



Public Health Administration

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December 2, 2019

Department of Health Care Services
1501 Capitol Ave
PO Box 997413, MS4400
Sacramento, CA 95899-7413

RE: Letter of Interest, Whole Person Care Pilot

This letter serves as Santa Barbara County's interest to participate in the one-time funding to initiate a Whole Person Care pilot. The funding will be used for purposes outlined in the notice of the funding opportunity.

A recent report from our Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) indicate that 29% of the homeless clients served are 55 years or older, and of this population, 37% have chronic health conditions. For the southern part of our county, a recent report from our Coordinated Entry System indicate that 45% of the homeless clients served are 55 or older, and of this population, 44% suffer from chronic health conditions. In addition, a recent report from our HMIS indicates that 21% of the clients experiencing first-time homelessness are 55 years or older, and of this population, 40% have chronic health conditions. These statistics validate a need to focus on addressing homelessness among seniors.

Santa Barbara County will be using the funds to build infrastructure and develop programmatic activities to expand access to permanent housing and/or structured transitional housing for seniors aged 55+ who have recently become homeless, or are at immediate risk of being homeless. The pilot will also include case management services to enhance access and linkage to supportive social services, health services, and behavioral health services. The overarching goal of the pilot is to assist seniors to live in a more stable environment with social connectivity, so that they can achieve better management of their chronic disease conditions.

The Santa Barbara County Public Health Department (SBCPHD), Primary Care and Family Health Division, will be the point of contact for the State. SBCPHD will use this funding to leverage other grant funds and community partnerships to help expand or sustain the pilot as appropriate. If additional Whole Person Care funding were to become available, Santa Barbara County would be interested in using the funding to explore opportunities for data exchange between county health and human services departments and with local health information exchange efforts.

In addition to various county departments, SBCPHD has also received conceptual support of this pilot from external partners, including Cottage Hospital, Lompoc Valley District Hospital, Dignity Marian Medical Center, CenCal Health -our local Medi-Cal Managed Care plan, and New Beginnings Safe Parking Program, which provides case management and outreach to the homeless and safe overnight parking to individuals and families living in their vehicles.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Van Do-Reynoso". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "V" and "D".

Van Do-Reynoso, MPH, PhD
Public Health Director
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