



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: Social Services
Department No.: 044
For Agenda Of: December 13, 2022
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time: NA
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: 4/5

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Daniel Nielson, Social Services Director
Director(s) (805) 346-7101
Contact Info: Barbara Finch, Children and Adult Network Director, 681-4678

SUBJECT: Resolution for Authorization to accept Grant from the State of California,
Department of Aging for Access to Technology

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: N/A

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Adopt a Resolution regarding the State of California, Department of Aging grant funds including the execution of the application for and acceptance of the Access to Technology funds in the amount of \$569,457; and
- b) Determine that the approval of the recommended action is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b) (5), since the recommended action is a government administrative activity which does not involve commitment to any specific project which may result in potentially significant physical impact on the environment.

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda in order to adopt a resolution and authorize the Department of Social Services (DSS) Director, or designee, to execute the Grant Agreement (Attachment 1) between the County of Santa Barbara and the California Department of Aging (CDA) in the amount of \$569,457 to provide services under the Access to Technology (ATT) Program administered by the CDA as detailed pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Grant Agreement.

The grant funds will be administered by the Santa Barbara County Adult and Aging Network and supplement existing programs for older adults and adults with disabilities in order to connect older adults and adults with disabilities to technology to help reduce isolation, increase connections, and enhance self-confidence.

Background: Governor Newsom issued Executive Order (EO) N-73-20 to improve broadband speed and access in California, including improving download speeds for all Californians and to bridge the digital divide for two million Californians who lack broadband access. The EO specifies older adults as a priority population, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic, as older adults are more vulnerable to COVID-19, are continuing to shelter in-place and may be experiencing reduced interactions with other people and their communities. This has led to increased risks of loneliness and isolation for older adults with potentially negative outcomes to mental and physical health. The EO is also in alignment with goal three of Governor's Newsom's Master Plan on Aging that prioritizes addressing the digital divide that directly impacts older adults.

In 2021, the Governor signed Assembly Bill (AB) 135 into law, which added Welfare & Institutions Code section 9104, which required the CDA to create the ATT program. The ATT program is a 27-month program (October 1, 2022 through December 31, 2024) to meet the needs of diverse older adults and adults with disabilities to connect older adults and adults with disabilities to technology to help reduce isolation, increase connections, and enhance self-confidence. Grant funds appropriated for this pilot program are non-competitive. DSS opted to participate by submitting a grant proposal and was awarded \$569,457.

Grant funding through the program will be utilized for the following:

1. Providing technology, which may include, but is not limited to, laptops, tablets, and smartphones, to older adults and adults with disabilities.
2. Arranging for reliable internet access to older adults and adults with disabilities.
3. Broadband infrastructure improvements (telecommunications, equipment, technologies, routers, optic lines, etc).
4. Developing or arranging for education and training for older adults and adults with disabilities on the use of technology.
5. Conducting outreach about the program.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

Funding Sources	FY2022/2023	FY2023/2024	Total Project Cost
General Fund			
State	\$ 284,729.00	\$ 284,728.00	\$ 569,457.00
Federal			
Fees			
Other:			
Total	\$ 284,729.00	\$ 284,728.00	\$ 569,457.00

Narrative:

The County of Santa Barbara Adult and Aging Network will receive one-time grant funding of \$569,457 from the ATT grant funds as authorized by AB 135. There is no General Fund Contribution.

Legal Positions:

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FTEs:

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Special Instructions:

Please scan and send two (2) duplicate original Resolution, and a copy of the minute order to:
 DSS Contracts Unit
 C/O Emma Duncan
 2125 S. Centerpointe Parkway, 3rd Floor
 Santa Maria, CA 93455
eduncan@countyofsb.org

Attachments:

1. Attachment 1 – Grant Agreement – AT-2223-42
2. Attachment 2 – Resolution Access to Technology

Authored by:

Barb Finch, Children & Adult Network Director
 Emma Duncan, Contracts Coordinator