



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: Housing and
Community
Development
Department No.: 055
For Agenda Of: September 23, 2008
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme: n/a
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department John Torell, Housing and Community Development. 568-3520
Director
Contact Info: Patricia Gabel, Housing Development and Grants Administration
Division Manager. 568-3529
SUBJECT: Grant Application – HUD Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Programs

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: N/A

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions: That the Board of Supervisors:

- a. Authorize the Director of the Housing and Community Development Department to submit a countywide comprehensive application to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development for the fiscal year 2008 Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Programs.
- b. Authorize the Director of Housing and Community Development to execute all certifications, standard forms, and other related documents required for submission of the 2008 Continuum of Care Application.

Summary Text:

The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) published a Notice of Funds Available in the Federal Register on July 10th, 2008 for the Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Program. This program funds several local non-profit organizations which provide transitional housing, permanent supportive housing and vital supportive services for people who are homeless.

Selection of the projects included in this Continuum of Care Application was made through a citizen participation process which included the identification and ranking of competitive applications by the Continuum of Care Ranking Committee based primarily upon project and program parameters defined by HUD.

Funds received from the federal government through the Homeless Assistance Program are essential to the effective implementation of the 10-Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness in Santa Barbara County. Many of the agencies funded through this program work to provide shelter, permanent supportive housing and needed services to the chronically homeless, and all contribute to the attaining the goals and strategies within the 10-Year Plan.

With your Board's approval, Housing and Community Development will submit an application for more than \$2 million dollars on behalf of the participating agencies. The amount of funds the County is eligible to apply for this year has risen significantly, up over \$500,000 from 2007. This is due to the County's designation as an Urban County for the Community Development Block Grant program which is the most significant factor used by HUD to determine funding allotments.

Exhibit 1 of the application includes multiple charts documenting statistics associated with homelessness in Santa Barbara County as required by HUD. In past years, Housing and Community Development has been able to attach a copy of the Exhibit 1 for your Board's review. However, this year HUD has changed the competition process in that all information is submitted over the internet, therefore the forms included in Exhibit 1 cannot be printed into a format easily read on paper. A pdf copy of the draft exhibit is available on Housing and Community Development's website, www.countyofsb.org/housing for the public's review.

Background: Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Program funds are used nationally to achieve three goals set by HUD:

1. To help program participants obtain and remain in permanent housing.
2. To help the participants increase skills and/or income and, in effect, enable participants to secure an income to live as independently as possible.
3. To help the participants achieve greater self-determination. The condition of homelessness itself can be damaging to one's self-determination; achieving a greater sense of self-determination enables the participant to gain needed confidence to make the transition out of homelessness.

Funding Requests: Four of the 15 programs applying for HUD funds this year are new programs, the other 11 programs are automatic renewals of previously awarded grants.

New Grants 2008-09

1. Rapid Re-housing Initiative – In coordination with multiple shelters across Santa Barbara County, Transition House is submitting an application for this new HUD program which will assist families residing in area homeless shelters get back into permanent housing as quickly as possible by providing short-term rental assistance and case management including housing placement. Rapid re-housing programs have shown success in other areas of the country by minimizing the time a family spends in the shelter system so that short term homelessness does not become chronic. Transition House has experience running this type of program and will be competitive to receive these HUD funds. New grant application, 3 years, \$306,977.
2. Master-Lease Program – On behalf of the 10-Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness, Casa Esperanza is submitting an application to master lease existing rental units to provide permanent

supportive housing for the chronically homeless at a location to be determined on the South Coast. Casa Esperanza is serving as the organization responsible for associated fiscal activities during the initial stages of plan implementation, and will also provide the vital supportive services to residents of the master leased units. New grant application, two year grant term, total funds \$153,489

