



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

Submitted on:
(COB Stamp)

Department Name:	Community Services
Department No.:	057
Agenda Date:	December 16, 2025
Placement:	Administrative Agenda
Estimated Time:	N/A
Continued Item:	No
If Yes, date from:	N/A
Vote Required:	Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Director: Jesus Armas, Director, Community Services Department
Joe Dzvonic, Assistant Director, Housing and Community Development Division

SUBJECT: Approval of Sub-Recipient Agreements for the Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP)

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County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence:

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- Approve and authorize the Chair of the Board of Supervisors to execute a Subrecipient Agreement with Good Samaritan Shelter (GSS) for the distribution of State of California Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP) funds for Outreach, Case Management and Housing Assistance, for the period of January 1, 2026, through June 30, 2026, in an amount not to exceed \$121,356 (Attachment A);
- Approve and authorize the Chair of the Board of Supervisors to execute a Subrecipient Agreement with Legal Aid Foundation of Santa Barbara County (Legal Aid) for disability benefits advocacy and legal services for the period of January 1, 2026, through June 30, 2026, in an amount not to exceed \$95,000 (Attachment B); and
- Determine that the above recommended actions are exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) per CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(4) since the recommended actions are government fiscal activities which do not involve commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment.

Summary Text:

The County has been allocated \$216,356 from the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to implement the Housing Disability and Advocacy Program (HDAP). HDAP offers outreach, case management, housing assistance, and disability benefits advocacy including legal services. Participants are eligible for, and should continue to be offered, the program components until a final disability benefits determination is made

and the participant is stabilized in permanent housing. Good Samaritan Shelter (GSS) and Legal Aid will provide intensive support for the participants for long-term housing stability and self-sufficiency.

Staff is requesting that the Board of Supervisors approve and authorize the Chair to execute two Subrecipient Agreements with local providers for a term period of six months beginning January 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2026, subject to annual appropriations and budget approval:

1. HDAP Subrecipient Agreement for \$121,356 to Good Samaritan Shelter for outreach, case management, and housing assistance; and
2. HDAP Subrecipient Agreement for \$95,000 to Legal Aid to provide disability benefits advocacy services including legal services.

Discussion:

From the 2016 program statewide launch through June 30, 2024, California enrolled 30,258 participants in HDAP, including 6,756 newly enrolled participants in FY 2023-24. A growing portion of participants enter the program as low- or no-income, while 43% were experiencing chronic homelessness at the time of entry. In FY 2023-24, 50% of HDAP participants (excluding Los Angeles) left the program, having acquired permanent housing, a metric that outperforms California's local homeless systems that have a 35% rate. Among those approved for disability benefits and housed, 92% remained in permanent housing six months after moving in, and 82% remained after twelve months of moving in.

In Fiscal Year 2024-2025, Good Samaritan Shelter and Legal Aid served 80 households in Santa Barbara County. Of these, 21% transitioned into Permanent Housing. By the time they leave the project, 38% of participants had gained or increased cash benefits and 92% had obtained non-cash benefits.

Background:

The State of California established HDAP with Assembly Bill 1603, and updated by Senate Bill 80, to assist people experiencing homelessness who are likely eligible for disability benefits by providing advocacy for disability benefits, as well as housing supports. HDAP services consist of four core components: outreach, case management, disability advocacy, and housing assistance. The [Budget Act of 2025](#) appropriated a total of \$25 million for HDAP statewide in Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-26. In the prior fiscal year, Good Samaritan Shelter and Legal Aid Foundation received HDAP funds for disability advocacy.

The HDAP program is intended to support participants in achieving two important goals: securing disability benefits and acquiring stable permanent housing. HDAP provides and coordinates case management activities for participants who are experiencing homelessness or who are at risk of homelessness through the entire application process for disability income benefits.

Because the funding for this program has decreased significantly in the past two years, and will continue to decrease moving forward, the Community Services Department and Department of Social Services propose to use the County's allocation of \$216,356 to only fund current ongoing HDAP projects and not fund new projects. The current recipients are receiving case management services from GSS and disability advocacy from Legal Aid.

Performance Measure:

If approved, GSS and Legal Aid will provide quarterly reports to the County regarding services provided and the performance metrics as shown in Table 1 below:

Table 1 Goals and Performance Measures

Performance Metric	GSS Goals	Legal Aid Goals
Number of Participants enrolled	60 People	87 People
Number of disability applications submitted	55 People	75 People
Number of homeless persons entering permanent housing (placed into units)	45 People	67 People
Number of individuals housed one year after program exit	36 People	60 People
% of HDAP participants with a final disability benefit determination that receives an approval	75%	65%
% of individuals successfully placed in permanent housing	75%	78%
% of adult participants will obtain earned income at project exit	10%	10%
% of adult participants will obtain cash/non-cash benefits at project exit	90%	80%

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

The County is responsible for administering these funds in accordance with all applicable State requirements. As a pass-through entity, the County is liable for repayment to the State if it, or any subrecipient, fails to meet applicable program requirements. Accordingly, the County is responsible for ensuring all expenditures are eligible under the funding source and supported by documentation acceptable to the administering State departments. The expenditure is budgeted for Fiscal Year 2025-26.

Funding Source	FY 2025-26	Total
State - HDAP	216,356	216,356
Total	216,356	216,356

Staffing Impacts:

The current activity requested falls within currently budgeted staff duties.

Special Instructions:

Please return a copy of the Minute Order to Roc Lowry (roclowry@countyofsb.org) and Steven Fung (sfung@countyofsb.org)

Attachments:

Attachment A – HDAP Sub-recipient Agreement for \$121,356 to Good Samaritan Shelter

Attachment B – HDAP Sub-recipient Agreement for \$95,000 to Legal Aid Foundation of Santa Barbara County

Contact Information:

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