



Contra Costa County

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NEWS RELEASE: Office of the Public Defender Issues Requests for Proposals to Implement "Stand Together CoCo"

Pilot Project to Safeguard Constitutional Rights of all Residents Regardless of Immigration Status

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The Contra Costa County Office of the Public Defender is pleased to announce the release of a Request for Proposals (RFP) to solicit proposals from nonprofit organizations to implement community-based services for "Stand Together CoCo," a new public/private initiative managed by the Public Defender's Office.

Unanimously approved by the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors in September 2017, Stand Together CoCo will provide no-cost rapid-response support, civil deportation defense legal services and clinics, immigrant rights education and training, and direct-service support for individuals and families affected by the federal deportation system.

Stewarded by a multi-sector Steering Committee of local stakeholders, Stand Together CoCo is designed as a 2.5-year pilot project. For the Project's initial six-month term (January 2-June 30, 2018), the total funding available is \$491,843. Depending on performance during the initial phase, funding is expected to increase to \$979,285 in fiscal year 2018/2019. A third year of funding at similar levels is possible for fiscal year 2019/2020.

The mission of Stand Together CoCo is to ensure that all people in Contra Costa County, regardless of citizenship or immigration status, are afforded the due-process rights established by the United States Constitution.

Private, not-for-profit organizations with demonstrated experience in developing and implementing immigrant-focused legal, educational, or support services are eligible to apply. *Joint proposals are strongly encouraged.*

A Bidders' Conference will be held on Friday, November 3, 2017, from 1:30-3:30 PM, in the Zoning Administrator's Room, 30 Muir Road, Martinez, CA, 94553. This conference is recommended but not mandatory.

All potential applicants must submit a non-binding Notice of Intent to Apply no later than 12 Noon on Wednesday, November 8, 2017.

Proposals are due by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, November 28, 2017.

Additional information and all necessary documents and forms can be found at <http://co.contracosta.ca.us/6884/Stand-Together-CoCo>.