



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: Community Services
Department No.: 057
For Agenda Of: September 12, 2023
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from: N/A
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department George Chapjian, Community Services Director 805-568-2467
Director(s)
Contact Info: Kimberlee Albers, Homelessness Assistance Program Manager,
805-568-3523

SUBJECT: Authorization of the HUD 2023 Continuum of Care Competition Consolidated Application

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions: That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Authorize the Community Services Department (CSD) Director, or designee, to submit to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) the annual Continuum of Care (CoC) consolidated application, which includes County CSD Housing and Community Development (HCD) Division project applications (collectively, the “CoC Projects”) for 2023 CoC Program competition funding in the amounts of:
 - i. \$169,050 for operation of the Homeless Management Information System,
 - ii. \$130,675 for operation of the Coordinated Entry System, and
 - iii. \$130,883 for Santa Maria/Santa Barbara County CoC Planning;in addition to non-County community project applications, and written commitments of General Fund match in the total amount of \$107,652 for the CoC Projects, and all certifications, standard forms, and other related documents.
- b) Authorize the Community Services Director, or designee, to execute 2023 CoC Program Grant Agreements and Scopes of Work with HUD for the CoC Projects in a form substantially similar to the previously approved and executed 2022 CoC grant agreements;
- c) Determine that the above recommended actions do not constitute a project subject to environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(5), as the actions are organizational or administrative

activities of governments that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment, and direct staff to file a Notice of Exemption.

Summary Text:

This item is before the Board to approve the CSD Director's submission of a HUD CoC application, sign commitments of General Fund comprising required \$107,652 County match, and execute CoC Grant Agreements. Since 1998, the County of Santa Barbara has applied to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for federal funds under the Continuum of Care Program (CoC Program). Annually, the CoC Program provides to County CoC Projects and community projects combined approximately \$2 million to support the delivery of permanent housing, transitional housing, and supportive services for persons experiencing homelessness throughout Santa Barbara County. In order to receive funds under the CoC Program, communities must maintain an active Continuum of Care (CoC), which is a local homeless assistance planning network composed of various stakeholders, such as nonprofit homeless service providers, faith-based organizations, governments, businesses, advocates, school districts, hospitals, and law enforcement.

While the Santa Maria/Santa Barbara County CoC and its board have been charged with administering the CoC Program in Santa Barbara County, the CoC can approach other entities, such as the County, to request it to carry out specific functions. The County performs tasks critical to the local implementation of the CoC Program, such as preparing the Consolidated Application for the annual CoC Program Competition, and evaluating outcomes of projects funded through the CoC Program. The County also serves as the Collaborative Applicant for HUD's annual CoC Program competition, acts as the Lead Agency for the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), administers the Coordinated Entry System, and functions as the administrative lead for all other CoC activities and grants.

Background:

Authorized by the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, as amended by the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act of 2009, the CoC Program is designed to assist homeless individuals and provide them with the services needed to help them move into transitional and permanent housing with the goal of long-term stability. Funds awarded through the CoC Program may be used to pay for the costs of establishing and operating projects under five program components: permanent housing, transitional housing, supportive services only, HMIS, and, for eligible communities, homelessness prevention. Additionally, CoC Program funds may be used to support CoC planning activities, such as evaluating outcomes of projects funded by the CoC Program and monitoring and enforcing compliance of recipients and subrecipients of CoC Program funds.

2023 CoC Program Competition

The 2023 HUD CoC Program Notice of Funding Availability was published on July 5, 2023. The CoC consolidated application due date to HUD is September 27, 2023. CoC projects awarded in the 2022 CoC Program Competition (Table 1) are eligible to apply as renewals. Individual projects for inclusion in the consolidated application are approved first at the local level by the Santa Maria/Santa Barbara County CoC (Local CoC) and the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors, and then at the national level by HUD. A CoC Review and Rank Committee appointed by the Local CoC Board to act on behalf of the CoC reviews, ranks, or rejects applications for projects originating in Santa Barbara County. Ranked applications will be included in the CoC Consolidated Application and Project Priority Listings and submitted to HUD by the September 27, 2023 deadline.

