

Lee-Rodriguez, Nicole

From: Deborah Barnes [lifesaverservices07@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 15, 2011 3:21 PM
To: salud carbajal; Gray, Joni; Wolf, Janet; Lavagnino, Steve; sbcob
Subject: Questions with regard to budget cuts
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Red

Dear Supervisors,

Could you please address the question about the City of Goleta taking over 1/3 the population out of our services and yet we have less funding?

I want to understand this issue please.

Thank you for your patience through all of this but so much lies in your hands for the future of so many.

Thank you for taking the time to explain this to us/me

Sincerely,

DEBORAH BARNES

Lee-Rodriguez, Nicole

From: Jina Carvalho [jina@glendon.org]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2011 12:05 PM
To: Gray, Joni; Lavagnino, Steve; supervisorcarajal@sbcbos1.org; sbcob; Wolf, Janet
Subject: Please consider these cuts and the impact to our community

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Red

Dear Supervisors

I know you will act wisely. Thanks for your consideration of these cuts.

Jina Carvalho

1) **CARES:** Cares serves our mentally ill and dually diagnosed. Reducing services to them is a really bad idea as there is no where else for them to go. Cutting out 2 psychiatrists who help assess the mentally ill and dually diagnosed and prescribe Social Security Disability and MediCal benefits would be tragic. There is a good reason the Grand Jury recently focused on the "mentally ill, possibly substance abusing, uninsured, indigent, homeless individuals recycling in and out of jail." We disagree with their next statement "they are also unlikely to qualify for public assistance." Frequently alcohol and drug use is masking a very real mental or physical disability. Many people who have been homeless for years would qualify for Public Assistance if properly diagnosed. Removing that possibility is unwise. Cares has also been severely cut in staff and numerous other ways already such as only having one outreach staff. They serve over 900 clients

2) **Treatment Courts:** These courts are cost effective because they are successful in reducing recidivism. Thus reducing the burden on so many other County Departments and the community at large. They are also a collaborative effort between Courts, District Attorney, Public Defender, Sheriff's Treatment Program and non-profits. This court works and needs to stay in place!

3) **Veterans Service Program:** Loss of one FTE and the Lompoc Office will have an impact on our entire County. The remaining employees will spend more time driving around the County and not helping Veterans. More Veterans are returning from combat regularly. We need eligible Veterans returning and who are homeless enrolled in VA benefits programs. Cutting out this service office is the seriously wrong step.

Jina Carvalho

Director of Communications
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Lee-Rodriguez, Nicole

From: david hopkins [dehopper7@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2011 9:58 AM
To: Lavagnino, Steve; Farr, Doreen; Gray, Joni; jwolf@sbco2.org; sbcob
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Red

CARES: Cares serves our mentally ill and dually diagnosed. Reducing services to them is a really bad idea as there is no where else for them to go. Cutting out 2 psychiatrists who help assess the mentally ill and dually diagnosed and prescribe Social Security Disability and MediCal benefits would be tragic. There is a good reason the Grand Jury recently focused on the “mentally ill, possibly substance abusing, uninsured, indigent, homeless individuals recycling in and out of jail.” We disagree with their next statement “they are also unlikely to qualify for public assistance.” Frequently alcohol and drug use is masking a very real mental or physical disability. Many people who have been homeless for years would qualify for Public Assistance if properly diagnosed. Removing that possibility is unwise. Cares has also been severely cut in staff and numerous other ways already such as only having one outreach staff. They serve over 900 clients

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Veterans Service Program: Loss of one FTE and the Lompoc Office will have an impact on our entire County. The remaining employees will spend more time driving around the County and not helping Veterans. More Veterans are returning from combat regularly. We need eligible Veterans returning and who are homeless enrolled in VA benefits programs. Cutting out this service office is the seriously wrong step.

Thank You,

David Hopkins

Homeless Rep. (SCHAC)

Lee-Rodriguez, Nicole

From: Deborah Barnes [lifesaverservices07@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2011 9:44 AM
To: Deborah Barnes
Subject: Budget Cuts for today PLEASE READ NOW
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Red

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I feel very strongly about the topics you are reviewing today for budget cuts. Please see below and know I am passionate about NOT cutting one of these items.

CARES: Cares serves our mentally ill and dually diagnosed. Reducing services to them is a really bad idea as there is no where else for them to go. Cutting out 2 psychiatrists who help assess the mentally ill and dually diagnosed and prescribe Social Security Disability and MediCal benefits would be tragic. There is a good reason the Grand Jury recently focused on the “mentally ill, possibly substance abusing, uninsured, indigent, homeless individuals recycling in and out of jail.” I disagree with their next statement though “they are also unlikely to qualify for public assistance.” Frequently alcohol and drug use is masking a very real mental or physical disability. Many people who have been homeless for years would qualify for Public Assistance if properly diagnosed. Removing that possibility is unwise. Cares has also been severely cut in staff and numerous other ways already such as only having one outreach staff. They serve over 900 clients. PLease do not cut this program. I use their services from the trenches everyday.

Treatment Courts: These courts are cost effective because they are successful in reducing recidivism. Thus reducing the burden on so many other County Departments and the community at large. They are also a collaborative effort between Courts, District Attorney, Public Defender, Sheriff’s Treatment Program and non-profits. This court works and needs to stay in place! Please

Veterans Service Program: Loss of one FTE and the Lompoc Office will have an impact on our entire County. The remaining employees will spend more time driving around the County and not helping Veterans. More Veterans are returning from combat regularly. We need eligible Veterans returning and who are homeless enrolled in VA benefits programs. Cutting out this service office is the seriously wrong step. We already moved it out of the reach for most and now cutting it would be tragic. I cannot express how many women and men I serve on the streets are vets. It is criminal they are not cared for after they ahve served us and provided safety and freesom for our country. If anything, this program needs to increase.

