



COUNTY of VENTURA

COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Sevet Johnson, PsyD
County Executive Officer

Mike Pettit
Assistant County Executive Officer

Kaye Mand
County Chief Financial Officer

Shawn Atin
Assistant County Executive
Officer/
Human Resources Director
Labor Relations

September 26, 2023

Board of Supervisors
County of Ventura
800 S. Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

SUBJECT: Adoption of a Resolution Authorizing the County of Ventura to Apply for and to Accept FY 2023-24 State Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program Funding in an Amount Not to Exceed \$318,094 and for the County Executive Officer (CEO) or their Designee to Sign a Standard Agreement with the California Department of Housing and Community Development, and Amendments, and Other Documents Required for Program Implementation and Administration After Review and Approval by County Counsel (RECOMMENDATION NO. 2 REQUIRES 4/5THS VOTE)

RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that your Board:

1. Adopt the attached resolution authorizing the County of Ventura, as the Administrative Entity (AE) to apply for and accept Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) program funds for the Ventura County Continuum of Care (VCCoC) in an amount not to exceed \$318,094 and for the County Executive Officer (CEO), or their designee, to enter into the Department of Housing and Community Development's Standard Agreement, and any subsequent amendments or modifications thereto, as well as any other documents required for implementation of the program, following review and approval of such documents by County Counsel; and
2. Upon execution of the standard agreement with HCD, authorize the Auditor-Controller to Process Accounting Transactions Necessary to Increase Appropriations by \$318,094 (Requires 4/5 vote):

INCREASE 1250-1251	Services and Supplies	\$313,836
INCREASE 1250-1251	Other Financing Uses	\$4,258
INCREASE 1250-1251	Intergovernmental Revenue	\$318,094

3. Authorize the CEO, or their designee, to adjust final allocations consistent with review and ranking criteria to reflect final grant allocations.

FISCAL/MANDATES IMPACTS:

Fund S030

County Executive Office, Division 1230 - HUD Emergency Shelter Grant

Mandatory:	No
Source of Funding:	HUD - Passed through the California Emergency Solutions Grant Program
Funding Match Required:	100% (Provided by subrecipients)
Impact on Other Departments:	Minimal

Summary of Revenues and Costs:

	<u>FY 2023-24</u>	<u>FY 2024-25</u>
Revenue	318,094	0
Costs		
Direct	318,094	0
Indirect-Agency/Dept	-	-
Indirect-County CAP	-	-
Total Costs	<u>318,094</u>	<u>0</u>
Net County Cost	-	-
Recovered Indirect Costs	-	-

FY 2023-24 Budget Projection for HUD Emergency Shelter Grant – Division 1230, Unit 1231				
	Adopted Budget	Adjusted Budget	Projected Actual	Estimated Savings/(Deficit)
Appropriations	\$ 146,400	\$ 146,400	\$ 146,400	\$ 0
Revenue	\$ 146,400	\$ 146,400	\$ 146,400	\$ 0
Net Cost	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0

DISCUSSION

The State of California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD or Department) administers the ESG program with funding received from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The federal ESG program provides funding to: (1) engage homeless individuals and families experiencing homelessness; (2) improve the number and quality of emergency shelters for homeless

individuals and families; (3) help operate these shelters; (4) provide essential services to shelter residents; (5) rapidly re-house homeless individuals and families; and (6) prevent families/individuals from becoming homeless.

As the AE for the VCCoC, the County has been notified of a minimum award of \$159,047 to serve non-entitlement areas in the County – everything except the City of Oxnard who receives direct entitlement funding from HUD. The Department further indicated that additional funding will be available, but that exact amounts are unknown and therefore has recommended that jurisdictions seek, through their resolutions, authorization to accept up to twice that amount (\$318,094) in ESG program funds.

AEs are responsible for awarding State ESG funds locally to eligible service providers for eligible activities in their approved Service Areas. State ESG regulations require that AEs select qualified service providers through a process that meets the following requirements:

1. Is a fair and open competition which avoids conflicts of interest;
2. Follows procurement requirements of Part 84 of Title 24 of the Code of Federal Regulations;
3. Evaluates provider capacity and experience, including the ability to deliver services in non-entitlement areas;
4. Evaluates eligibility and quality of services, including adherence to “Core Practices” pursuant to section 8409 of the State ESG program regulations;
5. Utilizes data and considers community input to identify unmet needs;
6. Prioritizes activities that address the highest unmet need, considering other available funding and system-wide performance measures;
7. Considers project-level performance measures when evaluating proposals; and,
8. Collaborates with the local Continuum of Care (CoC) tasked by HUD to administer funding to address homelessness.

In addition, AEs must ensure that funded activities comply with the following requirements:

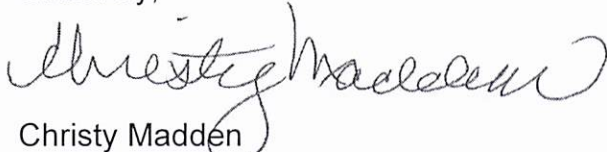
9. A minimum of 40 percent of the funds awarded on an annual basis must be used for Rapid Re-Housing (RR) activities. (AEs that are approved to administer funds for their CoC Service Area and the Service Area of a geographically contiguous Balance of State Allocation CoC must award 100% of both Service Area allocations to RR.)
10. Through the use of Coordinated Entry and other means, all funded activities must be available to non-entitlement areas of the Service Area. (AEs must facilitate outreach and access to reach populations in the non-entitlement areas and must evaluate participation from these areas at least annually. Funded activities may also serve households located in ESG Entitlement Areas.)

By the County serving as the AE, our non-profit and community partners can secure funding from HCD that they would not otherwise be entitled to receive. In accordance with HCD requirements, on behalf of the VCCoC a solicitation has been conducted for ESG funds that will be passed through the County as the AE. The VCCoC Data Performance and Evaluation Committee will use a rank and review process to make recommendations to the VCCoC Board for the initial award of \$159,047 in FY 2023-24 ESG program funding with 40% of such funds allocated to RR projects, as required by HUD regulations, and a minimum of \$4,258 awarded to the County for administrative funding. Given the relatively small amount of funds available through this program, coupled with the administrative burden for managing funding, it is anticipated that only one or two projects will be recommended for funding.

The application for funds, with general categories identified, will be submitted to HCD by the October 16, 2023, deadline. Once the Request for Proposals cycle has concluded, the VCCoC Data Performance and Evaluation Committee will rank projects for final recommendations to the VCCoC Board for approval and the County will execute subrecipient agreements to carry out those activities. It is requested that the CEO, or her designee, be authorized to adjust allocations consistent with review and ranking criteria to reflect final grant allocations.

This item has been reviewed by the offices of the Auditor-Controller and County Counsel. If you have questions regarding this item, please contact Christy Madden at 654-2679.

Sincerely,



Christy Madden
Senior Deputy Executive Officer



Sevet Johnson, PsyD
County Executive Officer

Resolution – Resolution Authorizing County as AE for the VCCoC to Apply for, Receive and Accept ESG Funds from HCD