



A Tradition of Stewardship
A Commitment to Service

Agenda Date: 10/16/2018

Agenda Placement: 6C

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Mary Butler - Interim Director
Health & Human Services Administration

REPORT BY: JoAnn Melgar, Staff Services Analyst II - 707-253-4722

SUBJECT: Acceptance of Funding from the California Department of Finance (Community-Based Transitional Housing Program)

RECOMMENDATION

Interim Director of Health and Human Services requests the Board accept \$2 Million in grant funding from the California Department of Finance for the Community-Based Transitional Housing Program for homeless shelter operations and community outreach.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2017 County staff submitted an application to the California Department of Finance for \$2 Million in grant funding for the Community-Based Transitional Housing Program and has been awarded this funding.

Forty percent of the funds will be used by Abode Services, Inc. the South Napa Shelter operator to partially offset the current costs of shelter staffing. These funds will also help offset the additional costs associated with South Napa Shelter's transition to a 24/7 facility. Specifically, program funds will contribute to the staffing of a shelter coordinator, a service coordinator, and 24/7 shelter monitors. Sixty percent (60%) of funds will contribute to outreach and safety services. These services include community outreach aimed at educating nearby residents and businesses about the shelter's transition to a 24/7 housing-first model, street outreach to potential clients, and the staffing of a security guard to patrol surrounding areas including the bike path.

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact? Yes

Is it currently budgeted? Yes

Where is it budgeted?	Health & Human Services Administration Homeless and Housing Services 20008-01
Is it Mandatory or Discretionary?	Discretionary
Discretionary Justification:	Approval of the requested action is discretionary in that there is no mandate to accept State of California Department of Finance funding for the Community-Based Transitional Housing Program. However, approval is requested to provide the County with necessary funding to enhance operations at the South Napa Shelter, which serves vulnerable community members.
Is the general fund affected?	No
Future fiscal impact:	This is a multi-year grant and will be budgeted accordingly in future fiscal years.
Consequences if not approved:	If this agenda item is not approved, the County of Napa will be forgoing money to help households and individuals transition from homelessness or institutional settings to greater integration into the community.
Additional Information:	

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

The City and County of Napa have jointly undertaken a homeless systems change effort in order to increase the system's effectiveness. Central to that effort is a "housing first" approach, which seeks to help households and individuals transition from homelessness or institutional settings to greater integration into the community. Additional goals include providing focused services to at-risk populations in locations readily accessible to those individuals. This funding will enable the County to enhance operations at the South Napa Shelter, which serves vulnerable community members.

The shelter provides services to a large number of released offenders. In 2015, 77% of the shelter clients had some level of formal involvement with the Criminal Justice system. In 2016, that number was almost 70%. In order to meet the needs of this population of clients, this funding will provide programming specifically designed to meet their employment needs as well as therapeutic interventions that will address their criminogenic behavior. This grant funding will also provide needed services to clients throughout the day. Further, because the facility will now be open during the day, clients will not have to leave the facility to access critical support services. This fundamental shift in services, which this funding will help support, enables the provision of services during the day to all clients, and the provision of services specifically targeting the needs of clients who have been involved with the criminal justice system.

Services to be provided include employment counseling, life skills training, psychological counseling, crisis management and mental health assessments. These two fundamental shifts, to a "housing first" approach and to extended hours for service availability, will allow the County to provide released offenders, and other individuals,

with community-based housing and support services needed for their successful transition into productive roles in the community and, in the case of ex-offenders, reduce recidivism.

In addition, this grant funding will be used for Community Outreach. Outreach efforts will seek to ameliorate concerns of nearby residents and to educate community members about the role of South Napa Shelter in the community and the shelter's recent transition to a housing-first model. Outreach will be conducted with businesses and residents within one quarter mile of the facility and also along transportation corridors frequently used by South Napa Shelter residents.

The County will also coordinate and support a Speaker's Bureau of shelter clients and local residents, who will provide additional perspectives on shelter's role in the community and enhance community understanding of recent system changes.

In addition, the County aims to utilize Nixle to provide clients and service providers of South Napa Shelter and nearby community residents with real-time alerts for important information like emergency notifications, special events, shelter bed openings, and other important resources.

The County will also conduct street outreach to potential clients including ex-offenders who are currently homeless. Educating potential clients about recent low-barrier policies is an important component of this outreach.

Finally, the County intends to increase security through an MOU with Napa Police Department for overtime costs for additional patrols in the area.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Ben Guerrieri