

RESOLUTION NO. .

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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RESOLUTION: A) AUTHORIZING THE CONTRIBUTION OF \$1,000,000 IN MEASURE K FUNDS TO THE SAN MATEO COUNTY IMMIGRANT RELIEF FUND TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO RESIDENTS OF SAN MATEO COUNTY WHO HAVE BEEN ECONOMICALLY IMPACTED BY COVID-19, AND WHO ARE INELIGIBLE FOR FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS BECAUSE OF THEIR IMMIGRATION STATUS; AND B) AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MANAGER, OR HIS DESIGNEE, TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF SAN MATEO COUNTY AND MISSION ASSET FUND FOR THE CONTRIBUTION OF A TOTAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$1,000,000 TO THE SAN MATEO COUNTY IMMIGRANT RELIEF FUND AND DISTRIBUTION TO SELECTED RECIPIENTS FOR A TERM OF JULY 15, 2020 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2020

RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California, that

WHEREAS, on March 3, 2020, pursuant to Section 101080 of the California Health and Safety Code, the San Mateo County Health Officer (the “Health Officer”) declared a local health emergency throughout the County related to novel coronavirus, known as COVID-19, and the Board of Supervisors (the “Board”) ratified and extended this declaration of local health emergency, which remains in effect; and

WHEREAS, on March 3, 2020, pursuant to Section 8630 of the California Government Code and Chapter 2.46 of the San Mateo County Ordinance Code, the San Mateo County Director of Emergency Services proclaimed a local emergency throughout San Mateo County related to COVID-19, and the Board ratified and extended the proclamation of local emergency, which continues to remain in effect; and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom issued a Proclamation of State of Emergency related to COVID-19 effective throughout California; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, the Health Officer issued an order that, among other things, directed all individuals currently living within San Mateo County to shelter

in their place of residence (“County Shelter-in-Place Order”), and authorizes individuals to leave their residences only for certain “Essential Activities,” Essential Governmental Functions,” or to operate “Essential Businesses,” all as defined in the Shelter-in-Place Order; and

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-33-20, which imposed a statewide shelter-in-place order requiring individuals to remain in their places of residence except as needed to maintain continuity of operations of the federal critical infrastructure sectors or to access necessities such as food, prescriptions, and health care or other authorized activities; and

WHEREAS, on May 8, 2020, Governor Newsom announced a plan to allow the limited reopening of some businesses beyond those in the category of essential critical infrastructure, which is part of the "Resilience Roadmap" for California, the multiphase plan to modify the Statewide Shelter-In-Place Order; and

WHEREAS, several times since March 16, 2020, and most recently, on June 4, 2020, the Health Officer issued revised Shelter-in-Place Orders extending the Original Shelter-in-Place Order due to evidence of continued significant community transmission of COVID-19 within the County and throughout the Bay Area; and

WHEREAS, on June 16, 2020, the State approved the County’s request for a variance allowing the County to align with the Resilience Roadmap for California; and

WHEREAS, on June 17, 2020, the Health Officer rescinded the June 4, 2020 revised Shelter-in-Place Order and replaced it, effective immediately, with a new order aligning the County with the Statewide Shelter-in-Place Order/Resilience Roadmap, emphasizing individual behavior and the practices that businesses must follow as they resume operations, including limiting gatherings to no more than 50 people, outlining social distancing and face covering requirements, allowing for social bubbles, and

requiring businesses to implement a social distancing protocol and written health and safety plans, based on evidence of continued significant community transmission of COVID-19 within the County and throughout the Bay Area; and

WHEREAS, although the Health Officer recently issued a new order aligning the County with the Statewide Shelter-in-Place/Resilience Roadmap, the local economy will take time return to something approximating “normal”; and

WHEREAS, as the State and County begin to reopen, the number of identified COVID-19 cases continues to grow; and

WHEREAS, large numbers of County residents have lost their jobs and are struggling to make ends meet due to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, immigrant residents who do not qualify for assistance in federal financial programs due to their immigration status are particularly vulnerable, and may not have received any assistance in paying bills or feeding their families for as long as three and a half months; and

WHEREAS, the creation of a County financial assistance fund to support those residents who are ineligible for federal financial assistance programs due to their immigration status is critical; and

WHEREAS, staff identified and assessed multiple options for distributing the funds, and the San Mateo County Immigrant Relief Fund (the “Relief Fund”) was chosen as the preferred mechanism for distributing the funds; and

