



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: February 9, 2021
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department George Chapjian, Community Services Director (805)568-2467
Director(s)
Contact Info: Dinah Lockhart, Deputy Director (805)568-3523
SUBJECT: Approval of Sub-Recipient Agreements for Emergency Solutions Grant,
Coronavirus Round 2 (ESG-CV2) funding for COVID-19 Homelessness
Response

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: YES

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: YES

Risk Concurrence:

As to form: YES

Recommended Actions: That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve, ratify, and authorize the Chair of the Board of Supervisors to execute agreements using Emergency Solutions Grant, Coronavirus Round 2 (ESG-CV2) funds allocated through the State of California for continued COVID-19 homelessness response for the following proposed sub-recipients:
 - a. \$1,132,489 to Good Samaritan Shelter for increased Emergency Shelter costs and \$440,350 for Rapid Rehousing;
 - b. \$200,000 to USSB Freedom Warming Centers for increased Emergency Shelter costs;
 - c. \$127,815.50 to People Helping People for Rapid Rehousing;
 - d. \$950,763 to City Net for Rapid Rehousing and \$806,141.60 for Street Outreach costs;
 - e. \$167,866 to Domestic Violence Solutions for Rapid Rehousing;
 - f. \$200,000 to New Beginnings Counseling Center for Rapid Rehousing
- b) Determine that the recommended actions are not the acceptance and approval of a project that is subject to environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(4), finding that the project is a creation of government funding mechanisms or other government fiscal activities, which do not involve any commitment

Approval of use of ESG-CV2 funding for continued COVID-19 Homelessness Response

February 9, 2021

Page 2 of 6

to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment.

Summary Text:

Under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Stimulus (CARES) Act enacted by Congress on March 27, 2020, the State of California was awarded approximately \$253 million in federal funds for the ESG-CV2 Program. The goal of the program is to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus among individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness or receiving homeless assistance; and, to support additional homeless assistance and homeless prevention activities to mitigate the impacts created by coronavirus. CSD is requesting authorization to utilize ESG-CV2 funds for Emergency Shelter, Rapid Rehousing, and Street Outreach activities to help providers mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on our unhoused neighbors and cover increased cost incurred by providers in response to the public health emergency. CSD seeks approval from the Board of Supervisors to approve and authorize the Chair of the Board of Supervisors to execute subrecipient agreements using Emergency Solutions Grant, Coronavirus Round 2 (ESG-CV2) to the providers in the amounts outlined in Table 1.

The County Community Services Department (CSD) developed a local selection process to identify qualified service providers to conduct ESG-CV eligible activities. Based on the current allocation of \$6,119,469, approximately 3.2%, or \$197,400 will be retained by the County for grant administration, \$59,221 to be retained by the county for HMIS administration, and the balance of \$5,862,848 was made available to qualified service providers.

Emergency Shelters have experienced a significant increase in operating costs due to shelter in place orders and efforts to protect staff and their clients. These costs include increased staffing, case management, hazard pay, cleaning services and supplies, personal protective equipment, isolation comfort items, hotel room rentals for isolation, and increased food costs to replace the meal typically provided by volunteer groups who could no longer enter the facilities.

Street outreach costs increased due to COVID, including personal protective equipment, hygiene kits, prepaid cell phones, solar chargers to replace lost access to public facilities such as libraries, food distributions to address food insecurity caused by a decrease in congregate feeding programs, and increased supportive services to move clients from the street into permanent housing. These supportive services include intensive case management, connection to mainstream services, and housing location services.

The State encourages local communities to use the bulk of funds for Rapid Rehousing and has directed jurisdictions to prioritize the use of ESG-CV2 funds for Rapid Rehousing to assist households experiencing literal homelessness move to the safest location possible—housing. By allocating a majority of the funds to rapid rehousing projects, it is anticipated that the length of time individuals and families experience homelessness or in live in congregate or non-congregate shelters will be decreased.

