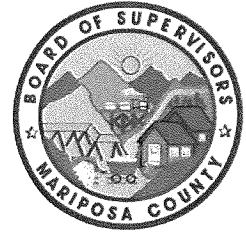


MARIPOSA COUNTY

HHS/Social Services · (209) 966-2000



RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2021-631

MEETING: November 16, 2021

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Shannon Gadd, Health and Human Services Agency Director

RE: Acceptance of the Housing and Disability Advocacy and Prevention Program Funding Conditions

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Approve the Certification Instructions and Funding Conditions to Accept \$250,000.00 for the Housing and Disability Advocacy and Prevention (HDAP) Program through The California Department of Social Services; and Authorize the Health and Human Services Agency Director to Sign the Certification Instructions and Funding Conditions.

Mariposa County has received the HDAP allocations since 2016 and has provided housing-related services to adult individuals. This year, in accordance with All County Welfare Director's Letter titled "Notice of Funding for the Housing and Disability Advocacy Program," the California Department of Social Services is requesting a Director's Certification and signature to receive the allocation.

HDAP provides housing supports and disability benefit application assistance and advocacy to people likely eligible for disability benefits and experiencing or at-risk of homelessness.

HDAP requirements have changed substantially for Fiscal Year 21/22, including removing the county required match, expanding the criteria for services, and including opportunities for competitive allocations. In Fiscal Year 20/21, eleven (11) individuals were served through HDAP. With the expansion of eligibility criteria and the removal of the county match, it is expected the number of families and individuals served by the program will increase.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

This is a new Board item as the California Department of Social Services is now requesting the signature of the Mariposa County Health and Human Services Agency Director.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

If this Agreement is not approved, Mariposa County will not be able to continue participation in the Housing and Disability Prevention Program which provides necessary funding to ensure individuals experiencing or at-risk of homelessness have

stable, safe housing. Further, this program provides disability advocacy and support to link individuals to various disability benefits.

ATTACHMENTS:
HDAP (PDF)

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Wayne Forsythe, District IV Supervisor

SECONDER: Rosemarie Smallcombe, District I Supervisor

AYES: Rosemarie Smallcombe, Tom Sweeney, Marshall Long, Wayne Forsythe

EXCUSED: Miles Menetrey

ATTACHMENT SIX: INFORMATION ON ESTABLISHING REGIONAL PROGRAMS

Grantees have the option to establish a regional Home Safe program. Counties and tribes in rural communities, communities with a regional CoC, grantees with regional HHAP awards, or neighboring tribal communities may benefit from a regional Home Safe. CDSS especially encourages partnerships between counties and tribes, or neighboring tribal grantees.

Regional programs rely on a shared administrative structure or program functions which can create more staffing and resource efficiency in communities with smaller caseloads that may not warrant a full-time program case manager, or in areas where hiring is challenging. Similarly, regions already served by a regional housing providers or organizations could benefit from a coordinated approach to partnering with these organizations to serve clients across a geographic region.

I. Regional Funding Availability

The amount available for regional programs is equal to the sum of the allocation of each participating county or tribe (as specified in Attachment Four). In addition to the Noncompetitive Allocation and/or proposed Tribal Home Safe allocation, CDSS will provide an additional \$150,000 to support and encourage regional programming.

II. Regional Program Agreement, Acceptance of Funds and Regional Director's Certification

Groups of counties and/or tribes interested in forming a **regional** Home Safe should contact CDSS housing@dss.ca.gov as soon as possible. CDSS will set up an initial conversation to discuss and work through potential program design models and ensure that the participating counties/tribes are in agreement with the requirements of Home Safe and the regional partnership. Once an agreement has been made, CDSS will provide the participating counties and/or tribes a Regional Director's Certification, in which participating counties and tribes can certify acknowledgement of program funding terms and requirements. Regional Director's Certifications, signed by all participating counties and tribes, **must be submitted by Friday December 3, 2021.**

III. Considerations

When discussing a potential regional structure, counties and tribes should consider the following questions:

- What is the combined estimate of Home Safe-eligible individuals and families in these communities? How many will require preventative services and homelessness assistance?
- How might housing needs differ in each of the participating communities?

ATTACHMENT FIVE: FY 2021-22 HOME SAFE DIRECTOR'S CERTIFICATION

Complete all of the following:

- i. Estimated number of individuals **experiencing homelessness** to receive Home Safe services: 8
- ii. Estimated number of individuals **at risk of homelessness** to receive Home Safe homelessness prevention services: 8
- iii. Estimated **TOTAL** number of individuals to serve in Home Safe:
16

III. SECTION THREE: COLLABORATION AND DIRECTOR'S CERTIFICATION OF FUNDING TERMS *(All grantees complete Section a and b below)*

Collaboration: Home Safe grantees must inform the local housing, homelessness, health, and social service networks of the following information:

- Allocation made available to the grantee;
- Final award amount accepted by grantee;
- Home Safe program benefits and eligibility (e.g., Attachment One); and,
- Home Safe program requirements as it relates to collaboration with the Continuum of Care (CoC), CES, and HMIS (e.g., Attachment One).

