



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: Public Health
Department No.: 041
For Agenda Of: November 29, 2022
Placement: Departmental
Estimated Time: 20 min
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Daniel L.B. Nielson, MPA, Interim Director
Director(s) Public Health Department
Contact Info: Paige Batson, MA (805) 896-2456
Deputy Director, Community Health

SUBJECT: Notice of Funding Availability – Farmworker Resource Center Grant

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 consider the following recommendations:

- a) Approve and authorize the Public Health Department (PHD) Director to apply for a grant award for a County Farmworker Resource Center through the State Department of Community Services and Development (CSD) and to complete any required documentation or make any required certifications in application of the grant. If awarded the grant will be for the period of February 15, 2023 to May 15, 2024 in the amount of \$833,000 not including the local match (Attachment A);
- b) Approve and authorize the County Executive Officer as the county administrative officer to submit a Commitment Letter and supporting documentation to the CSD for the County Farmworker Resource Center grant in the amount of County's matching fund requirement of 25% (\$208,250) as part of the application package.
- c) If awarded, direct the County Executive Office and PHD to establish the required budget appropriations in the amount of \$208,250 from local general fund dollars or other federal funding available for the required local match funding to support the Farmworker Resource Center during the grant period; and,
- d) Determine that the recommended actions are not a "Project" with the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") and are exempt per CEQA Guideline section 15378(b)(5),

since the recommended actions are organizational or administrative activities of government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

Summary Text:

This item is on the Agenda for your Board to receive a report on this funding opportunity; to provide direction to the PHD Director to apply for a grant award of \$833,000 from the State of California CSD to develop and support a Farmworker Resource Center to assist farmworkers in navigating public agencies, receive information on wage and hour laws, health and safety laws, resolve workplace disputes, and pursue other legal rights; and to commit to the 25% local funding match in the amount of \$208,250, as required by the grant application.

Background:

On September 21, 2021 Governor Gavin Newsom signed AB941 (Bennet, Chapter 203) into law, that requires the State Department of Community Services and Development (CSD) to establish a grant program for counties to establish farmworker resource centers that would provide farmworkers and their families information and access to services, ranging from but not limited to the following:

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Labor and Employment Rights | Employment Assistance and advocacy |
| Education Access and Support | Financial Assistance |
| Emergency supportive Assistance and referrals | Health and Human Services |

On November 15, 2022, CSD released the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) which outlined the goals and objectives, required activities, and suggested characteristics of a successful center. Also, according to the NOFA, \$2.5 Million will be awarded in the form of three grants for \$833,000 each targeted to counties with significant populations of farmworker in two target regions:

<u>Region 1</u> - San Joaquin Valley and Northern California Counties*	<u>Region 2</u> – Central Coast and Southern California Counties*
Colusa, Glenn, Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, Modoc, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Siskiyou, Tulare	Imperial, Monterey, Napa, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz, Sonoma, Riverside, Ventura

*One grant will be awarded to each region with the third grant awarded to next highest scoring applicant in either region.

Applications will be evaluated and scores assigned based on the strength of the following:

- Experience providing Outreach and providing similar services to those listed above
- Organizational Capacity
- Trusted Community partners and leveraging resources
- Ability to establish and maintain a participant demographic and tracking database
- Experience conducting a population assessment

In addition, services must be available in English, Spanish, and one indigenous language.

It is anticipated that a working group of staff from PHD, other County departments, such as the department of Social Services and Behavioral Wellness, and community partners, such as CAUSE, will

work to develop an application from Santa Barbara County, should your board provide that direction. The work of the Farmworker Resource Center is envisioned to engage trusted community partners and also be largely performed by a subcontracted community partner, that would provide some in-person services and also make referrals to the appropriate service provider or agency, based on the need.

At this writing, a full assessment of the administrative and operational needs of the grant, the partners to involve, and whether additional positions are required and at what level is unknown. What is known is that the grant administration costs cannot exceed 15% of the operating budget of the grant, so the grant is unlikely to fully cover the administrative and indirect costs associated with its operation.

Should your Board direct, a team to respond to the NOFA will be assembled and an application submitted. The Critical Activity dates are in the table below and the NOFA stresses that grantees must be ready and able to begin work on the first day of the contract term.

Activity	Date
Notice of Intent to Apply due to CSD	December 14, 2022
NOFA Application Deadline	December 21, 2022
Notice of Awardees Posted	January 12, 2023
Population Assessment Completed	April 30, 2023
Farmworker Resource Center must be established, operational, and providing services and activities	July 15, 2023
Contract Term	February 15, 2023 – May 15, 2024
Grantee Evaluation completed by CSD no later than:	June 30, 2024

Performance Measure:

CSD requires that grantees maintain participant files to document activities and services provided as well as outcomes achieved. In addition, grantees must participate in mutually agreed upon check in calls and provide effective monitoring of subcontractors.

Contract Renewals and Performance Outcomes:

N/A

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: No

Fiscal Analysis:

At this time, PHD is seeking direction from the Board to apply for a Farmworker Resource Center grant from the State CSD in the amount of \$833,000 to provide information, referrals, and support to farmworkers and their families. The grant also requires a 25% local match in the amount of \$208,250 for a total anticipated program of \$1,041,250 over a 14-month period of February 15, 2023 to May 15, 2024. Administrative expenses are capped at 15% of the grant total, so it is anticipated that the grant will not cover all of its indirect costs. In addition, the grant is expenditure-driven so the funds will need to be provided by the County prior to reimbursement from the grant.

Per the NOFA, there is no obligation for CSD to extend the grant beyond the initial grant period, so if not extended, subsequent periods will require a minimum of \$1,041,250 annually to support and maintain the Farmworker Resource Center program once initiated.

If awarded, a Budget Revision request to transfer 25% local match and any anticipated expenses prior to CSD reimbursement will follow this action. The department will work with the County Executive Office to identify the one-time match source from the General Fund or other federal funding that may be available.

It is unknown whether this action will increase the need for any additional staff or facilities.

Key Contract Risks:

N/A

Staffing Impacts:

Legal Positions:

0

FTEs:

0

Special Instructions:

Please execute one (1) Minute Order for pick-up by the department. Please email Margaret “Margs” Fitzwilliam, PHD Contracts Unit at MFitzwilliamFiguroa@sbcphd.org when items are available for pickup.

Attachments:

- A. CSD Farmworker Resource Center Notice of Funding Availability

Authored by:

Suzanne Jacobson, CPA, Deputy Director, Public Health Department