WHEREAS, Legal Aid Society of San Mateo County (“LASSMC”) is coordinating the Relief Fund, which will provide unrestricted financial assistance to residents of the County (individuals or families who share finances), who fall below certain income limits, do not qualify for federal assistance programs because of their

immigration status and have a demonstrated economic need as a result of COVID-19;
and

WHEREAS, Mission Asset Fund (“MAF”), a nonprofit financial services organization with expertise administering emergency COVID assistance to low-income residents, is administering the Relief Fund; and

WHEREAS, the County will make a \$1,000,000 contribution upfront to MAF, and MAF will identify and select eligible recipients through its web platform and then distribute the financial assistance from the Relief Fund to those eligible recipients; and

WHEREAS, the County’s \$1,000,000 contribution will come from unrestricted **Measure K** funds, and those who are selected to receive assistance (individuals or families who share finances) based on an assessment of demonstrated need will receive a target level of assistance of \$1,000, with a maximum of \$2,000, depending on availability of funding, to those verified applicants with a continued demonstrated need; and

WHEREAS, the County will negotiate a contribution to the Relief Fund memorialized in an agreement with LASSMC and MAF, which will include the following materials terms:

- All of the \$1,000,000 in unrestricted **Measure K** funds will be wire transferred by the County upfront to MAF and not on a reimbursement basis. MAF will then distribute the funds after it has identified, pre-screened, and prioritized selected recipients.
- LASSMC and its partner organizations will conduct outreach in their communities to raise awareness about the Fund and encourage eligible individuals to apply for relief through the Fund and assist them with the pre-application and application process.

- LASSMC will execute memoranda of understanding with all the referral partners to formalize the agreements, which memoranda will provide that LASSMC's partner organizations will help individuals access MAF's web portal for the Relief Fund, guide them through the pre-application and application process, including helping them get an email address, which is a pre-requisite to participating in the Relief Fund, and set up a checking account, if requested.
- Residents needing assistance will be pre-screened by submitting responses to a brief pre-application questionnaire on MAF's website, confirming their residency in the County, household size, whether their average monthly income for household falls below the income limits set for Economic Impact Payments under the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act, that they are ineligible for federal financial assistance (Economic Impact Payments and unemployment benefits) due to immigration status, and they have a demonstrated economic need as a result of COVID-19.
- During this pre-screening process, MAF will prioritize applicants for receipt of Grant funds based on demonstrated level of need, which may include loss of income, number of dependents, illness or disability, or other particular hardships.
- MAF will send an e-mail those who successfully complete the pre-screening process and invite them to complete an application online through MAF's secure web portal, which would require (1) uploading government issued identification (even if expired or not from the U.S.); (2) verifying their responses to the pre-application questionnaire; and (3) confirming the mode of payment for the financial assistance (i.e. direct deposit into a checking account, issuance of paper check, or issuance of a pre-paid debit card).

- MAF will then select and approve applications accordingly. Once an application is approved, MAF will deposit funds in the applicant's bank account or issue a paper check or pre-aid debit card to the applicant within two to five business days.
- Both the pre-application questionnaire and the application will be available in four languages: English, Spanish, Arabic, and Chinese.
- There will be no administrative costs charged by LASSMC or MAF associated with the County's contribution. One hundred percent (100%) of the County's contribution will be distributed to recipients in need of the financial assistance described here.
- Those who are selected to receive assistance (individuals or families who share finances) based on an assessment of demonstrated need will receive a target level of assistance of \$1,000. Depending on the availability of funding, there may be a second round of assistance given to those verified applicants with a continued demonstrated need, up to a maximum of \$2,000.
- MAF and partner organizations will report to LASSMC on invitations sent, applications completed, and number and amount(s) of payments made to County residents, and LASSMC will provide information to funders and partners (including County) on recipients, which would include location of residence (i.e. name of city or unincorporated area) and referral partner organization, if applicable.
- County funds must be distributed to eligible, selected recipients as soon as possible, but no later than December 31, 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DETERMINED AND ORDERED that the Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes the contribution of \$1,000,000 in **Measure K** funds to the San Mateo County Immigrant Relief Fund.

IT IS FURTHER DETERMINED AND ORDERED that the Board of Supervisors authorizes the County Manager or designee to execute an agreement with Legal Aid Society of San Mateo County and Mission Asset Fund to include the material terms set forth above for the contribution of a total amount not to exceed \$1,000,000 to the San Mateo County Immigrant Relief Fund and distribution to selected recipients for a term of July 15, 2020 through December 31, 2020.

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