Relevant agencies and organizations may include the CoC, housing agencies of incorporated cities, health services, behavioral health agencies, public housing authorities, tribal agencies, emergency response, legal aid, aging departments and councils, and any other local partners that will be key to local collaboration.

- A copy of the letter(s) or comparable material sent to relevant partner agencies within the community and list of recipients is attached.** The county understands that this is a requirement to accept the Noncompetitive Allocation.

Conditions of Funding

I, County Welfare Director of [insert name of county], certify that I will:

- 1) Operate a Home Safe consistent with relevant laws, regulations, program guidance, and evidence-based practices, including but not limited to:
 - a) WIC Sections 5770-15771
 - b) All County Letters or similar instruction, including ACWDL dated October 22, 2018
 - c) Housing First requirements as enumerated in WIC Section 8255 and further outlined in ACL 19-114
 - d) Evidence-based practices in homeless assistance and homeless prevention

ATTACHMENT FIVE: FY 2021-22 HOME SAFE DIRECTOR'S CERTIFICATION

- 2) Actively collaborate with local, state, and federal housing, homelessness and health systems in order to make best use of available funding and link clients to necessary services. I understand that information on these collaborations will be requested within program updates. These collaborating entities may include but are not limited to:
 - a) Continuums of Care and Coordinated Entry Systems
 - b) Behavioral health systems
 - c) Medical institutions and emergency response systems
 - d) Housing authorities
 - e) Public benefit agencies
 - f) Legal aid providers
- 3) Collect, track, report and measure relevant program outcomes and engage in continuous data quality improvement, such as:
 - a) Enter clients into HMIS.
 - b) Submit Home Safe related program reports, including but not limited to the HSAPS 19, as specified by CDSS through an ACL or similar instruction.
 - c) Participate in formal evaluation efforts which may include executing data sharing agreements with the HMIS administrator.
 - d) Set program targets and milestones and report to CDSS on progress at least annually or upon request from CDSS.
- 4) Engage in training, technical assistance, and continuous quality improvement, including but not limited to:
 - a) Program leads attend meetings and trainings required by CDSS.
 - b) Respond to requests for program amendments in order to comply with applicable laws and guidance, as determined by CDSS.
 - c) Actively engage with technical assistance providers, including those contracted by CDSS, to support program growth, expansion, and improvement by attending meetings and trainings and contributing to technical assistance efforts, such as process mapping, program design, and case conferencing exercises.
- 5) Respond to requests for program progress reports, updates, expenditure information, including amount spent on prevention services, administrative costs, direct services and financial assistance, or program assessments as requested by CDSS, including but not limited to:
 - a) For new grantees, implementation updates related to program ramp up at least every six months and then annually, after program implementation and until awarded amount is fully spent.
 - b) For existing grantees, annual implementation updates in accordance with a schedule as determined by CDSS.
 - c) For new and existing grantees, submit more frequent program updates if determined necessary by CDSS due to program performance.

ATTACHMENT FIVE: FY 2021-22 HOME SAFE DIRECTOR'S CERTIFICATION

- 6) Maximize spending on direct financial assistance and minimize administrative costs in order to ensure that all Home Safe participants are provided housing assistance.
- 7) Utilize Emergency Rental Assistance Program/California COVID-19 Rent Relief before Home Safe to pay for rental backpay, when applicable.
- 8) Notify CDSS in writing at least 30 days in advance of any temporary or permanent interruption or end to Home Safe services and operations for any reason, including fully spending the given allocation.
- 9) CDSS reserves the right to reallocate Home Safe funds should a grantee be out of compliance with applicable laws or guidance issued by CDSS and if CDSS determines it is appropriate or necessary to maximize program impact throughout the state.

Shannon Gadd
I ~~[Insert Director Name]~~ certify that ~~[Insert County Name]~~ *MARIPOSA County HHSA* will administer the Home Safe pursuant to the terms outlined above and understand this is a condition of receiving Home Safe funds. The information completed within the form and attached are true and correct.




County Welfare Director Signature

11-16-21

Date

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


STEVEN W. DAHLEM
COUNTY COUNSEL

ATTACHMENT FIVE: FY 2021-22 HOME SAFE DIRECTOR'S CERTIFICATION

IV. SECTION FOUR: DECLINING FUNDS *(Only counties wishing to decline noncompetitive funds are asked to complete this section.)*

Declining Funds – Only complete if the county DOES NOT wish to accept any of the Noncompetitive Allocation outlined in Attachment Four.

Counties and tribes that do not wish to accept the Noncompetitive Allocation outlined in Attachment Four are asked to notify CDSS by completing and signing the section immediately below and returning it to housing@dss.ca.gov as soon as possible but no later than **Friday December 3, 2021**. CDSS will consider the funds declined if no response is provided to CDSS by the county or tribe by **Friday December 3, 2021**. Note: counties and tribes accepting funds should not complete this section.

To decline the funds, check the box below and complete the name and signature of the County Welfare Director:

- Decline the entire amount of Home Safe Noncompetitive Allocation available to county.

County Welfare Director Signature

Date