



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: Public Health
Department No.: 041
For Agenda Of: December 17, 2019
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Van Do-Reynoso, MPH, PhD
Director Public Health Department
Contact Info: Dana Gamble, LCSW 681-5171
Assistant Deputy Director, Primary Care & Family Health
SUBJECT: Letter of Interest to participate in the one-time funding opportunity from the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to initiate a Whole Person Care pilot

County Counsel Concurrence:

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence:

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Receive and file the Santa Barbara County Public Health Department's Letter of Interest to participate in the one-time funding from the State of California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to initiate a Whole Person Care pilot.
- b) Determine that the recommended actions are not a "Project" with the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") and is exempt per CEQA Guideline section 15378(b)(5), since the recommended actions are organizational or administrative activities of the government that will not result in direct or indirect physical change in the environment.

Summary Text:

This item is on the Agenda to receive and file the Santa Barbara County Public Health Department's (PHD) Letter of Interest (Attachment A) to participate in the one-time funding opportunity from the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to initiate a Whole Person Care pilot. If funded, Santa Barbara County will be using the funds to build information technology (IT) and other infrastructure and develop programmatic activities to expand access to permanent housing and/or structured transitional housing for seniors aged 55 and older who have recently become homeless, or are at immediate risk of being homeless. General goals for the pilot have been identified for the purpose of filing the Letter of Interest. A more extensive programmatic development process with internal and external stakeholders will begin in Jan 2020.

Background:

California's Whole Person Care Pilot program coordinates health, behavioral health, and social services in a patient-centered manner with the goal of improved beneficiary health and well-being. Low-income populations are more likely to experience a multitude of health, behavioral health, and social needs, requiring them to seek care across multiple and fragmented systems. The need for a Whole Person Care (WPC) approach arose due to unmet social, behavioral health, and health needs within Santa Barbara County's vulnerable senior population.

There are nearly 5,700 patients over the age of 55 who receive their care at the PHD Health Care Centers. 770 of these people are known to be experiencing homelessness. Due to the high cost of housing in the south county, there are many more elderly at risk for becoming homeless. These at risk individuals are low income and frequently seen in PHD's Health Care Centers.

As the primary contact for the WPC program in Santa Barbara County, PHD submitted a Letter of Interest (LOI) to receive funding to DHCS on December 2, 2019 (Attachment A). The LOI served as the application to participate and broadly indicated how the county will use the funds. PHD will serve as the lead agency for all county departments.

Santa Barbara County will use the funds to build IT and other infrastructure and develop programmatic activities to expand access to permanent housing and/or structured transitional housing for seniors aged 55 and older who have recently become homeless, or at immediate risk of being homeless. Part of the infrastructure building includes exploring mechanisms to share data between county departments, as well as between county departments and external partners. The pilot will also include case management services to enhance access and linkage to supportive social services, health services, and behavioral health services. This funding will be leveraged with other grant funds and community partnerships to expand or sustain the pilot as appropriate.

Members from the Inter-Agency Policy Council (IAPC), which is an interdisciplinary multi-department county leadership team made up of the county health and human service departments, are serving as the initial planning group. Additional community partners will be invited to join the planning to further develop the scope of work for the pilot. The overarching goal of the pilot is to assist seniors to live in a more stable environment with social connectivity, so that they can achieve better management of their chronic disease conditions. In addition to the collaborative application developed with various county departments including Housing and Community Development, Behavioral Wellness and Social Services, PHD has also received conceptual support of this pilot from external partners, including Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital, Lompoc Valley District Hospital, Marian Regional Medical Center, CenCal Health, and New Beginnings Safe Parking Program.

It is expected that DHCS will notify PHD of the final decision on January 2, 2020. If funded, PHD will return to your Board and will request a signed Board of Supervisors resolution to serve as the final agreement between the County and the State DHCS by January 31, 2020.

Performance Measure:

Counties are required to submit an evaluation and summary report within 90 days after the full expenditure of funding. The report shall include the disposition of funds, the services provided, and the number of individuals who received services.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: No

Fiscal Analysis:

There is no fiscal impact associated with the receipt and filing of this Letter of Interest. If funded, the County would receive one-time funding in the approximate amount of \$1,166,000. It is anticipated that the PHD will return to your Board and will the authorization to receive the funding on or around January 14, 2020.

Key Contract Risks:

NA

Staffing Impacts:

Legal Positions:

0

FTEs:

0

Special Instructions:

Please return an electronic copy of the Minute Order to the PHD Contracts Unit at PHDRES.ContractsUnit@sbcphd.org

Attachments:

- A. DHCS Whole Person Care Letter of Interest dated December 2, 2019
- B. DHCS Whole Person Care Funding Opportunity dated October 18, 2019

Authored by:

Dana Gamble, LCSW Assistant Deputy Director, Public Health Department