Table 1: 2022 HUD CoC Program Competition Awards

Agency	Project	Project Type	2022 Award
New Beginnings Counseling Center	Rapid Rehousing Expansion	RRH	\$114,377
Housing Authority of the City of Santa Barbara	Shelter Plus Care Artisan and Bradley	PSH	\$138,343
Good Samaritan Shelter	Northern Santa Barbara County Rapid Rehousing	RRH	\$200,828
Good Samaritan Shelter	Marks House	TH/RRH	\$134,393
Domestic Violence Solutions	DV Solutions New Scattered-Site Housing	RRH	\$196,572
New Beginnings Counseling Center	Rapid Rehousing	RRH	\$113,315
Good Samaritan Shelter	Oak Street*	TH/RRH	\$118,879
PATH	PATH Permanent Supportive Housing II*	PSH	\$79,444
SB County Housing and Community Development	SB County Coordinated Entry	CES	\$130,675
SB County Housing and Community Development	HMIS Consolidation	HMIS	\$169,050
PATH	PATH Permanent Supportive Housing I	PSH	\$891,660
PATH	PATH Permanent Supportive Housing I	PSH	\$180,948
PATH	PATH Rapid Rehousing	RRH	\$130,001
Continuum of Care	Planning	N/A	\$69,050
<i>PSH</i>	<i>Permanent Supportive Housing</i>	<i>CES</i>	<i>Coordinated Entry System</i>
<i>RRH</i>	<i>Rapid Rehousing</i>	<i>HMIS</i>	<i>Homeless Management Information System</i>
<i>TH</i>	<i>Transitional Housing</i>		

Recipients and subrecipients of CoC Program funds must provide cash or in-kind match that is no less than twenty-five percent (25%) of the award amount.

Table 2 reflects the application and match amounts for the 2023 Competition. Agreements substantially similar to the 2022 Grant Agreements (Attachment B) would be executed in 2023.

Table 2: 2023 CoC Program Competition County CoC Projects

Project Title	Subrecipient	Description	Application Amount	Match Amount
Coordinated Entry System	County of Santa Barbara	Supports the coordination of outreach and referrals across the County and matches participants to housing and services based on disabling conditions, length of time homeless, and severity of service needs.	\$130,675	\$32,669
HMIS Consolidation	County of Santa Barbara	Supports the operation of the county-wide HMIS—an information technology system used to collect data on homeless individuals assisted by local programs.	\$169,050	\$42,263
Santa Barbara County CoC Planning	County of Santa Barbara	Supports planning activities related to the implementation of the CoC Program.	\$130,883	\$32,720
Total Match Amount				\$107,652

Current County Roles and Responsibilities
Collaborative Applicant

In partnership with homeless service providers, community groups, and government agencies, CSD facilitates local planning efforts in regards to homelessness. Critical among them is the preparation and submission of the previously described annual consolidated application for funding. Though most funds awarded locally under the CoC Program flow directly from HUD to the operators of homeless assistance projects, CSD plays a central role in coordinating and writing the consolidated application on behalf of the Local CoC.

CSD also performs critical administrative functions for the CoC, such as aggregating and submitting shelter and housing inventory data to HUD annually, facilitating evaluations of CoC Program-funded projects, providing technical assistance, and coordinating the review and evaluation of local Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) Program applications to the State of California Department of Housing and Community Development.

