



Legislation Text

File #: 2020-0616, **Version:** 1

To: Sonoma County Board of Supervisors

Department or Agency Name(s): Human Services

Staff Name and Phone Number: Paul Dunaway, 565-3673 & Mark Orlando, 565-5950

Vote Requirement: Majority

Supervisory District(s): Countywide

Title:

Grant from the State of California, Department of Veterans Affairs, Mental Health Services Act

Recommended Action:

- A) Authorize the Director of the Human Services Department to execute a grant agreement in the amount of \$283,280 with the State of California, Department of Veterans Affairs, for the period of July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2022 which will provide mental health outreach and benefits counseling to vulnerable men and women veterans and dependents.
- B) Authorize the Director of the Human Services Department to execute an agreement in the amount of \$294,912 with the Santa Rosa Junior College (SRJC) for the period of July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2022. This agreement will implement an SRJC Veterans Collaboration program providing wraparound services by veterans to veterans attending SRJC, as well as at-risk veterans living Countywide.

Executive Summary:

The Human Services Department applied for new Proposition 63 grant funding through the California Department of Veterans Affairs (CDVA), Mental Health Services Act, and was awarded \$283,280. The funding is for the period of July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2022, and will provide mental health outreach and benefits counseling to vulnerable men and women veterans and dependents with an emphasis on those associated with the Santa Rosa Junior College (SRJC).

Discussion:

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

This project will entail collaboration between several community providers including Legal Aid of Sonoma County, Veterans Resource Centers of America, SRJC, and the Sonoma County VSO office. 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 benefit screening and enrollment services. Together, these services will enhance the lives of veterans residing in Sonoma County, and will reduce the number of veterans suffering from mental health issues who cannot access care.

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

Prior Board Actions:

6-11-2019- Authorized the HSD Director to execute two separate grant agreements each in the amount of \$49,000 with the State of California Department of Veteran Affairs (CalVet) for period of 7-1-2019 to 6-30-2020. One for the Forgotten Warrior Project and the other for Sonoma County Veterans Service Office Veteran Peer Specialist Program.

7-12-2016 - Approved a Grant for the State of California, Dept of Veterans Affairs, Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), Proposition 63 for period of 7-1-16 to 6-30-17.

9-22-2015 - Authorized the HSD Director to execute a grant agreement for \$20,00 with the State of California, Dept of Veterans Affairs, for the period of 10-1-2015 to 6-30-2016.

10-7-2014 - Approved the FY2014-15 California Dept of Veterans Affairs Standard Agreement in the amount of \$25,000 for the Sonoma County Veterans Service Office, Prop 63. 11-1-2014 to 9-30-2015.

FISCAL SUMMARY

| Expenditures | FY 20-21 Adopted | FY21-22 Projected | FY 22-23 Projected |
|---|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Budgeted Expenses | \$147,456 | \$147,456 | |
| Additional Appropriation Requested | | | |
| Total Expenditures | \$147,456 | \$147,456 | |
| Funding Sources | | | |
| General Fund/WA GF | | | |
| State/Federal | \$141,640 | \$141,640 | |
| Fees/Other *From prior one-time Prop 63 disbursement to the County given in CY 2019 | \$5,816 | \$5,816 | |
| Use of Fund Balance | | | |
| Contingencies | | | |
| Total Sources | \$147,456 | \$147,456 | |

Narrative Explanation of Fiscal Impacts:

The funding is included in the adopted 20/21 budget. No additional appropriations are needed. The \$283,280 additional revenue will be split evenly over 2 years starting in FY20-21. A previously available \$11,632 will be used to augment the \$283,280 and also be split evenly between the 2 years.

| Staffing Impacts: | | | |
|---|------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Position Title (Payroll Classification) | Monthly Salary Range (A-I Step) | Additions (Number) | Deletions (Number) |
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Narrative Explanation of Staffing Impacts (If Required):

None

Attachments:

1. CDVA Agreement
2. SRJC Agreement
3. Award Letter

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

None