

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY BOARD AGENDA LETTER



Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
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Agenda Number:
Prepared on: 5/12/05
Department Name: Housing and Community Dev.
Department No.: 055
Agenda Date: 5/24/05
Placement: Administrative
Estimate Time: n/a
Continued Item: NO
If Yes, date from:

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Ed Moses, Director
Housing and Community Development Department

STAFF CONTACT: Mike Sederholm
560-1090

SUBJECT: 2005/2006 HUD Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Grant Application

Recommendation(s):

That the Board of Supervisors:

Authorize the Director of the Housing and Community Development Department to develop and submit a countywide comprehensive application to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development for the fiscal year 2005 Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Programs.

Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:

The recommendation is primarily aligned with Goal No. 1. An Efficient Government Able to Respond Effectively to the Needs of the Community; Goal No. 2. A Safe and Healthy Community in Which to Live, Work, and Visit; and Goal No. 5. A High Quality of Life for All Residents.

Executive Summary and Discussion:

The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) published in the Federal Register on March 21, 2005 the annual Notice of Funds Available (NOFA) for the Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Programs, which include the Supportive Housing Program (SHP) and Shelter Plus Care Program (S+C). SHP and S+C funds are used in Santa Barbara County to supplement the budgets of several shelters and service providers which comprise the local Continuum of Care. These 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

With your Board's approval, Santa Barbara County Housing and Community Development will submit a countywide application for this year's Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Programs. The application contains a narrative of what the County has accomplished in the field of homelessness over the past year, what gaps in services are present in the County, a section for each individual project in priority order, and all required forms and signatures as required by HUD. The due date for Housing and Community Development to submit the application to HUD is June 10, 2005.

In 2004, Santa Barbara County applied for \$1,709,649 of HUD funds for nine renewing grants and two new grants. HUD funded each of the nine renewing grants and one of the new grants for a total of \$1,287,131. The new grant funded was the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) which will enable the County to create a database of clients accessing services made available to people who are homeless.

The twelve programs submitting applications for Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Program funds this year are:

1. Permanent Clean and Sober Living for the Chronically Homeless – A new program proposed by Good Samaritan Shelter, Inc. in Northern Santa Barbara County. If funded, the grant will supplement the purchase of two homes for the purpose of providing permanent supportive housing for the chronically homeless. The program will be modeled upon the highly successful program run by the Good Samaritans in two existing homes in the Santa Maria area, for which there is a considerable wait list.
2. 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;
3. 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;
4. 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, \$94,709;
5. 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;
6. 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;
7. 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, \$111,957;

8. 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, \$17,000;
9. 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, \$47,500;
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, \$34,824.
11. Career Development and HOMES Program – A transitional housing facility which provides case management and career development services, along with care for children.
12. 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

Mandates and Service Levels:

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 postmarked by June 10, 2005 for funding consideration.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

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. Details are available on pages D-243 and D-244 in the 2004-2005 fiscal year operating budget.

Special Instructions:

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

Concurrence:

Auditor Controller

County Executive Office

County Counsel