

January 27, 2009

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

SUBJECT: Health & Human Services Department, Administration: Grant Agreement for \$80,000 with the Marin Community Foundation to support safety net programs and services.

Dear Supervisors:

RECOMMENDATION.

1. Approve and authorize President to sign Grant Agreement #2009-01688 with Marin Community Foundation in the amount of \$80,000 to support safety net programs and services.
2. Approve the following budget adjustments for grant number 2080:

Action	SAP Fund Center	Description	SAP Commitment	CI Description	Budget Adjustment
Increase	1000051000	Adult Social Services	5410100	Support of Clients	\$68,000
Increase	1000051000	Adult Social Services	5210400	CBO Contracts	\$12,000
Increase	1000051000	Adult Social Services	4530527	Revenue for RRB	\$80,000

SUMMARY: The Marin Community Foundation has awarded the Marin County Department of Health and Human Services \$80,000 for one-time support for safety net programs and services. The stress upon these services has increased significantly with the recent downturn in the economy:

- In the last quarter of 2008, the aggregate demand for public assistance services increased 14% compared to the last quarter of 2007.
- The average number of annual visits to the Career Resource Center increased 26% from 2007 to 2008.
- Anecdotally, there has been a five-fold increase in the number of calls to the Department's Information and Referral Lines, often from people who have never before sought such help from a government agency.

The Department proposes to use these one-time funds in a manner that supports basic safety net services, that leverages current HHS resources and funding, and that can be implemented quickly and provide immediate assistance so as to prevent families entering into crisis situations:

- \$ 12,000 for full time staff for the Career Resource Center so that job seekers with limited computer skills can start to develop them. The number of job seekers using the computer lab has increased significantly. The staffing is provided through a contract with Marin Community College.
- \$10,000 for medication assistance for mental health clients. These are clients who can no longer afford the co-pays or medication that helps them continue to function effectively.
- \$50,000 for rental or eviction prevention assistance. As noted above, the Aging and Adult Services Information and Referral line has been experiencing increased call volume, and a number of these calls are from those who can only maintain their housing with a small level of assistance.
- \$8,000 to the West Marin Community Resource Center for home heating assistance. There are a number of families in this part of the County who will only be able to remain safe in their homes with a small level of support.

Before any of these funds are administered, the Department will develop and apply a screening and assessment tool and guidelines on the amount of funds that can be awarded to one individual or family. We will also refer families to the agencies that can help them develop long-term approaches to address their needs. By the end of the six months during which the Department expects to have awarded all of these funds, we will have assessed the adequacy and effectiveness of each of these efforts and will report on this to your Board.

COMMUNITY BENEFIT. By improving collaboration, communication, and service delivery to those most vulnerable in the community, Marin County will build on the strength of its local partners and work to address some of the stresses upon families in Marin County.

FISCAL IMPACT: Costs are fully covered by Marin Community Foundation. There is no change in net county cost as a result of this grant agreement.

REVIEWED BY:	Auditor Controller	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Human Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	County Counsel	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Meredith, Ph.D.
Director of Health and Human Services

SAP GM Document Number: 0050000490