



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
Human Services Agency



Date: March 24, 2014
Board Meeting Date: May 6, 2014
Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors

From: Iliana Rodriguez, Director, Human Services Agency

Subject: Modifications to the General Assistance Standard of Aid for Board and Care Rates

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a Resolution authorizing an increase to the maximum grant of the Supplemental Security Income board and care rate for those General Assistance recipients who reside in board and care facilities pending Supplemental Security Income approval.

BACKGROUND:

Occasionally, a General Assistance (GA) recipient, whose application for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is pending, will require the highly structured setting of a board and care facility. Since 1993, for those recipients that meet the criteria according to the GA guidelines, the maximum grant level of the current California SSI board and care rate has been allowed in order to provide recipients with the living situation which best suits their needs. If SSI is approved, the County is reimbursed for all interim assistance provided.

DISCUSSION:

The State Department of Social Services has advised counties that effective January 1, 2014, the SSI board and care rate increased from \$1,122 per month to \$1,133 per month. Therefore, the Human Services Agency is recommending changes to the County's rules and regulations for the GA program administration which would authorize the maximum grant of the SSI board and care rate for those GA recipients who reside in board and care facilities pending SSI approval, to match this increase effective as of January 1, 2014. This recommendation is brought to the Board for approval as required by Ordinance Code Section 2.30.050.

County Counsel has reviewed and approved the Resolution as to form.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The GA program office anticipates that this increase will affect between seven and ten clients per month who reside in board and care facilities and are pending SSI approval. The cost of the increase is \$11 per month per client. Assuming the higher figure of ten clients per month, the monthly cost of the increase would be \$110 with an annualized cost increase of \$1,320. Once a client receives SSI, the cost of providing interim care is reimbursed to the Human Services Agency. The proposed change, if implemented, has been included in the FY 2013-2014 Adopted Budget and will be included in the FY 2014-15 Recommended Budget.