Approval of use of ESG-CV2 funding for continued COVID-19 Homelessness Response

February 9, 2021

Page 3 of 6

Table 1: ESG-CV2 Funded Projects

Provider	Activity/Component Type	Detail (lists are not exhaustive)	Total Contract Amount
Good Samaritan Shelter	Emergency Shelter	Additional staffing and hazard pay, meals, cleaning, PPE, support for the Santa Maria Stabilization Center to stabilize chronically homeless hospital referrals, including ongoing case management.	\$1,132,489
Good Samaritan Shelter	Rapid Rehousing	Housing location and case management services, rental and financial assistance, and landlord incentives.	\$440,350
Domestic Violence Solutions	Rapid Rehousing	Housing location and case management services, rental and financial assistance, and landlord incentives.	\$167,866
City Net	Rapid Rehousing	Housing location and case management services, rental and financial assistance, and landlord incentives.	\$950,763
City Net	Street Outreach	Client engagement, case management, and connection to services, client transportation, PPE.	\$806,141.60
Santa Ynez Valley People Helping People	Rapid Rehousing	Housing location and case management services, rental and financial assistance, and landlord incentives.	\$127,815.50
New Beginnings Counseling Center	Rapid Rehousing	Housing location and case management services, rental and financial assistance, and landlord incentives for Room Key guests.	\$200,000
USSB Freedom Warming Centers	Emergency Shelter	Additional staffing, PPE, cleaning, client transportation, individually packaged meals.	\$200,000
County of Santa Barbara, Community Services Department**	Emergency Shelter, Room Key South	Non-congregate shelter for medically vulnerable persons experiencing homelessness, including client engagement, transportation, and meals.	\$200,000
Behavioral Wellness**	Rapid Rehousing	Staffing, rental and financial assistance, and landlord incentives.	\$977,852.50
Behavioral Wellness**	Street Outreach	Case management, client engagement and connection to services, client transportation, client access to psychiatric and nursing care, medication management, and therapeutic services.	\$659,570.40
HMIS Administration**	Admin	Administration of the Homeless Management Information System use by all CoC providers.	\$59,221
Grant Administration**	Admin	3.2% retained allowed by the state.	\$197,400
TOTAL			\$6,119,469

**No Board Contract required, provided for informational purposes only.

Approval of use of ESG-CV2 funding for continued COVID-19 Homelessness Response

February 9, 2021

Page 4 of 6

Background:

Emergency shelter and street outreach service providers have been rapidly responding to the ever-changing crisis. Often, emergency costs incurred were beyond annual budgeted amounts and there was no funding mechanism available to cover the costs in real time. In addition to items necessary to mitigate viral spread, providers also had to fill the void left by the loss of public spaces often used by people experiencing homelessness to perform daily activities, the cessation of volunteers providing food and services in emergency shelters, and the need to isolate individuals and families after COVID-19 exposure or due to medical vulnerabilities.

On March 30, 2016, State HCD approved the County as the Administrative Entity (AE) for ESG funds for the Continuum of Care Service Area. The Board of Supervisors accepted the AE designation on May 3, 2016. As AE, the County is responsible for complying with federal and state requirements governing the administration of ESG funds. The County of Santa Barbara Community Services Department consults with the Continuum of Care to determine funding levels for component types and application scoring tools. However, the County reserves the right to modify these recommendations to bring them in alignment with funding source requirements and community needs.

In an effort to establish a unified response, on March 18, the County of Santa Barbara established the COVID-19 Homelessness Task Force to include broad community input and engagement by stakeholders in response to COVID-19 to protect the health and safety of our homeless neighbors and further protect the community at large from spread of the disease. The Task Force established four key objectives:

- Prevent and mitigate COVID-19 impacts for persons who remain unsheltered through support centers and outreach re-establishing access to showers, device charging, food and hygiene supplies.
- Establish non-congregate sheltering for persons at highest risk of COVID-19 complications.
- Sustain shelter capacity for persons not experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.
- Enhance homelessness prevention and housing activities through increased funding for rental assistance and supportive services

On October 20, 2020 the County Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution authorizing the Community Services Director or designee to submit a funding application for ESG-CV2 and the acceptance and administration of funds under the State ESG-CV2 program to address urgent needs in support of the County of Santa Barbara's response to the COVID-19 public health emergency. Providers completed applications as part of a competitive local award process to cover activities precipitated by their COVID-19 responses not covered by another funding source. Providers were asked to submit comprehensive applications and documentation. These were reviewed by HCD staff for eligibility then passed to a Continuum of Care Review and Rank panel comprised of knowledgeable community members. The contracts associated with this letter represent the recommendations of this committee. Because of the emergency nature of these funds and haste with which the State released the NOFA, the County of Santa Barbara has yet to receive an executed agreement from the State. However, similar to ESG-CV1, it is anticipated that this agreement will be forth coming. Each agreement contains a clause that allows for termination for non-appropriation.

