



COUNTY OF SONOMA

575 ADMINISTRATION
DRIVE, ROOM 102A
SANTA ROSA, CA 95403

SUMMARY REPORT

Agenda Date: 6/13/2022

To: Board of Supervisors

Department or Agency Name(s): Human Services

Staff Name and Phone Number: Mark Orlando 565-5955, Paul Dunaway 565-5950

Vote Requirement: Majority

Supervisorial District(s): Countywide

Title:

Grant Funding from the State of California Department of Veterans Affairs and Funding Agreement with Santa Rosa Junior College

Recommended Action:

- A. Authorize the Director of the Human Services Department to execute a grant agreement in the amount of \$280,000 with the State of California, Department of Veterans Affairs, to provide mental health outreach and benefits counseling to vulnerable veterans and their dependents for the period of July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2024.
- B. Authorize the Director of the Human Services Department to execute an agreement in the amount of \$294,820 with Santa Rosa Junior College to provide mental health outreach and counseling services to veterans and their dependents for the period of July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2024.

Executive Summary:

The Human Services Department (HSD) applied for new Proposition 63 grant funding through the State of California Department of Veterans Affairs (CDVA), Mental Health Services Act, and was awarded \$280,000. The funding goes from July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2024, and will provide mental health outreach and benefits counseling to vulnerable veterans and their dependents, with an emphasis on those associated with the Santa Rosa Junior College (SRJC). An additional \$14,820 of one-time Prop 63 funding given to the County annually will be split evenly over the next two fiscal years to augment the grant funds of \$280,000, bringing the total to \$294,820.

Discussion:

As the lead agency, the Adult and Aging Services Division, Veterans Services Office (VSO), will subcontract with the SRJC to continue the SRJC Veterans Collaboration. The purpose of this program is to reduce the number of veterans experiencing mental health crises and to reduce or eliminate barriers caused by mental health issues for veterans within the Sonoma County community.

This project entails collaboration between several community providers including Legal Aid of Sonoma County, Nation's Finest, SRJC, and the Sonoma County VSO. These providers will work together to provide wraparound services to veterans attending SRJC, as well as at-risk veterans living countywide. Through this effort, eligible veterans will have access to legal assistance, housing assistance, case management, mental health screening and counseling, transportation, and benefits screening and enrollment. Together, these coordinated services will continue to enhance the lives of veterans residing in Sonoma County, and will reduce the number of

veterans suffering from mental health issues who cannot or are reluctant to access care.

SRJC will spearhead this effort through a dedicated Peer Specialist who will coordinate all project activities across the various providers, and will be located on SRJC's main campus in Santa Rosa. The Specialist will refer individual veterans to the appropriate providers, including on and off-campus services.

Prior Board Actions:

July 14, 2020 - Authorized the HSD Director to execute a grant agreement in the amount of \$283,280 with the State of California Department of Veterans Affairs, Mental Health Services Act, and authorized the HSD Director to execute an agreement with Santa Rosa Junior College to implement a collaborative program for wraparound services for veterans.

June 11, 2019 - Authorized the HSD Director to execute two separate grant agreements each in the amount of \$49,000 with the State of California Department of Veterans Affairs for a period of July 1, 2019, through June 30, 2020. The agreements were for the Forgotten Warrior Project and for Sonoma County VSO Veteran Peer Specialist program.

July 12, 2016 - Approved a Grant from the State of California Department of Veterans Affairs, Mental Health Services Act, for a period from July 1, 2016, through June 30, 2017.

September 22, 2015 - Authorized the HSD Director to execute a grant agreement for \$20,000 with the State of California Department of Veterans Affairs, for the period from October 1, 2015, through June 30, 2016.

October 7, 2014 - Approved the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 State of California Department of Veterans Affairs Standard Agreement in the amount of \$25,000 for the Sonoma County VSO from November 1, 2014, through September 9, 2015.

FISCAL SUMMARY

Expenditures	FY 21-22 Adopted	FY 22-23 Projected	FY 23-24 Projected
Budgeted Expenses		\$147,410	\$147,410
Additional Appropriation Requested			
Total Expenditures	0	\$147,410	\$147,410
Funding Sources			
General Fund/WA GF			
State/Federal		\$140,000	\$140,000
Fees/Other			
Use of Fund Balance		\$7,410	\$7,410
Contingencies			
Total Sources	0	\$147,410	\$147,410

Narrative Explanation of Fiscal Impacts:

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The \$280,000 in grant funds from the State of California Department of Veterans Affairs will be split evenly over the next two fiscal years starting in FY22/23, or \$140,000 in each of two years. An additional \$14,820 of one-time Prop 63 disbursement given to the County will also be split evenly over the next two fiscal years starting in FY22/23, or \$7,410 annually. This additional funding of \$14,820 will be used to augment the grant funds of \$280,000 for a total of \$294,820 over two years.

Staffing Impacts:			
Position Title (Payroll Classification)	Monthly Salary Range (A-I Step)	Additions (Number)	Deletions (Number)

Narrative Explanation of Staffing Impacts (If Required):

None

Attachments:

- Attachment 1 - CDVA Agreement
- Attachment 2 - SRJC Agreement
- Attachment 3 - Award Letter

Related Items "On File" with the Clerk of the Board:

None