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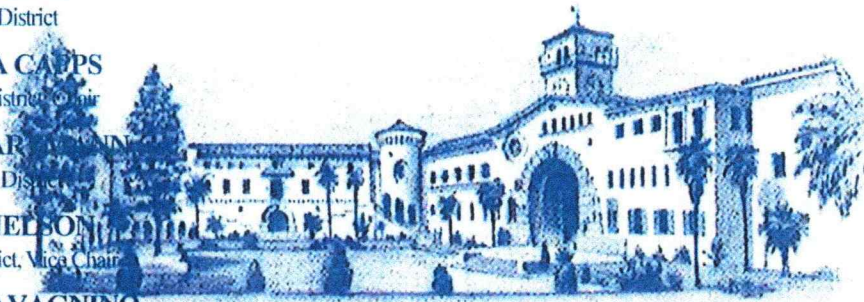
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Fifth District



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

County Administration Building
105 East Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
Telephone: (805) 568-2190
www.countyofsb.org

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

Funding Application for 2024-25 Fiscal Year

1. Name and address of Organization:

Transitions-Mental Health Association
784 High Street
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

2. Total Request (\$): \$5,000

3. Agency is a 501(c) 3? Yes

4. Regular business of the agency:

Provision of mental health services in Northern Santa Barbara County, particularly Santa Maria and Lompoc. The Growing Grounds Farm of Santa Maria is one of those services.

5. Executive Director: Jill Bolster-White

Phone #: (805) 540-6505

Email: jbw@t-mha.org

Website: www.t-mha.org

6. Program manager:

We have multiple Program Managers, but for the sake of this application, the Program Manager of Growing Grounds Enterprises is Anna Wiens.

7. Years Agency has been in operation:

45 years on the Central Coast, and 32 years in Northern Santa Barbara County

8. Other funding secured for this activity:

Mechanics Bank, Allan Hancock College, and Community Bank of Santa Maria.

9. Identify which target population will ultimately benefit from your strengthened organization: (i.e., elderly, disabled, HIV/AIDS, homeless, children, youth, low income):

Adults and transition-age youth who live with a mental illness.

10. Please state the name of the program for which funding is being requested and describe overall goals that you are proposing. Be specific, achievable, and measurable:

The Growing Grounds Farm Santa Maria, a program of Transitions-Mental Health Association (TMHA), is one of California's most compassionate, proactive forms of treatment for adults challenged by mental illness. A combination of vocational training and therapeutic horticulture, the farm provides a disenfranchised population with true employment opportunities.

For 25 years, we have accomplished our goal of providing employment and training for our clients. But something equally important has occurred: the Growing Grounds Farm has grown into a legitimate business that serves the immediate community. Each year, thousands of shoppers visit our Farm Stand. Home-schooling families come to the Farm to experience organic gardening, explore the chicken coops, and pick up information on both farming and mental wellness. We have also provided a place for a County Behavioral Health program to tend a group garden. The fact that our social enterprise has forged a meaningful role in the larger community indicates that we are accomplishing one of our most significant goals: reducing the stigma of mental illness and integrating our clients into the community at large.

On Saturday, July 19, we will be opening up the Farm to the entire community with a daylong party and a great sense of accomplishment. The event will feature musical entertainment, free ice cream, family-friendly art projects, and a ceremony honoring Growing Grounds and TMHA.

Our overall goal is to ensure the longevity of this unique program. By promoting its success and drawing the community in further, we hope to strengthen its position (and revenue potential) as a social enterprise business, while raising awareness of the important work the program achieves throughout the year.

We certify that the information in this application is true and accurate to the best of our knowledge and is submitted with our Board of Director's Governing Body's full knowledge and endorsement.

Board President:



Executive Director:

