





May 14th, 2020

George Chapjian, Director, Community Services Department Santa Barbara County 123 East Anapamu Street, 2nd Floor Santa Barbara, CA 93101

SUBJECT: PROJECT ROOMKEY FUNDING APPROVAL

Dear Director Chapjian,

The California Department of Social Services is pleased to inform you that Santa Barbara County's request for Project Roomkey funding, as authorized by <u>Senate Bill 89</u> (<u>Chapter 2, Statutes of 2020</u>), has been accepted. Pursuant to his March 4, 2020, proclamation of a state of emergency, Governor Gavin Newsom signed <u>Executive Order</u> <u>N-32-20</u> on March 18, 2020, providing local governments with emergency homelessness funds to expand immediate shelter and isolation capacity and provide COVID-19 preventions to the homeless population.

CDSS received a request for \$500,000 from Santa Barbara County. CDSS is pleased to inform you that Santa Barbara County is hereby provided \$400,000 for the purposes of operating the local <u>Project Roomkey</u> initiative. These funds are available to encumber through June 30, 2020. These funds may be used to support individuals experiencing homelessness <u>as defined by the federal Housing and Urban Development (HUD)</u> in a manner consistent with Housing First as specified in Welfare and Institutions Code <u>Section 8255</u>. Eligible costs and activities include those associated with the execution and reimbursement of motel occupancy agreements and core operating services including, but not limited to: general non-congregate shelter oversight management and staff, food, security, janitorial, laundry, and other items needed to support non-congregate shelter operations for the eligible population.

The county may request, at the start of the Project, a funding advance up to 50 percent of the approved funds. Payment on the funds may be disbursed as reimbursement upon Project completion or as services are rendered. The county may claim reimbursement related to Project Room Key by using the attached invoice. Please include a physical address and telephone number for the designated contact in the county with whom to coordinate payment. Please also indicate the preferred payment option. Counties may submit the invoices via email with electronic signatures to housing@dss.ca.gov while COVID-19 directives are in place, or by mail to:

Mr. George Chapjian, Director Page Two

California Department of Social Services Housing and Homelessness Branch Attn: Mashal Ayobi 744 P Street, MS 8-16-70 Sacramento, CA 95814

For program-related questions, please contact the Housing and Homelessness Branch at (916) 651-5155 or by email at <u>housing@dss.ca.gov</u>. Questions pertaining to reimbursement should be directed to <u>fiscal.systems@dss.ca.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

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CORRIN BUCHANAN Assistant Director for Housing and Homelessness

Attachment