

What are RCFEs?

Residential Care Facilities for Elderly (“RCFEs”)

- Board and care homes for individuals age 60 and older
- Licensed by State Department of Social Services, Community Care Licensing Division
- Provide residents with accommodations and care (e.g., transportation to medical appointments and assistance with daily living activities)
- There are 248 RCFEs in the County.
 - Range in size from 6 to 50 beds
 - Total of 5,346 RCFE beds in the County

RCFE Rent Costs

- Average monthly RCFE rent in California is over \$3,000.
- Costs may range from \$900 to \$5,000 per month.
- RCFE rents in the County typically range from \$4,000 to \$8,000 per month.
- Medi-Cal does not cover RCFE expenses.
- Though many RCFE residents receive monthly Social Security Income (ranging from \$1,500 to \$2,500) it often falls far short of covering RCFE rent.

RCFE Housing Insecurity and COVID-19 Impact

- Ombudsman Services of San Mateo County has noted growing concern regarding potential eviction of RCFE residents due to an inability to pay rent.
- Risk increased because of lack of alternative housing and continuing threat from COVID-19.
- According to CDC, older adults are at the highest risk from COVID-19.
 - Underlying medical conditions further increase the risk of developing severe illness from COVID-19.
 - People experiencing homelessness may be at greater risk for infection when there is community spread of COVID-19.

RCFE Rent Assistance Program

- County will contribute \$500,000 in CARES Act funds, or other funds as determined by the County Manager, to Institute on Aging to fund the RCFE Rent Assistance Program.
 - \$457,604 for grants for qualifying residents of RCFEs
 - \$42,396 for payment to IOA for administration of the Program and disbursement of grant fund
- To qualify, an applicant must be:
 - A resident of an RCFE in San Mateo County;
 - Unable pay outstanding rent or be unable to pay current or future rent due through December 30, 2020 such that the applicant is at risk of eviction; and
 - If evicted, at risk for homelessness and consequently, at heightened risk of infection or death due to COVID-19.