The investment in vulnerable populations with ESG-CV2 funding both maintains street outreach activities preventing the spread of COVID-19 and sustains shelter capacity by equipping facilities and

Approval of use of ESG-CV2 funding for continued COVID-19 Homelessness Response

February 9, 2021

Page 5 of 6

staff. It also includes homeless assistance funding for activities such as rapid re-housing to move people into the safest place possible – permanent housing.

Performance Measure:

The providers requiring subrecipient agreements will provide monthly reports to the County on services provided and the outcomes, or performance measures, which have been outlined in their respective scopes of work. Program design, funding allocations, and the characteristics of individuals and households served by each sub-recipient will vary and be impacted by the progression of the pandemic. CSD will provide the Board of Supervisors a summary of all COVID-19 homelessness response activities and outcomes.

Provider	Activity/Component Type	Projected Number of People to be Served During Contract Period*	Projected % of Participants Moving into Housing at Project Exit (TH, RRH or PH)**
Good Samaritan Shelter	Rapid Rehousing	35	85% (into PH)
Domestic Violence Solutions	Rapid Rehousing	270	75% (into PH)
Behavioral Wellness	Rapid Rehousing	25	75% (into PH)
City Net	Rapid Rehousing	40	90% (into PH)
SYV People Helping People	Rapid Rehousing	150	70% (into PH)
New Beginnings Counseling Center	Rapid Rehousing		
Behavioral Wellness	Street Outreach	225	75%
City Net	Street Outreach	1800	4%
Good Samaritan Shelter	Emergency Shelter	360	85%
USSB Freedom Warming Centers	Emergency Shelter	255 beds/weather event	9%

* The projected numbers served are based on requested funding amounts and have not yet been scaled to reflect recommended funding amounts.

**TH – Transitional Housing

RRH – Rapid Rehousing

PH – Permanent Housing

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

General Fund			
State		\$	6,119,469.00
Federal			
Fees			
Other:			
Total	\$	-	\$ 6,119,469.00

Narrative: These ESG-CV2 Act funds will be used to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 for people experiencing homelessness. They will be fully expended on or before June 30, 2022.

Approval of use of ESG-CV2 funding for continued COVID-19 Homelessness Response

February 9, 2021

Page 6 of 6

Key Contract Risks:

The County assumes responsibility for the administration of ESG-CV2 funds in accordance with all state and federal requirements governing their use. In addition, it would be held liable if it or any provider to which it sub-grants funds is found to be non-compliant with applicable requirements. Good Samaritan Shelter, New Beginnings Counseling Center, DVS, City Net, and Behavioral Wellness have all successfully operated State and/or federally-funded homeless assistance projects in the past which have had similar regulatory and administrative requirements.

The ESG-CV2 Sub-recipient Agreements are cost-reimbursement contracts. This allows CSD/HCD to disburse funds to the aforementioned Sub-recipients for eligible incurred costs to the extent prescribed by the Agreement. The County will only reimburse Sub-recipients for costs that are eligible under the Agreements and documented in a manner that is acceptable to the CSD/HCD. CSD/HCD staff will assess the performance of the sub-recipients to determine if the services provided are adequate and as outline in the Agreement.

Special Instructions:

- 1) Please email an electronic copy of the Minute Order to Dinah Lockhart at dlockhart@co.santa-barbara.ca.us.
- 2) Please execute three (3) originals of each Sub-recipient Agreement and return two (2) originals to Dinah Lockhart (x3523).

Attachments:

- A) Emergency Solutions Grant, Coronavirus Round 2 Rapid Rehousing Sub-recipient Agreement for Good Samaritan Shelter
- B) Emergency Solutions Grant, Coronavirus Round 2 Emergency Shelter Sub-recipient Agreement for Good Samaritan Shelter;
- C) Emergency Solutions Grant, Coronavirus Round 2 Rapid Rehousing Sub-recipient Agreement for City Net
- D) Emergency Solutions Grant, Coronavirus Round 2 Street Outreach Sub-recipient Agreement for City Net
- E) Emergency Solutions Grant, Coronavirus Round 2 Rapid Rehousing Sub-recipient Agreement for Domestic Violence Solutions
- F) Emergency Solutions Grant, Coronavirus Round 2 Emergency Shelter Sub-recipient Agreement for USSB Freedom Warming Centers
- G) Emergency Solutions Grant, Coronavirus Round 2 Rapid Rehousing Sub-recipient Agreement for Santa Ynez Valley People Helping People
- H) Emergency Solutions Grant, Coronavirus Round 2 Rapid Rehousing Sub-recipient Agreement for New Beginnings Counseling Center

Authored by: Jett Black-Maertz, Housing Program Specialist Sr., CSD

CC: