



HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY
ADMINISTRATION

COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

P.O. BOX 962, 1080 EMELINE AVENUE
SANTA CRUZ, CA 95061
(408) 454-4066 FAX: (408) 454-4770
TDD: (408) 454-4123

March 10, 1999

AGENDA: March 23, 1999

Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Cruz
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

SUBJECT: APPLICATION FOR DRUG COURT FUNDS

Dear Board Members:

This letter is to request your Board's approval for the Health Services Agency (HSA) Alcohol and Drug Program to submit an application to the State Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs for \$125,000 per year in funding for four years to support enhancement of the existing Drug Court program.

The request for applications was issued by the State on March 5, 1999. The funding is available from the Drug Court Partnership Act of 1998 (SB 1587, Baca), and is for post plea, adult Drug Courts only. The funding is intended primarily for enhancement of existing Drug Courts, rather than development of new Drug Courts.

The existing Drug Court admitted its first clients on January 22, 1999 and has capacity for 75 clients in the year-long, intensive outpatient program. Clients are drug and alcohol tested frequently, and make frequent appearances before the Drug Court judge where treatment progress, drug and alcohol test results, and progress in obtaining employment, clean and sober housing and other issues are reviewed. The alcohol and drug treatment, which is provided by the ALTO Counseling Center, is closely coordinated with the courts to make maximum use of the leverage of the court to encourage progress in treatment.

The Drug Court is overseen by the Drug Court Steering Committee, which is comprised of representatives of the Courts, District Attorney, Public Defender, Probation, Sheriff, County Administrative Office, Criminal Justice Council, and the HSA Alcohol and Drug Program. The Drug Court Steering Committee meets monthly to review progress in implementing the Drug Court program, and resolve policy issues that arise during the day-to-day operation of the Drug Court. The Drug Court Steering Committee was responsible for planning the current Drug Court program, and overseeing the development of two grants to support its operation.

The grant application is in the process of development, and is due to the State on April 12, 1999. The Drug Court Steering Committee has discussed unmet needs in the existing Drug


Court, including clean and sober housing for Drug Court clients, specialized services for dual diagnosis clients, and support for courts and other criminal justice system services related to the Drug Court. The Steering Committee will continue to meet to refine unmet needs and develop a detailed proposal to expand the number of clients served and fill gaps in the array of services for Drug Court participants.

The request for applications requires that the County provide a 10 percent in-kind or cash match for the first two years of operation, and a 20 percent match for the third and fourth years. These match requirements can be met through existing non-grant services provided to Drug Court participants. The grant will not result in any new Net County cost. Support for administrative costs associated with the program will be included in the grant application.

It is, therefore, RECOMMENDED that your Board:

1. Authorize the Health Services Agency Alcohol and Drug Program to submit a proposal to the State Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs for \$125,000 per year for four years to support enhancement of the Drug Court program; and
2. Authorize the Chairperson of the Board of Supervisors to write a letter in support of the grant application.

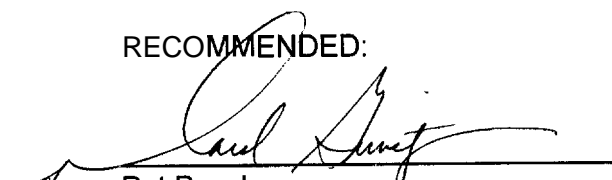
Sincerely,



Charles M. Moody
Health Services Agency Administrator

CMM:WM:js

RECOMMENDED:



Pat Busch
Acting County Administrative Officer

cc: County Administrative Officer
Auditor-Controller
County Counsel
Alcohol and Drug Program Administrator
Executive Officer of the Court
District Attorney
Public Defender
Probation Department
Sheriff