



## COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

County Manager's Office/Clerk of the Board



**Date:** June 18, 2012

**Board Meeting Date:** June 26, 2012

**Special Notice / Hearing:** None

**Vote Required:** Majority

**To:** Honorable Board of Supervisors

**From:** John L. Maltbie, County Manager

**Subject:** San Mateo County and Silicon Valley Community Foundation Joint Food and Shelter Grant Awards

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Approve the grant awards for the 2012 San Mateo County and Silicon Valley Community Foundation Joint Food and Shelter Grant Program

### **BACKGROUND:**

In January of 2012, the Board directed the County Manager to develop a joint grant program with Silicon Valley Community Foundation to provide the most needy County residents with food and shelter assistance. The Board agreed to match the Foundation contribution of \$500,000 creating a total funding pool of \$1 million for San Mateo agencies. Concurrently with the San Mateo funding opportunity, the Foundation also offered \$500,000 funding for food and shelter services to Santa Clara based agencies.

The request for proposals for Food and Shelter grants was issued to San Mateo and Santa Clara agencies in February and proposals were due the end of March. Thirty-two proposals were received from San Mateo County agencies requesting nearly \$2 million in funding.

San Mateo County and Foundation staff jointly reviewed the funding requests against the following criteria previously approved by your Board:

- Fund programs that help low-income and disadvantaged children and adults meet their basic food and shelter needs
- Assist newly vulnerable families and individuals who are struggling due to the economic downturn
- Support agencies that serve residents in the areas of the County where the need is greatest

- Support programs that assist recently released inmates from correctional institutions
- Give priority to organizations that have existing funding relationships with either the County, the Foundation or both funders.

Foundation and County staff have jointly selected 17 San Mateo County agencies for 2012 Food and Shelter grants, plus two agencies that serve both San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties. The proposed awards are presented to your Board today for approval.

**DISCUSSION:**

The agencies recommended for Food and Shelter grants serve people throughout the County and target a number of specific populations. The proposed awards are summarized on the attached spreadsheet and highlighted below.

- Seven San Mateo County core service agencies including Samaritan House, Pacifica Resource Center, Puente la Costa Sur, Coastside Hope, North Peninsula Neighborhood Services, El Concillio and the Fair Oaks Community Center are recommended for grants that together total \$545,000.
- Other countywide food and/or shelter service providers including Second Harvest Food Bank, Shelter Network and HIP Housing are recommended for awards that total \$275,000.
- Additional recommended grantees providing food assistance include the Ecumenical Hunger Program, Senior Coastsiders, and St. Anthony's Padua Dining Room, for a total of \$50,000.
- Shelter, housing and rent assistance will also be provided by grants to the St. Vincent de Paul Family Resource Center and Project WeHOPE, a warming shelter in East Palo Alto that operates during the winter months, for a total of \$45,000.
- The other recommended grants are for services to specific populations, for a total of \$85,000. This includes \$10,000 for services provided by HandsOn Bay Area to train volunteers for food-related nonprofits; Star Vista proposal to assist foster youth is recommended for \$25,000 in funds; Peninsula Volunteers are slated for \$20,000 to provide meals to homebound seniors and individuals with disabilities; and the Mental Health Association recommended grant is \$30,000 to assist their clients apply for housing, benefits and other support services.

The recommended grant awards are projected to provide over 20,000 families and individuals with food through pantries, congregate meal sites, home delivered meals and vouchers for farmer's markets. An additional 3,000 individuals will receive housing assistance at shelters, with rent and utility vouchers, through placement in shared housing programs, and through eviction prevention programs.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The San Mateo County contribution of \$500,000 to the Food and Shelter 2012 Grant program comes from General Fund reserves. The County contribution will be wired to the Foundation, as they are serving as the fiscal managers of the 2012 grant program.