



# OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

COUNTY OF VENTURA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

ERIK NASARENKO

District Attorney

May 21, 2024

Board of Supervisors  
County of Ventura  
800 South Victoria Avenue  
Ventura, CA 93009

**Subject:** Authorization for the District Attorney to Accept a Donation from the Ventura County Community Foundation (VCCF) to Establish an Emergency Domestic Violence Pallet Shelter at the Ventura County Family Justice Center (VFJC) and to Authorize the District Attorney or His Designee to Sign any Agreements with the VCCF Related to the Donation and Authorization of the Necessary Accounting Adjustments. (Recommendation No. 3 Requires 4/5ths Vote)

**Recommendations:**

It is recommended that your Board:

1. Authorize the District Attorney's acceptance of a donation from the VCCF in the Amount of \$440,000, Effective May 21, 2024
2. Authorize the District Attorney or his designee to sign any agreements with the VCCF related to acceptance of the donation, subject to review by County Counsel
3. Authorize the Auditor-Controller to process the necessary accounting adjustments for the following appropriations and revenue (4/5ths vote required):

Criminal Prosecution, Unit 2100-2103  
INCREASE 4012 Land Improvements

\$ 472,367

INCREASE Miscellaneous Revenue	\$ 440,000
DECREASE Salaries & Benefits	\$ 32,367

**Fiscal/Mandates Impact:**

Mandatory:	No
Source of Funding:	Ventura County Community Foundation and General Fund
Funding Match Required:	No
Impact on Other Departments:	None

Summary of Revenue and Total Costs:

	FY 2023/24	FY 2024/25 (Estimated)
Revenue:	\$ 440,000	\$ 0
Costs:		
Direct:	\$ 472,367	\$ 0
Indirect:	\$ 0	\$ 0
Total Costs:	\$ 472,367	\$ 0
Net County Cost Including Indirect:	\$ 32,367	\$ 0

Sufficient funds exist within the District Attorney's budget to absorb the net County cost.

**Current FY Budget Projection:**

Current FY 2023/2024 Budget for DAO/2103:

	Adopted Budget	Adjusted Budget	Projected Budget	Estimated Deficit/(Savings)
Appropriations	\$45,697,950	\$60,271,501	\$53,026,098	\$7,245,403
Revenue	\$10,269,303	\$17,804,862	\$14,520,047	(\$3,284,815)
Net Cost	<b>\$35,428,647</b>	<b>\$42,466,639</b>	<b>\$42,135,174</b>	<b>\$3,960,588</b>

**Strategic Plan:**

This item promotes the County's Strategic Plan priorities of community safety and fiscal responsibility by utilizing external funding to provide comprehensive services to victims of crime in Ventura County.

**Discussion:**

The Ventura County Family Justice Center (VFJC) began as a pilot project in the Ventura County Superior Courthouse in March of 2019 and in its first year served 1,705 victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, elder abuse and human trafficking. The VFJC facility is now located at 3170 Loma Vista Road in Ventura, in a 15,000 square foot facility with 15 on-site partnering service providers, and has served more than 10,000 crime victims and their families.

The vast majority of these victims are Medi-Cal enrollees, Latina with two or more minor children, and victims of domestic violence (approximately 80%). Nearly 22% of them are either Mixteco or Spanish speakers and many have limited transportation and housing options.

Currently there are only 24 dedicated domestic violence emergency shelter beds serving all of Ventura County. Routinely these facilities operate at full capacity and have long waiting lists, leaving many underserved victims and their children with little option but to live in cars or hotel rooms or to return to the scene of their abuse. Acceptance of a \$440,000 donation from the VCCF will enable us to move forward with the VC Family Justice Center-Emergency DV/SA Housing project, which will provide up to 18 additional rooms for domestic violence and sexual assault victims and their children.

The VC Family Justice Center-Emergency DV/SA Housing project assists victims with emergency housing, restraining orders, U-Visas, family law matters and access to partnering agency services. Specifically, The VC Family Justice Center-Emergency DV/SA Housing project will:

- Create up to 18 additional Emergency DV/SA shelter beds on-site at the VFJC (including the first four pallet shelter units to be established in Ventura County)

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- Leverage the full services of the VFJC and its partners to provide one-on-one civil legal assistance, social services, counseling, outreach, safety planning and other victim advocacy services to underserved victims.
- Enhance partnerships with local sexual assault and child advocacy centers by providing additional emergency DV/SA housing capacity for neighboring centers in Santa Barbara County who serve domestic violence and sexual assault victims.
- Enhance justice for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, elder abuse and human trafficking crime and their families by giving victims the tools they need to recover, heal and end generational cycles of abuse and violence in the underserved communities of Ventura County.

If you have questions regarding this item, please contact Chief Deputy District Attorney Michael Jump at 654-2331 or Special Assistant District Attorney Chuck Hughes at 477-1635.

Sincerely,



ERIK NASARENKO  
District Attorney

EN/mj

cc: Sevet Johnson, PsyD., County Executive Officer  
Jeffery S. Burgh, Auditor-Controller