



**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: May 12, 2026
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(s): Jesús Armas, Director, Community Services Department
Contact: Joe Dzvonik, Assistant Director, Housing and Community Development
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: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) 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 July 1, 2026, through December 31, 2026, in an amount not to exceed \$158,000 (Attachment A);
- b) 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 July 1, 2026, through December 31, 2026, in an amount not to exceed \$95,000 (Attachment B);
- c) Authorize the Director of the Community Services Department to execute amendments to the Agreement, and to amend the Agreement budget, in alignment with the requirements set forth in the County’s Standard Agreement with the State regarding such funds, to ensure full expenditure of the HDAP State funds; and
- d) 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 Housing and Disability Program (HDAP) provides funding for outreach, case management, housing assistance, and disability benefits advocacy, including legal services. Participants are eligible for, and should continue to be offered, HDAP services until a final disability benefits determination is made and the participant is stabilized in permanent housing. GSS and Legal Aid are the contractor providers for these services on behalf of the County.

Staff recommends the Board of Supervisors approve and authorize the Chair to execute two Subrecipient Agreements, one for each provider, for a term period of six months, beginning July 1, 2026, and ending December 31, 2026. These six-month agreements are intended to provide gap funding until the next allocation is received later this calendar year. Not all one-time funds are being obligated at this time to ensure that resources remain available for potential future gap funding or emerging needs, with these funds being available to be expended through June 30, 2028. The agreement provides \$95,000 to Legal Aid for disability advocacy services and \$158,000 to GSS for case management services, for a total of \$253,000. The remaining \$115,588 will be awarded at a future date as emerging needs are identified.

Discussion:

On November 10, 2025, the California Department of Social Services awarded Santa Barbara County a one-time allocation of \$368,588 in HDAP funds. Community Services Department and Department of Social Services staff recommend these funds be used to sustain existing services until the next ongoing allocation of HDAP is received. Under this approach, GSS will be able to continue case management services and Legal Aid will be able to continue disability advocacy legal services.

The proposed agreements will fund two complementary HDAP services that assist individuals experiencing homelessness who are likely eligible for disability benefits. GSS provides integrated outreach, case management, and housing assistance, while Legal Aid delivers legal services that increase the likelihood of successful benefit attainment. Together, these programs improve access to disability benefit income for participants.

Background:

The State of California established HDAP with Assembly Bill 1603 to assist people experiencing homelessness who are likely eligible for disability benefits. The program provides disability benefits advocacy in conjunction with housing supports to help participants secure income and achieve housing stability. HDAP services consist of four core components: outreach, case management, disability advocacy, and housing assistance.

The California Budget Act of 2025 appropriated a total of \$46.6 million for HDAP statewide in Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-26. In the prior fiscal year, the County contracted with GSS to provide case management services and with Legal Aid to provide disability advocacy services.

In FY 2024-25, GSS and Legal Aid served 80 households in Santa Barbara County. Of these, 21% transitioned into Permanent Housing. By the time they left the project, 38% of participants had gained or increased cash benefits and 92% had obtained non-cash benefits.

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	66 People
Number of disability applications submitted	55 People	61 People
Number of homeless persons entering permanent housing (placed into units)	45 People	58 People
Number of individuals housed one year after program exit	36 People	57 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 2026-27.

Fiscal Analysis:

Funding Source	One Time Funding	Total
General Fund		
State - HDAP	\$253,000	\$253,000
Federal		
Total	\$253,000	\$253,000

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 \$158,000 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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Homeless Assistance Program Manager

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