



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: Community Services
Department No.: 057
For Agenda Of: May 7, 2024
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from: N/A
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Jesús Armas, Community Service Director (805) 568-2467
Director:

Contact Info: Joe Dzvonic, Deputy Director (805) 568-3523

SUBJECT: Subrecipient Agreements for Emergency Housing Voucher Program Supportive Services with Good Samaritan Shelter

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence Risk Management

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve and authorize the Chair of the Board of Supervisors to execute a Subrecipient Agreement with Good Samaritan Shelter for distribution of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF), provided to the County Community Services Department (CSD) by the Cities of Goleta and Carpinteria, in the amount of \$135,000, for delivery of supportive services to participants in the Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) Program (ARPA Subrecipient Agreement); and
- b) Approve and authorize the Chair of the Board of Supervisors to execute a Subrecipient Agreement with Good Samaritan Shelter for the distribution of State of California Permanent Local Housing Allocation (PLHA) grant funds in the amount of \$520,011, for delivery of supportive services to participants in the EHV Program (PLHA Subrecipient Agreement); and
- c) Determine that the recommended actions are not the approval of a project that is subject to environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(5) and 15378(b)(4), finding that the recommended actions consist of

administrative or fiscal activities of governments that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

Summary Text:

This Board Letter represents the support of three local cities contributing funding to ensure the success of the Emergency Housing Voucher program (EHV Program): Carpinteria, Goleta and Santa Maria. Staff is recommending that the Board of Supervisors approve and authorize the Chair to execute two (2) separate subrecipient agreements (Subrecipient Agreements) with Good Samaritan Shelter, in the amounts of \$135,000 and \$520,011, respectively, for the provision of countywide supportive services to EHV Program participants. The total amount of \$655,011 to Good Samaritan Shelter allows for ongoing, uninterrupted delivery of supportive services to households benefitting from the EHV Program. These Subrecipient Agreements together represent a continuation of EHV Program services already being provided by Good Samaritan Shelter. The County and the Santa Maria/Santa Barbara County Continuum of Care (CoC) have funded the first two years of supportive services through their respective State of California Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Program funds. Those HHAP funds are now exhausted.

The ARPA Subrecipient Agreement (Attachment A) distributes ARPA funding that is administered by CSD's Housing and Community Development Division (HCD) under Memoranda of Understanding with the Cities of Goleta and Carpinteria. Each city allocated funds – \$75,000 and \$60,000, respectively - for supportive services that are needed to ensure households utilizing the EHV Program to transition out of homelessness remain housed. The use of ARPA funds is governed by policies set by the U.S. Department of Treasury and the County of Santa Barbara, and activities and expenditures must fall under Category 3 (Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities) and Sub-Category 3.11 (Housing Support: Services for Unhoused Persons) as outlined in the U.S. Department of Treasury Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Compliance and Reporting Guidance, documented by regular reports and invoices. The term of the ARPA Subrecipient Agreement begins on June 1, 2024, and all funds must be expended by June 30, 2025.

The PLHA Subrecipient Agreement (Attachment B) distributes PLHA funding to Good Samaritan Shelter for the same purpose. The County acts as the Administering Jurisdiction for the PLHA Consortium to apply for and administer PLHA funds. The portion of PLHA funds for the EHV supportive services are those awarded to the City of Santa Maria. The term of the PLHA Subrecipient Agreement begins on June 1, 2024, and all funds must be expended by June 30, 2025, with the understanding that ARPA funding will be utilized first.

Background:

The Department of Housing and Urban Development awarded the two local public Housing Authorities Emergency Housing Vouchers under ARPA in May 2021. The original award of 215 tenant based rental assistance vouchers, and subsequent award of 57 additional vouchers, has provided stable, affordable housing for 272 households.

The County of Santa Barbara, both local Public Housing Authorities, and the CoC, together with the cities of Goleta, Santa Maria and Carpinteria, have partnered on funding the supportive services for the EHV

Program. A critical part of successfully utilizing the tenant based rental assistance vouchers is the EHV Program’s provision of three years of supportive services to assist households obtain and maintain permanent housing.

On August 24, 2021, the Board of Supervisors approved a subrecipient agreement with Good Samaritan Shelter in the amount of \$1,333,619 in HHAP County allocation funds for supportive services provided to EHV Program participants during the initial term of the EHV Program. Before this allocation was exhausted, on March 14, 2023, the Board of Supervisors approved a new subrecipient agreement in the same amount with Good Samaritan Shelter to extend the EHV Program term, and continue providing supportive services to EHV Program participants. The recommended actions brought with this Board Letter are necessary to further extend the provision of supportive services to EHV Program participants.

