

Attachment A

Substance Abuse/Mental Health Services Administration Application Executive Summary

The County of Santa Barbara Housing and Community Development is requesting \$1,875,000 to implement the County's Ten Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness (Plan). Stakeholders from all sectors of the community came together to create this Plan to house Santa Barbara County's chronically homeless individuals and families in a coordinated, humane, and relationship centered manner. Over the course of several months, these individuals met repeatedly to devise solutions that build on the strengths of Santa Barbara County's community, and that incorporate well-researched, innovative best practices and models. This Plan is a realistic yet ambitious approach to accomplish the Community's most important goal: ensuring that every chronically homeless individual in Santa Barbara County has a place to call home. The following synopsis of the application to the Substance Abuse/Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) will provide the funds necessary to reach the goals outlined in the Plan:

Santa Barbara County, California is a geographically large county located roughly 100 miles north of Los Angeles with 400,335 residents. On any given night, an estimated 4,000 individuals are homeless, of whom at least 500 are chronically homeless. The proposed program, the *Bringing Our Community Home Program*, will work with adults, 18 years of age and older, who are chronically homeless and suffer from a serious mental illness and/or a co-occurring substance use disorder. The program will also target chronically homeless families who have at least one parent with a substance use disorder. Forty percent of the target population is Latino and therefore, we will employ providers who speak Spanish.

Santa Barbara County Housing and Community Development Department will serve as the lead agency for the Bringing Our Community Home program. The program will employ the Assertive Community Treatment model, a SAMHSA approved evidence based practice, enhanced by a continuum of support services including integrated dual-diagnosis treatment, employment services, and peer support, to address the full spectrum of needs of these complex populations. ACT services will be further enhanced integrating the Matrix Model, a research tested outpatient treatment strategy, and using WRAP (Wellness Recovery Action Planning), a consumer-centered strength based model, which will form the central organizing method for care planning. Services will be offered in English and Spanish. At least one consumer professional will be incorporated into the team along with the other disciplines specified in the ACT fidelity standards.

The project's three central purposes are:

- A. For the participants: to support and provide necessary treatment to establish a clean and sober lifestyle, to improve the quality of their lives, to increase physical health, and to reduce episodes of criminality, homelessness, child neglect and endangerment, and psychiatric crisis;
- B. For the community: to increase capacity of the system to serve 30 individuals or families (serving 150 over five years) for targeted culturally competent individualized treatment for persons or families experiencing chronic homelessness and co-occurring substance abuse and mental health issues within permanent supportive housing and to develop provider capacity to effectively serve this population;
- C. For the treatment community: to integrate the use of demonstrated best practice models to meet the comprehensive needs of homeless individuals with co-occurring mental health and substance abuse disorders.

A complete process and outcome evaluation, as well as GPRA data collection and reporting, will be conducted by Dr. Merith Cosden, a Professor at the Gevirtz Graduate School of Education in the Counseling/Clinical/School Psychology Department at the University of California, Santa Barbara.