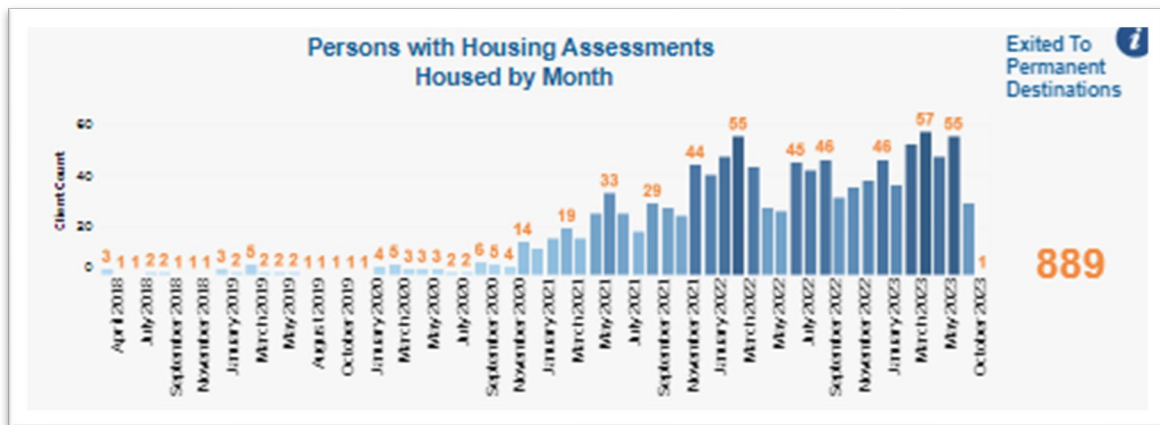
HMIS Lead Agency

HUD requires all CoCs to implement a single HMIS within their geographic areas that is capable of storing client-level information on the characteristics and service needs of homeless persons and persons at risk of homelessness. Since 2005, the County has been the lead administrator of the Santa Barbara County HMIS. In this role, CSD, on behalf of the County, oversees day-to-day system administration, provides technical support and training, and ensures system integrity and availability. CSD also applies annually for funds under the CoC Program to partially finance system and staff costs; CoC Program funds are the primary source of funding for the countywide HMIS. CSD receives \$169,850 in CoC Program funds annually specifically for staff costs and licenses. There are currently 283 active end users and 47 agencies participating in HMIS.

Coordinated Entry System Lead Agency

The Coordinated Entry System (CES) is the mechanism that facilitates the gathering of client information and referral to housing resources. CES has grown to 15 physical access points, including 3 youth focused and 3 family focused access points, and covers 7 cities within the county. Recently Language Line capabilities have been added each entry point to ensure equitable assistance. In addition to the established entry points, outreach teams are also trained to input data into HMIS.

Table 3: Chart showing exits from homelessness to permanent housing destinations by month



The above graph is from the HMIS Community Dashboard maintained by CSD. Members of the community may explore this real time, interactive tool on the county website.

Performance Measures

The Local CoC evaluates the performance of CoC Program-funded projects that provide housing and/or services to homeless and formerly homeless individuals according to the following measurement areas: project performance (e.g., number of persons exiting to or remaining in permanent housing and number of adults with earned income at follow-up or project exit), utilization and cost effectiveness, and timely expenditure of funds.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Current FY Cost:</u>	<u>Annualized On-going Cost:</u>	<u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u>
General Fund			\$ 107,652
State			
Federal			\$ 430,608
Fees			
Other:			
Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 538,260

Recipients and subrecipients of CoC Program funds must provide cash or in-kind match that is no less than 25 percent of the award amount. For HMIS Consolidation, CES, and Santa Barbara County CoC Planning, \$107,652 in General Fund contributions are budgeted in the FY 2023-24 Adopted Budget to satisfy the match requirement. Funds will be used to support CSD staff costs incurred for HMIS, CES operation, and CoC Planning activities.

Key Contract Risks: The CoC Program is a federally-funded program subject to associated federal requirements. As the recipient of federal funds, the County is responsible for ensuring that CoC Program funds are used in accordance with CoC Program requirements. CSD has experience administering CoC Program funds and funds awarded under other HUD programs on behalf of the County.

Special Instructions:

- 1) Please email an electronic copy of the Minute Order to Kimberlee Albers at kalbers@co.santa-barbara.ca.us.

Attachments:

- A. Match Commitment Letters for Planning, HMIS, and CES grants
- B. 2022 Continuum of Care Grant Agreement

Authored by: Jett Black-Maertz, Housing and Community Development Division