

AGENDA ITEM # _____

DATE: November 16, 2015

COAC NUMBER: 15-5701

**CITY OF GOODYEAR
CITY COUNCIL ACTION FORM**

SUBJECT: Intergovernmental Agreement with Department of Child Safety.

STAFF PRESENTER: Jerry Geier,
Chief of Police

COMPANY

CONTACT: N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the Intergovernmental Agreement among the City of Avondale, the City of Buckeye, the City of Goodyear, Maricopa County, acting by and through the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office, and the State of Arizona, Department of Child Safety (DCS) to provide integrated services to children and families at the Southwest Family Advocacy Center (SWFAC).

PURPOSE:

Approval of the Intergovernmental Agreement allows for law enforcement and the Department of the Child Safety (DCS) to continue providing services to those victims of domestic violence, child abuse, sexual assault and elder abuse.

BACKGROUND AND COMMUNITY BENEFIT:

The Southwest Family Advocacy Center is a child and family focused multi-disciplinary facility whose purpose is to prevent abuse to children and adults. The Center provides representatives from many disciplines, including law enforcement, child protection, prosecution, mental health, and medical who work together to investigate, treat, manage and prosecute child abuse cases, sexual assault, domestic violence and elder abuse.

PREVIOUS ACTIONS AND DISCUSSION:

The Partnering Agencies and the Department of Economic Security (DES) entered into an IGA on October 31, 2007 which was amended and restated May 5, 2008 and July 2011.

On May 29, 2014, Governor Brewer signed into law a bill creating a new State Agency to oversee child services, the Department of Child Safety (DCS). This bill separated the Division of Children, Youth and Families' Child Protective Services unit from the Department of Economic Security. The new Agency was established July 1, 2014 and is in the process of transitioning staff and finalizing the separation from DES.

The Partnership Agencies and DCS desire to enter into a new IGA to establish an agreement with the newly established Department of Child Safety. DCS has co-located a supervisor, investigative unit and an administrative assistant at the SWFAC in order to

utilize DCS's expertise and resources and to provide collaborative investigative services to SWFAC clients who are victims of child abuse or neglect or who are otherwise at-risk.

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

Funding for DCS staff is provided through the Department of Child Safety. Financial obligations by the Partnership agencies include shared access to the telephone system and work space at SWFAC for DCS workers.

This Agreement shall remain in full force and effect until June 30, 2018. After the expiration of the initial term, the IGA will automatically renew for successive three-year terms, unless terminated.

ATTACHMENTS:

Intergovernmental Agreement among Cities of Avondale, Buckeye, Goodyear and Maricopa County and AZ Department of Child Safety.