July 5, 2017

Marin County Board of Supervisors
3501 Civic Center Drive
San Rafael, CA 94903

SUBJECT: Update from the Department of Health and Human Services regarding Homeless program activities and the Point-in-Time Count.

Dear Supervisors:

RECOMMENDATION:
1. Receive Department of Health and Human Services' update regarding Homeless program activities and the Point-in-Time Count.

SUMMARY: As your Board is aware, homelessness is a complex issue with significant impacts on the health, well-being and longevity of the people who experience it, as well as the community at large.

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) envisions a Housing First-oriented system of care, in which people who become homeless are quickly returned to permanent housing, people who are housed receive the services necessary to stay there, and the effects of homelessness on the health of Marin residents are minimized.

In addition to providing essential safety-net services that help people maintain or regain their housing and independence, HHS funds community-based organizations to implement a wide range of evidence-based practices targeting a diverse homeless population. However, achieving our vision requires more than the services HHS provides; it requires strong partnerships with the Housing Authority, other county departments, our cities and towns, and community-based organizations, all of which have different roles to play. HHS acts as a convener to facilitate those partnerships.

The Department’s report to your Board will provide an update on activities related to Marin’s continuum of homeless services and results from the 2017 Point-in-Time Count.

FISCAL IMPACT: There is no fiscal component associated with the acceptance of this report.

Reviewed By:

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Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

Grant Nash Colfax, MD
Director