April 23, 2019

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

SUBJECT: Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Administration, requests approval to accept a $4,831,856 Continuum of Care grant award from the California Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency and approve related multi-year contracts with Homeward Bound of Marin and St. Vincent de Paul Society of Marin to support the development of permanent supportive housing and a homelessness diversion program. (New)

Dear Supervisors:

RECOMMENDATIONS:
1. Authorize the President to accept $4,831,856 Homeless Emergency Aid Program funds from the California Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency (BCSH).
2. Authorize the Health and Human Services Director or Chief Assistant Director to execute agreement, any subsequent amendments, and related documents.
3. Authorize the President to execute a $4,523,891 multi-year contract with Homeward Bound of Marin through June 30, 2021 to redevelop the Mill Street Center Emergency Shelter.
4. Authorize the President to execute a $307,965 multi-year contract with St. Vincent de Paul Society of Marin through June 30, 2021 to implement a diversion pilot program for newly homeless individuals.
5. Approve related one-time FY 2018-19 budget adjustment as detailed in the Fiscal Impact section.

SUMMARY: The California Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency (BCSH) awarded the Department $4,831,856 in state Homeless Emergency Aid Program ( HEAP) funds to develop permanent supportive housing for individuals who are chronically homeless and to implement a pilot program to divert newly homeless individuals from the homeless system of care. The Department conducted a request for proposal (RFP) process and selected Homeward Bound of Marin and the St. Vincent de Paul Society of Marin to provide the activities described below supported by this funding. The Department proposes to enter into contracts with these agencies through June 30, 2021.

Homeward Bound of Marin: The proposed multi-year contract provides $4,523,891 for the redevelopment of the Mill Street Center Emergency Shelter. The new facility will provide 60 emergency shelter beds (an increase of five beds over current shelter capacity) and 32 permanent supportive housing beds for high-needs people who are chronically homeless. The single-site nature of the project will allow Homeward Bound to provide residents with 24/7 on-site support, making housing possible for individuals who have not been successful in community-based housing.
St. Vincent de Paul Society of Marin: The proposed multi-year contract provides $307,965 to implement a diversion pilot program for newly homeless individuals. With the proper support, up to 70 to 80% of newly homeless individuals are able to return to housing without long-term use of the homeless system of care. Diverting people who may have other support frees up limited shelter beds for those with high needs. Based on evidence-based practices, a diversion program will counsel people who are newly homeless to reunify with family, locate room sharing situations, and develop other creative solutions to their housing crisis.

COMMUNITY BENEFIT: Permanent supportive housing with 24/7 on-site support and a dedicated diversion program are both significant gaps in Marin County’s homeless system of care. These funds will allow the Marin homeless system of care to fill those gaps, reducing inflow into homelessness and improving housing success rates for very high-needs individuals.

FISCAL IMPACT: There is no increase to the General Fund Net County Cost associated with this request. With your Board’s approval, expenditure appropriations in the General Administration program will be increased by $4,831,856, fully offset by Homeless Emergency Aid Program grant revenue, as shown below. The contracts allow for cancellation, with thirty days’ notice, should the County not be able to continue to fund.

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Total Expense $4,831,856
Total Revenue ($4,831,856)
Net Adjustment $0

REVIEWED BY:
County Administrator [X] N/A [ ]
Department of Finance [X] N/A [ ]
Human Resources [ ] N/A [X]
County Counsel [ ] N/A [X]

Respectfully submitted,

Hyacinth Guillermo Hinojosa
Acting Director

Munis Budget Adjustment Document Number: 2019/10 202
Munis Contract Numbers: Pending