The county-wide EHV supportive services team is comprised of trained professionals, including housing retention case managers, a landlord liaison, substance abuse specialists, mental health practitioners, and a medical coordinator. The team has collaborated to provide enhanced wraparound care management, successfully addressing housing stability, overall health, transportation, and treatment. Participants have achieved significant milestones such as securing higher education, advanced employment, increased income, and reunification with children and family members. The EHV Program has provided housing stability for over 350 persons in Santa Barbara County to date, of which:

- 93% of participants have retained their permanent housing at one year of enrollment;
- 80% are enrolled in behavioral services including substance abuse treatment; and
- 55% are served in initiatives that leverage Medi-Cal resources through the California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) program.

The leveraging of CalAIM resources has significantly reduced the homelessness funding needed to fund the third year of supportive services.

The EHV Program team will continue to provide intensive supportive services including, but not limited to: housing location services; mental health services; substance abuse prevention services; case management; housing retention skills; peer support activities; benefits counseling and advocacy; 24/7 emergency tenant and landlord access line; and access to physical health care, including routine and preventive health and dental care, medication management, and wellness services.

Performance Measures:

The goals and performance measures provided in the Subrecipient Agreements before the Board today are summarized in Table 1, below. Good Samaritan Shelter provides quarterly reports that include the number of persons/households served and instances of service, as well as the outcomes/performance measures for the Program.

Table 1: Goals – Services to be Provided, Individuals/Households Served, and Performance Measures

a. Goals

Good Samaritan Shelter will provide the following levels of services during the term of the Subrecipient Agreement:

| Metric | Goal |
|---|------|
| Total unduplicated number of persons served | 300 |

b. Performance Measures

Good Samaritan Shelter will meet the following performance measures during the term of the Subrecipient Agreement:

| Metric | Goal |
|---|------|
| % of participants that retain permanent housing at 1 year | 80% |
| % participating of adults enrolled in behavioral services including substance use treatment | 35% |
| % of adults that are served under CalAIM initiative | 60% |
| % of adult participants gaining or increasing income at annual assessment or exit | 35% |

Fiscal Analysis:

| <u>Funding Sources</u> | <u>Current FY Cost:</u> | <u>Annualized On-going Cost:</u> | <u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u> |
|------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| General Fund | | | |
| State | | | \$ 520,011 |
| Federal | | | \$ 135,000 |
| Fees | | | |
| Other: | | | |
| Total | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 655,011 |

Narrative: CSD will administer \$655,011 from ARPA and PLHA to provide supportive services to those who have received emergency housing vouchers. These funds are currently budgeted for and available for reimbursement to Good Samaritan Shelter for the delivery of eligible activities.

Key Contract Risks:

CSD administers federal and state funding programs. As the recipient of state and federal funds, the County is responsible for ensuring that funds are used in accordance with all applicable requirements. APRA and PLHA Program guidelines indicate that failure to comply with program requirements may result in the County being required to repay funds. Good Samaritan Shelter has extensive prior experience operating homeless assistance projects in accordance with funding regulations.

The Subrecipient Agreements will be on a cost-reimbursement basis. This allows CSD to review and monitor for expenditure of eligible costs to the extent prescribed by the state and federal guidelines to

mitigate risk. Disbursements will be made after Good Samaritan Shelter demonstrates that reimbursable services were provided, and substantiates the eligibility of incurred costs to the satisfaction of CSD.

Staffing Impacts:

Administration of ARPA and PLHA funding sources is within currently budgeted staff positions.

Special Instructions:

- 1) Please email an electronic copy of the Minute Order to Kimberlee Albers at kalbers@co.santa-barbara.ca.us
- 2) Please execute two (2) original copies of each of the following documents and send to Kimberlee Albers:
 - a. ARPA Subrecipient Agreement for \$135,000 to Good Samaritan Shelter
 - b. PLHA Subrecipient Agreement for \$520,011 to Good Samaritan Shelter

Attachments:

- A. ARPA Subrecipient Agreement with Good Samaritan Shelter for Supportive Services for EHV
- B. PLHA Subrecipient Agreement with Good Samaritan Shelter for Supportive Services for EHV

Authored by:

Matthew Rector, Homelessness Assistance Program Specialist II, Community Services Department,
Housing and Community Development Division

cc: