



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
Human Services Agency



Date: November 3, 2015
Board Meeting Date: December 15, 2015
Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors

From: Iliana Rodriguez, Director, Human Services Agency

Subject: Agreement with Abode Services, for Housing Locator and Case Management Services for Permanent Housing Opportunities

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a resolution authorizing an agreement with Abode Services to provide housing opportunities for chronically homeless individuals and homeless families, for the term of December 15, 2015 through June 30, 2017, in an amount not to exceed \$1,392,310.

BACKGROUND:

The County of San Mateo maintains a strong commitment to prevent and end homelessness for County residents. In March 2015, your Board adopted an allocation plan for Measure A funding for FY 2015-16 and FY 2016-17. The plan included several priority areas where new agreements for homelessness and housing, foster youth, and older adult services would be brought to the Board. There is 2.5 million dollars budgeted for Rapid Re-Housing and Housing Locator Services approved in this plan. The Human Services Agency (HSA) awarded a contract based on the Request for Proposals (RFP) process conducted by the Department of Housing's (DOH)/Housing Authority of the County of San Mateo for Housing Locator Services which was issued on April 8, 2015, with a closing date of May 15, 2015. The Review Panel was conducted on June 10, 2015. Throughout the RFP and negotiation process, DOH and HSA staff worked collaboratively to identify a secure Contractor who understood not only the distinct focus areas for each respective department, but could meet the needs of both agencies and have the ability to share best practices and resources when appropriate.

The DOH's Housing Authority is entering into an agreement with Abode Services for housing locator services for Section 8 voucher holders. Due to the countywide and shared programmatic needs for housing stability for homeless clients, HSA is leveraging their RFP process and entering into an agreement with the same Contractor, in order to maximize the Contractor's ability in working with landlords to create a comprehensive housing inventory list. HSA needs housing locator and case management services to

assist chronically homeless individuals and families by identifying available housing options for the purpose of transitioning these homeless populations into permanent housing. Due to the current challenges with affordable housing, Abode Services will implement this program in a pilot phase, determining whether the techniques that are nationally known can be effective in the current context of high cost housing in San Mateo County. With over 15 years of experience operating housing locator and case management services, Abode Services best fits the need of the County in providing housing locator and case management services.

DISCUSSION:

San Mateo County has a strong continuum of care with services to support chronically homeless individuals and families. With the high cost of housing and rent in San Mateo County, it is difficult to locate affordable housing, and furthermore, engage landlords who are willing to accept available housing vouchers. This agreement will locate affordable housing within San Mateo County with the goal of placing a higher number of chronically homeless individuals and homeless families into stable housing and reducing the homeless population and the number who require emergency sheltering.

It is anticipated that two to four (2 to 4) homeless/high need individuals/households will be placed into housing every month. For clients with fewer barriers to housing, Contractor will locate up to five (5) units per month, increasing to a maximum of 15 units per month over the course of the first year.

Additionally, this agreement will fund two (2) Housing Service Coordinators who will case manage individuals and families before and after they are placed into housing. The Coordinators will manage a combined caseload of fifty (50) to eighty (80). Contractor's staff will coordinate services with InnVision Shelter Network's programs, specifically the Homeless Outreach Teams and the Motel Voucher Program. Additional community provider referrals may be initiated after pilot program implementation, based on availability.

The resolution contains the County's standard provision allowing amendments of the County's fiscal obligation by a maximum of \$25,000 (in aggregate).

The agreement and resolution have been reviewed and approved by County Counsel as to form.

The agreement contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of a Prosperous Community by providing Housing Locator and Housing Case Management Services for San Mateo County, placing individuals and families into stable housing and reducing the homeless population and need for sheltering San Mateo County. This program serves the most vulnerable populations of San Mateo County including homeless individuals and families. It is anticipated that in FY 2015-16, twenty six (26) individuals and families will be placed into housing and that 75% will remain housed for up to six (6) months, with 70% remaining housed for up to one year. In FY 2016-17, the number of clients placed in housing is anticipated to increase to seventy (70).

PERFORMANCE MEASURE(S):

Measure	FY 2015-16 Actual	FY 2016-17 Projected
Number of clients/households placed in housing by Contractor	26	70
Percent of clients/households who stayed housed for 6 months	75%	75%
Percent of clients/household who stayed housed for 1 year	70%	70%

FISCAL IMPACT:

The term of this agreement is December 15, 2015 through June 30, 2017. The amount of this agreement is \$1,392,310. This agreement is funded with Measure-A Sales and Use tax revenues. Budgetary appropriation for this agreement is included in the FY 2015-16 Adopted Budget and the FY 2016-17 Recommended Budget. There is no net county cost.