



county of Santa Cruz

HUMAN RESOURCES AGENCY

CECILIA ESPINOLA, ADMINISTRATOR

1000 EMELINE ST., SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060

(409) 454-4130 OR 454.4045 FAX: (408) 454-4042

February 15, 1999

AGENDA: March 2, 1999

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

County of Santa Cruz

701 Ocean Street

Santa Cruz, CA 95060

AUTHORIZATION TO APPLY FOR FEDERAL EMERGENCY SHELTER GRANT PROGRAM FUNDING FOR THE COUNTY EMERGENCY SHELTER PROGRAM

Dear Members of the Board,

On January 20, 1999, the State of California Department of Housing and Community Development announced the 1999 funding round for the Federal Emergency Shelter Grant (FESG) Program. This program provides funding to assist emergency shelters, provide essential services to the homeless and to prevent homelessness. The purpose of this letter is to inform your Board about a proposed transition in the County Emergency Shelter Program, and to seek your Board's authorization to take the necessary actions in order to apply for FESG funds to continue the Emergency Shelter Program for the next two years through 2001. The actions recommended in this letter were unanimously endorsed by the Winter Shelter Advisory Committee at their February meeting.

Emergency Program Transition in South County

The Emergency Shelter Program in Santa Cruz County has been operated for the past decade by the Interfaith Satellite Shelter Program (ISSP). In the past, the ISSP has operated the Emergency Shelter Program throughout the entire County; however, in the future the proposed plan is for the Salvation Army to expand their existing program to include emergency shelter services for everyone seeking shelter in south county.

Over the past several years, increasing numbers of families with children have been seeking shelter, and at the same time, the number of single adults seeking shelter has decreased. In response to the needs of families in the Watsonville area, the Salvation Army recently increased

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the capacity of their existing family shelter. Because of the lack of availability of the Watsonville armory and the high cost of renting the facility from the National Guard, for the past two years the Salvation Army has also provided the shelter facility and transportation for the ISSP program, which primarily serves single adults. Within the next two years, the Salvation Army intends to construct an additional permanent shelter facility serving both families and single adults on an adjacent site, and they have expressed an interest in providing emergency shelter for the homeless regardless of family status beginning in the winter of 1999.

After reviewing the historical demand for shelter and the existing capacity, City of Watsonville and County staff have determined that, given the new Salvation Army facility and other existing programs, the most efficient use of resources is to transition the responsibility for emergency shelter in south county to the Salvation Army. The Salvation Army will continue the involvement of the churches and provide services to the general homeless population in conjunction with the Pajaro Valley Rescue Mission. The proposed program transition will insure the coordination of services and is consistent with the long range plan for providing shelter in South County. The ISSP Board and staff have encouraged this transition because they believe it will allow them to better focus on improvements to the existing program, including better serving families with children and homeless persons with jobs. The ISSP, which still provides the majority of emergency shelter beds in the community, will continue to operate in the remainder of the county (from Aptos to Santa Cruz). The Winter Shelter Advisory Committee discussed the proposed transition to the Salvation Army in south county at their February 4 meeting and unanimously supported the recommended program change.

FESG Grant Application Process

In 1997, the County of Santa Cruz Human Resources Agency was awarded \$300,000 in FESG funds, which provided the majority of the operation and services funding for the County Emergency Shelter Program operated by the ISSP. It is appropriate for the Human Resources Agency to continue to play a key role in coordinating and obtaining funding and resources for the County Emergency Shelter Program. Thus, the Agency will again apply for FESG funds for the Emergency Shelter Program on behalf of ISSP, and Agency staff will also provide technical assistance and support to the Salvation Army in the preparation of their FESG funding application. In addition, staff will coordinate both funding applications to insure that there are no gaps in the County-wide emergency shelter program.

In order to complete funding applications for the emergency shelter program it is necessary for your Board to authorize application for the funds. A resolution authorizing the Agency Administrator to apply for the grant in the amount of \$3 11,397 has been prepared for your Board's consideration (Attachment 1). In addition, the Human Resources Agency Administrator should be directed to provide the Salvation Army with a letter of support for their

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grant application

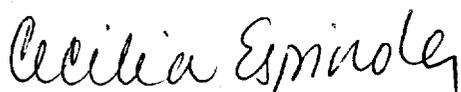
Conclusion and Recommendations

The County Emergency Shelter Program is the first step in connecting the homeless with services such as counseling, job training and health care, and thus, the program is an essential part of the solution to the individual and community problem of homelessness. In addition, emergency shelter programs continue to provide a safety net until permanent housing is found. The recommended actions before your Board today will insure that continued funding is provided for this critical community service.

IT IS THEREFORE RECOMMENDED THAT your Board take the following actions:

1. Approve the Resolution included as Attachment 1, authorizing the Human Resources Agency Administrator to apply for FESG funding on behalf of the ISSP; and
2. Direct the Human Resources Agency Administrator to provide a letter of support to the Salvation Army for their FESG funding application.

Very Truly Yours,



CECILIA ESPINOLA
 Human Resources Agency Administrator

Attachment

CG:SG:sg:ehap98.bos

RECOMMENDED



Susan A. Mauriello
 County Administrative Officer

cc County Counsel
 Human Resources Agency
 Inter-Faith Satellite Shelter Program
 Salvation Army
 City of Watsonville

BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF THE COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION NO.
On the motion of Supervisor
duly seconded by Supervisor
the following resolution is adopted.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF
FEDERAL EMERGENCY SHELTER GRANT APPLICATION
AND EXECUTION OF A STANDARD AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE**

WHEREAS, the State of California Department of Housing and Community Development, Division of Community Affairs, issued a Request for Proposals under the Federal Emergency Shelter Grant (FESG) Program; and

WHEREAS, the County of Santa Cruz is a County and is willing to accept the grant; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Cruz Citizens Committee for the Homeless/Interfaith Satellite Shelter Program is a nonprofit corporation and is willing to enter into a contract with the County of Santa Cruz to provide shelter and services to the homeless; and

WHEREAS, if the County of Santa Cruz receives a grant from the Federal Emergency Shelter Grant Program, it certifies that all uses of the funds will be in compliance with Federal Emergency shelter Grant Program Regulations and Contract;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED that the Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes the Human Resources Agency Administrator to execute all required certifications, apply for and accept the Federal Emergency Shelter Grant in the amount not more than \$3 11,397, and to enter into a Standard Agreement and any amendment thereto with the Department of Housing and Community Development of not more than \$3 11,397, and to perform any and all responsibilities in relationship to such contract.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Cruz, State of California, this 2nd day of March 1999, by the following vote:

AYES: SUPERVISORS
NOES: SUPERVISORS
ABSENT SUPERVISORS

Chairperson of the Board of Supervisors

ATTEST: _____
Clerk of said Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Lee Gulliver

County Counsel
Lee Gulliver

Distribution: County Administrative Officer
County Counsel
Auditor-Controller
Human Resources Agency