SANTA BARBARA COUNTY BOARD AGENDA LETTER



Clerk of the Board of Supervisors 105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407 Santa Barbara, CA 93101 (805) 568-2240

Agenda Number:

Prepared on: 6/26/03 Department: HCD Budget Unit: 055 Agenda Date: 7/8/03

Placement: Administrative

Estimate Time: None Continued Item: NO If Yes, date from:

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Mr. Ed Moses, Director

Housing and Community Development Department

STAFF

CONTACT: Carlos Jimenez, Jr., Housing Program Specialist, ext.3521

SUBJECT: 2003/2004 HUD Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance (McKinney Act)

Grant Application

Recommendation(s):

That the Board of Supervisors:

- A. Authorize the Director of the Housing and Community Development Department to develop and submit a countywide comprehensive application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) by July 15, 2003 for the FY 2003 Continuum of Care for the Homeless Assistance Program.
- B. Authorize the County Administrator to execute all certifications and application forms (SF 424), included with the submission of the Continuum of Care grant application.

Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:

The recommendation is primarily aligned with Goals No. 1, No. 2 and No. 5: An Efficient Government Able to Respond Effectively to the Needs of the Community, A Safe and Healthy Community in Which to Live, and Maintain and Enhance the Quality of Life for all Residents.

Executive Summary and Discussion:

On April 25, 2003 HUD Released the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance program. The program's purpose is to fund projects that will fill gaps in locally developed Continuum of Care systems to provide homeless assistance. For federal fiscal year 03-04, the Department of Housing and Community Development will submit an associated county-wide application for this nationally

competitive grant program. The application process includes coordinating the needs assessment process, reviewing and facilitating the ranking of proposals, and submittal of the application to HUD. Approximately \$1.06 billion is available nationwide under this program, an increase of about \$110 million over last year's funding allocation.

Fiscal year 2002-03 was the fifth year that Santa Barbara County has been the lead coordinating agency overseeing the Continuum of Care grant application process. As a result of last year's effort, the County was awarded \$938,811-- its highest level of funding to date for the HUD program. The grant provided funding to five (5) projects throughout the county. This year the county has received six (6) grant applications for funding; two are new projects, while four are renewal applications for existing projects. One new project being proposed is by Phoenix House. The project will provide for the acquisition and a rehabilitation of a residence within the South Coast of the county that will offer 14 units of permanent supportive housing for persons with disabling conditions. Another new project proposed for funding is the acquisition of a congressionally mandated Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), that will provide for more accurate unduplicated counts of homeless persons throughout the county. This year the total grant request will be \$1,085,000.

Four renewal projects considered for funding under this year's grant are the Community Housing Corporation's Casa De Riviera Transitional Supportive Housing Program that provides project operating funds for thirty-four (34), dually-diagnosed individuals; Transition House's Supportive Housing Program that provides counseling and child care services to homeless families in transitional housing; Marks' House Transitional Housing in Lompoc for project operations cost assistance, and Domestic Violence Solutions, Second Stage Transitional Housing Program that provides housing and supportive services to victims of domestic violence in south county. The grant review process is currently being conducted and the application submittal deadline to the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is July 15, 2003.

Mandates and Service Levels:

No change in mandates or service levels is anticipated; however, should the County receive a grant award, the County would be obligated to adhere to the regulations set forth by HUD.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

The Homeless Management Information system grant application will provide funding for one full-time employee in the Housing and Community Development Department. While there is a 20% match in the amount of \$78,000 over the three-year grant period, this can be attained through existing staff administrative and technical support to the annual Continuum of Care grant application and community outreach process that is currently conducted in the absence of any federal supporting funds.

Special Instructions:

Prepare a Minute Order confirming Board approval and call extension 3520 for pick up.

Concurrence:

None