3. Casa de Familia – Good Samaritan Shelters, Inc. proposes to build a 16,672 square foot affordable housing apartment complex consisting of a total of 16 units; one studio apartment, 4 one -bedroom units, 8 two-bedroom units and 3 three-bedroom units. Good Sam’s Casa de Familia Permanent Housing Project will provide some relief for chronically homeless families that want to provide stability for their families and maintain their goal of self-sufficiency. New grant application, two year term, total funds \$123,848
4. Bridgehouse Dormitories – Lompoc Housing and Community Development Corporation – LHDCDC proposes to construct new transitional housing facilities on the Bridgehouse site in the unincorporated area of the Lompoc Valley. This project will serve as a vital piece to the implementation of the County’s 10 Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness, as the plan itself calls for the development of this specific type of housing in each of the urban areas. This project will be vetted through the normal planning process, as your Board is not giving any formal authorization for the project at this time, rather just the application to apply for funding for the project. New grant application, two year term, total funds \$123,848

Renewing Grants 2008-09

5. Casa de Mural – Santa Barbara County Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health Services sponsors this 12 bed project for the mentally ill which provides supportive services such as education, counseling, and life skills training. One year renewal, \$115,315;
6. Permanent Clean and Sober Living – This program is run out of two homes in the Santa Maria area owned by Good Samaritan Shelter, Inc. who also sponsors this grant. These homes provide 16 beds and substance abuse counseling for people recovering from drug and alcohol addiction. One year renewal, \$17,850;
7. Hotel de Riviera – A transitional supportive housing program for 34 dually diagnosed individuals. This project is sponsored by the Community Housing Corporation. One year renewal, \$99,444;
8. The Bridgehouse Emergency Shelter – This is the primary emergency shelter in Lompoc which provides 56 beds. This program is sponsored by Lompoc Housing Assistance Corporation. One year renewal, \$36,565;
9. Second Stage Transitional Housing – Sponsored by Domestic Violence Solutions, this project provides housing and supportive services to victims of domestic violence in South County. One year renewal, \$72,590;
10. Mark’s House – Also sponsored by Lompoc Housing Assistance Corporation, Mark’s House is a transitional housing project for women and children in Lompoc with 19 beds. One year renewal, \$49,875.

11. Firehouse –A supportive housing project sponsored by Transition House that provides counseling and child care services to homeless families in transitional housing. One year renewal, \$55,152;
12. Casa Esperanza – This grant helps fund supportive services offered at this transitional housing facility, emergency shelter, and day center in downtown Santa Barbara. These services include case management, job training, health care, and rental deposit assistance. One year, \$160,586;
13. Transition House HOMES Program – A transitional housing facility which provides case management and career development services, along with care for children. One year renewal, \$61,763;
14. HMIS – Funding for a software package to create a regional homeless services and clients database managed by the Santa Barbara County Housing and Community Development Department. This grant funds the Santa Barbara County portion of a tri-County effort to track services for the homeless from San Luis Obispo County to Ventura County. One year renewal, \$102,813;
15. Shelter Plus Care – The recipient of this grant is the Santa Barbara City Housing Authority. The grant helps fund five programs in Santa Barbara: AIDS Housing Santa Barbara, Sanctuary Psychiatric Centers, Phoenix House, Santa Barbara Community Housing Corporation and Work Training. These five programs provide 73 units including SRO’s, studios and two-bedroom units, for 78 participants. One year renewal, \$590,184.

Performance Measure:

No change in mandates or service levels is anticipated; however, should the grants held by Housing and Community be renewed, the County would be obligated to adhere to ongoing regulations set forth by HUD. HUD mandates that grant applications be submitted electronically by September 27, 2008 for funding consideration.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

Narrative:

The Homeless Management Information System grant provides funding for 75% of one full-time employee in the Housing and Community Development Department. There is a 20% cash match requirement which is met through time spent on HMIS by the Housing Finance Division Manager and by the department’s Cost Analyst II position. Housing and Community Development has funds in place to meet this cash match in the current budget under the Housing Finance and Management, Assessment and Planning line items.

Staffing Impacts:

Legal Positions:

Housing Specialist II

FTEs:

.75

Special Instructions:

Prepare a Minute Order confirming Board approval and call extension 1090 for pick up.

Attachments:

None

Authored by:

Mike Sederholm, Housing Specialist

cc: