



COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR  
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TO: Al Robinson, Chair  
Ways & Means Committee

THROUGH: Robert E. Guenzel  
County Administrator

FROM: David K. Hanson  
Deputy Friend of the Court

DATE: September 6, 2000

SUBJECT: Title IV-D Cooperative Reimbursement Program for Fiscal 2001  
Friend of the Court

### **Board Action Requested**

It is requested that the Board of Commissioners authorize the Chair of the Board to sign the Cooperative Reimbursement Program application for the Friend of the Court to provide cost reimbursement for child support collection expenses up to the funding cap amount of \$3,409,577 for the fiscal year of October 1, 2000 through September 30, 2001.

### **Background**

The majority of Friend of the Court revenue is derived from the Office of Child Support, a division of the Family Independence Agency, under the Cooperative Reimbursement Program. The state will reimburse the county for costs associated with the establishment, collection, and enforcement of child support IV-D cases.

Washtenaw County Friend of the Court has participated in this program for many years. The program has been very successful and generally returns about 60% of all monies expended by the Friend of the Court (including indirect costs) to the County general fund.

FIA is authorized to enter into Cooperative Agreements like the one before the Board under provisions of Title IV-D of the Social Security Act, Chapter III, Title 45, parts 302.34 and 304 of the Code of Federal Regulations and Michigan Compiled Laws, section 400.10.

### **Discussion**

In 1998, FIA converted all Cooperative Reimbursement contracts to be on the State's fiscal year cycle. The CRP contract before the Board is effective October 1, 2000 to September 30, 2001.

Since the state implemented the Child Support Enforcement System in Washtenaw County, the state refused to recognize any other data processing costs for the Friend. That position was protested, primarily through the Friend of the Court Association, and FIA has changed its position to allow reimbursement for these costs provided they can be justified in any subsequent audit. Washtenaw County submitted these costs after the decision and has received reimbursement for data processing costs associated with the Friend of the Court operation on a cost-allocated basis.

There is no down-side for Washtenaw County.

This Cooperative Reimbursement Contract has a cap of \$3,409,577.

#### **Impact on Human Resources:**

The Friend of the Court will maintain its current staffing levels which are factored into the application budgets, including salary, fringe benefits and office supplies. There is no impact on Human Resource allocation from this contract.

#### **Impact on Budget**

The County's 2001 budget includes an initial Cooperative Reimbursement Program budget in line with this application. The maximum amount eligible for reimbursement through this program is \$3,409,577.

#### **Impact on Space Needs**

The space and equipment considerations have been addressed. There will be no adverse impact on space needs, since this is simply operating as usual with the exception of the funding component.

#### **Impact on Technology**

There will be no impact whatsoever on technology needs from this contract for funding reimbursement.

**Impact on Indirect Costs**

Indirect costs are allowable per the contract application guidelines and have been calculated to be \$436,187 for the contract period.

**Impact on Other County Departments or Outside Agencies**

Any impact on other county departments or outside agencies will only be for the betterment of citizens, and not to any detriment to County government.

**Conformity to County Policies**

This request conforms with the County's policies and procedures.

**Preparer:**

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A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD TO SIGN THE APPLICATION TO THE MICHIGAN FAMILY INDEPENDENCE AGENCY FOR THE FRIEND OF THE COURT FISCAL YEAR 2001 TITLE IV-D COOPERATIVE REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,409,577 FOR THE PERIOD OF OCTOBER 1, 2000 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30,2001

WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

September 20, 2000

WHEREAS, the Friend of the Court Office contracted with the Office of Child Support (a division of the Family Independence Agency) to receive reimbursement for child support enforcement expenses for many years previous, including 2000, and

WHEREAS, the Friend of the Court has been offered and would like to accept a new contract to gain reimbursement for costs incurred in fiscal year 2001; and

WHEREAS, this agreement is based on the application and contract, which provides for reimbursement of costs for all Title IV-D related child support costs up to the funding cap of \$3,409,577 for the period of October 1, 2000 through September 30, 2001 as outlined in the application package, and

WHEREAS, Friend of the Court's 2000 Budget has been adopted at a regular Board session and the 2001 Title IV-D Cooperative Reimbursement Contract is based on projections of that budget, and

WHEREAS, there is no match requirement under the contract criteria; and

WHEREAS, this matter has been reviewed by the Finance Office, County Administrator's Office, Court Administrator, Chief Judge, Human Resources, Corporation Counsel and the Ways and Means Committee;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Chair of the Board to sign the fiscal year 2001 Title IV-D Cooperative Reimbursement Contract with the Michigan Office of Child Support/Family Independence Agency in the maximum amount of \$3,409,577 for the period of October 1, 2000 through September 30, 2001 for the Friend of the Court, as on file with the County Clerk