



A Tradition of Stewardship
A Commitment to Service

Agenda Date: 12/18/2018

Agenda Placement: 6B

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Supervisors

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

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

SUBJECT: Revenue Agreements with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
(Coordinated Assessment, Permanent Supportive Housing I and II, Home to Stay and Homeless Management Information System)

RECOMMENDATION

Interim Director of Health and Human Services requests approval of and authorization for the Chair to sign revenue agreements with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development as follows:

1. A maximum of \$19,054 for the term February 1, 2018 through January 31, 2019 for the Coordinated Assessment program;
2. A maximum of \$94,974 for the term August 1, 2018 through July 31, 2019 for the Permanent Supportive Housing I program;
3. A maximum of \$29,740 for the term August 1, 2018 through July 31, 2019 for the Permanent Supportive Housing II program;
4. A maximum of \$163,699 for the term January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018 for the Home to Stay program; and
5. A maximum of \$35,887 for the term April 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019 for the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) program.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Staff submitted applications to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for five grant programs and has been awarded funding for each of those programs as follows:

1. The Coordinated Assessment grant in the amount of \$19,054 will be used to support the coordinated entry system in Napa County to better serve the homeless population.
2. The Permanent Supportive Housing I grant in the amount of \$94,974 and the Permanent Supportive

Housing II grant in the amount of \$29,740 will be used to provide case management and rental subsidies to house chronically homeless individuals or families in need of non-time-limited affordable housing assistance with wrap-around supportive services for people experiencing homelessness.

3. The Home to Stay grant in the amount of \$163,699 provides rapid housing rental assistance and crucial supportive services to individuals and families who are homeless and chronically homeless in Napa County.
4. The Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) grant in the amount of \$35,887 will be used to fund software costs for the HMIS software vendor which is currently Bitfocus, Inc.

Staff received the grant agreements from HUD in November 2018.

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 subdivision 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 U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funding to assist in the operation of Napa County's homelessness services. Approval will provide the County with funding to support Napa County's Coordinated Assessment program, Permanent Supportive Housing programs, Home to Stay program and the Homeless Management Information System.
Is the general fund affected?	No
Future fiscal impact:	Coordinated Assessment, Home to Stay, and Homeless Management Information System grants do not have a future fiscal year impact. Permanent Supportive Housing I and II goes through July 31, 2019.
Consequences if not approved:	If these revenue agreements are not approved, Napa County will have to either fund the full cost of the services provided or discontinue homeless services funded with these grants.
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

Coordinated Assessment Grant:

Coordinated Assessment, also known as Coordinated Entry or Coordinated Intake is a system required by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). It paves the way for more efficient allocation of homeless assistance resources by:

- | Helping people move through the system faster by reducing the amount of time people spend moving from program to program before finding the right match;
- | Prioritizing the allocation of resources based on need and vulnerability;
- | Reducing new entries into homelessness by consistently offering prevention and diversion resources upfront thereby reducing the number of people entering the system unnecessarily; and
- | Improving data collection and quality and providing accurate information on what kind of assistance consumers need.

These funds allow the Napa Continuum of Care to continue to grow, improve, and strengthen a County-wide Coordinated Entry System for improved access through centralized intake, standardized assessment, and referral to shelter and housing supports throughout the County of Napa. Previously, people experiencing a housing crisis had to access multiple programs and services in several different ways. The assistance they received depended on which “door” they happened to walk through. Through the continued development of our robust Coordinated Entry Systems we have continued to score favorably in HUD grant competitions than communities that do not have such a system.

Permanent Supportive Housing I and II Grants:

The Permanent Supportive Housing I program (PSH I) and Permanent Supportive Housing II (PSH II) grants are combined to serve up to eight chronically homeless households, consisting of either individual or families with the highest vulnerability scores. For both grants include veterans ineligible for Veterans Administration services as a target population. Households served with these grants pay no more than 30% of their adjusted gross income toward rent. The remainder of their rent is paid for with grant funds. During their time in these programs, participants increase their income through employment and Social Security benefits and access mainstream services that allow them to move toward self-sufficiency. These programs are managed by Abode Services Inc. under contract with the Health and Human Services Agency.

Home to Stay Grant:

The Home to Stay Program provides rapid housing rental assistance and crucial supportive services to households, consisting of either individual or families who are homeless or chronically homeless in Napa County. The project focuses on rapidly moving people from homelessness into housing and assists them in obtaining employment, health and recovery services, and permanent housing. While the rental assistance is time-limited, people generally move into mainstream housing within one year or less. The housing placement is potentially permanent, dependent on an increase in household income after receiving employment, education, and financial assistance. The County of Napa Health and Human Services Agency collaborates with several other local entities including NEWS, the City of Napa Police Department, and the City of Napa Housing Authority, as well as, our homeless systems services provider, Abode in the operation of the Home to Stay Program, in order to leverage additional expertise and resources. This program is managed by Abode Services, under contract with the Health and Human Services Agency.

Homeless Management Information System Grant:

Napa County Health and Human Services Agency takes the lead on implementing the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) for the Napa County Continuum of Care (CoC), a group of community stakeholders that work together to plan for and provide emergency, transitional, and permanent housing, as well as various services to address the needs of homeless persons. HMIS is designed to collect data on the homeless population of Napa County. Use of an HMIS is required by HUD. The data collected helps staff better understand the needs of homeless individuals and families and assist in the development of more efficient delivery of program services for this population. HHSA's HMIS software vendor is Bitfocus, Inc. Accepting this grant will help to fund these software

support costs.

The process to apply for these grants began in July 2017 when the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) issued a Notice of Funding Availability. Applications were due to HUD on September 28, 2017. HUD notified the County that we had been awarded these funds in January 2018. Staff received the grant agreements from HUD in November 2018.

The County receives funding from these grants after expending funds on activities approved by the grant. The vehicle for receiving those funds is to submit a “draw down” request to HUD that includes details of actual expenditures.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Ben Guerrieri