approval of the non-financial Memorandum of Understanding between the Social Services Agency, Health Care Agency, Probation Department, Orange County Superintendent of Schools for Educational Support, Regional Center of Orange County, and the Children and Families Commission of Orange County will continue the Interagency Leadership Team's coordinated design, delivery and management of services for children, youth, non-minor dependents and families navigating public service systems through a System of Care for Children, Youth and Families in Orange County.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Board of Supervisors (Board) previously approved the non-financial Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the County of Orange (County), Social Services Agency (SSA), Health Care Agency (HCA), Probation Department (Probation); the Orange County Superintendent of Schools (Orange County Department of Education); and the Regional Center of Orange County on August 24, 2021, for the MOU term of October 1, 2021, through September 30, 2026.

State law requires counties to establish a coordinated, timely, and trauma-informed System of Care and Interagency Leadership Team (ILT) to address systemic barriers in interagency services for children and youth in foster care who have experienced severe trauma and/or are at risk of future trauma, and to develop and implement an MOU outlining the roles and responsibilities of participating agencies.

The ILT includes leadership from SSA, HCA, Probation, Orange County Department of Education and the Regional Center of Orange County and provides collaborative oversight of the interconnected child welfare, juvenile justice, behavioral health, education and developmental services systems that serve children and families in Orange County. To support the continued development of a comprehensive System of Care, the ILT has expanded its scope to include children, youth, non-minor dependents (NMDs) and families in Orange County, including, but not limited to, those in the child welfare and/or probation systems. Upon Board approval of the MOU, the Children and Families Commission of Orange County (First 5 Orange County) will formally join the ILT, strengthening cross-system collaboration and enhancing the County's capacity to address early childhood, developmental and family-centered needs.

The MOU aligns with the State of California's Continuum of Care Reform (CCR), which promotes maintaining stable, permanent family connections through strategic and coordinated services and supports. It also advances the identification, development and maintenance of community-based service systems that can intervene early and prevent trauma for the target population. The ability to share aggregate data and client-specific information, to the extent permitted by law, further strengthens this collaborative framework by expediting CCR goals, improving service coordination and advancing the County's efforts to provide services in the least restrictive, community-based settings while destigmatizing service needs and promoting fiscal strategies that responsibly leverage available resources.

The MOU is being submitted to the Board less than 30 days prior to the MOU start date due to amended language requested under the advisement of legal counsel from participating agencies. Approval of the MOU will prevent any interruption to ILT activities required under the state mandate.

Non-Standard Insurance and Indemnification Provisions

This MOU does not include standard insurance, mutual indemnification or additional insured provisions. CEO Risk Management approved a waiver request for these provisions, as the MOU includes mutual hold harmless language. County agencies have concluded that moving forward with the MOU is necessary due to the statutory mandate, the critical services provided to a vulnerable population, and the County's history

with comparable MOUs that excluded standard insurance and indemnification language without adverse outcomes. Please see Attachment B for Risk Assessment Form.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

This non-financial MOU involves the utilization of County resources. The proposed non-financial MOU includes provisions allowing parties to the MOU, at their discretion and subject to available appropriations and internal budgetary authority, to allocate or utilize funds to support necessary costs associated with implementing the collaborative activities under this MOU. Any such contributions are contingent upon the availability of agency resources.

STAFFING IMPACT:

N/A

REVIEWING AGENCIES/DEPARTMENTS:

Health Care Agency
Probation

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A - MOU MA-063-26011461 System of Care for Children, Youth and Families in Orange County
Attachment B - Risk Assessment Form