Thank you for considering my input.

DEBORAH BARNES
WORTH
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serving & inspiring urban nomads
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www.worthstreetreach.com
each one reach one

Lee-Rodriguez, Nicole

From: Craig Markson [cmarkson@verizon.net]
Sent: Wednesday, June 15, 2011 11:46 PM
To: SupervisorCarbajal; Gray, Joni; Wolf, Janet; Farr, Doreen; Lavagnino, Steve; sbcob
Subject: Re: Human Services Funding-Thank You
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Dear Board of Supervisors,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak today regarding the elimination of Human Services funding. Because I had a County Animal Services meeting to attend at 5:30, I took the one-minute opportunity to speak to you before rushing off.

I wasn't sure if I got my message across when comparing the treatment of animals to people, so I thought I would briefly summarize what I was expressing.

As mentioned at the meeting and in a previous e-mail to you regarding this funding, I provide bookkeeping services and grant writing assistance to several nonprofits that provide animal welfare and human services.

I'm the principal grant writer for K-9 PALS. K-9 PALS provides care to the dogs at the County Animal Shelter. Grants to provide medical care for the dogs have decreased from \$32,500 in 2007 down to \$9,500 in 2010. Because of limited funds, many private foundations that used to assist K-9 PALS are no longer funding animal welfare. They are focusing on human services. While grants for medical care have dropped \$23,000, medical care for the dogs has increased from \$50,500 in 2007 to \$94,000 in 2010.

The only reason K-9 PALS can continue to assist the County with the dogs at its mandated shelter is because of a \$400,000 bequest received in 2007. We are going through this money quickly. At some point, K-9 PALS may need to say we have no more funds and the County shelter will have to figure out on its own how to deal with the dogs.

The funding by private foundations and individual donors has decreased for the human services organizations also. If the County decides to no longer provide Human Services funding to the nonprofits, the same future that may happen with the dogs could happen with our citizens. The nonprofits will be unable to continue and the community will be looking for the County for solutions.

In summary, the County stopped funding properly for the animals in its care many years ago and is relying on nonprofits at the County shelters. There is no guarantee the nonprofits can continue assisting indefinitely. It would be extremely shortsighted if the County stops funding the nonprofits that profit human services. Eventually, the County may find itself in worse shape than it now is because it will have to provide for basic services for both animals and humans or watch as both groups suffer.

Craig Markson

June 15, 2011

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
105 East Anapamu Street, Forth Floor
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

RE: Katie Haldeman- Planner, Long Range planning Division

Dear Chairwoman Grey and members of the board:

I realize that you are under considerable pressure to find ways to balance the budget, I ask you to please consider retaining Katie Haldeman.

Katie is instrumental to our GavPac process, she conducts research, collects data per our requests, writes sections for our working papers, and she is there to answer our questions about existing policies and regulations.

Katie also provides a key role in preparing information for the GavPac meetings, as well as taking and producing all meeting minutes, including the agricultural subcommittee, which is the record of the GavPac work.

Katie also maintains the Gaviota Coast Plan webpage.

I feel without Katie working with us we would be severely handicapped in our continued process.

I am committed to doing the best I can to help shape the Gaviota Coast for generations to come, please keep the people that we need to get our job done.

Thank you for your consideration,



Paul Van Leer- GavPac Committee Member.

Carbajal

League of Women Voters of Santa Barbara

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors - ^{June} July 15,
2011

Submitted: Toni Schultheis, Social Policy Co-Chair, LWVSB

Re: Human Services Commission Funding

The League of Women Voters has a national position on Meeting Basic Human Needs, which seeks to address comprehensively the basic need of all people for food, shelter and access to health care..." in our communities.

The League of Women Voters of Santa Barbara supports "joint planning and coordination by federal, state, county and city government entities with the private sector, including non-profit and private organizations, the business community and private citizens." The 65 non-profits help the poorest and most vulnerable among us with basics like food and shelter. We support programs and policies to prevent or reduce poverty and to promote self-sufficiency for individuals and families.

Non-profits can play an important role in leveraging dollars and it has been estimated that for every dollar of government funding, non-profits leverage another \$8 to \$10 in matching funds.

Given that other County Departments are being asked to cut 15%, we encourage the board to preserve current funding minus the 15%, if necessary, rather than cut funding altogether.

Carbajal

League of Women Voters of Santa Barbara - Board of Supervisors - June 15, 2011

Re: Propay Program

Submitted by: Toni Schultheis - Social Policy Co-Chair , LWVSB

The LWV US supports a basic level of quality health care for US residents including mental health care.

The LWV of California supports, "An adequately funded county mental health care system which provides comprehensive services to the acutely, chronically and seriously mentally ill of all ages; maintains optimal mental health services for all clients; seeks additional funds to provide preventive services; offers mental health services for the homeless; maintains optimum mental health services for all clients, ensuring that there will be a network of integrated services, emphasizing case management which includes assistance with housing, financial entitlements, rehabilitative and vocational programs."

The Propay Program serves Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health Services clients who cannot manage their funds due to mental illness. This program serves 300 clients currently. Losing this service would place them at an undue risk of losing their legal rights and their funds. Due to their illness these people are vulnerable to homelessness, loss of availability^{of} necessary medications, financial victimization, ineligibility for benefits due to the hoarding of money and the resulting risk of going over the amount of allowable assets, spending money on drugs or alcohol, voluntary and involuntary hospitalization or incarceration.

All these things are avoidable through the efforts of the Propay program. The LWV SB urges you to reinstate funding for this program that does so much good, and also prevents negative outcomes personally for Mental Health clients and for the county through added costs for incarceration.