



county of santacruz

HUMAN RESOURCES AGENCY

CECILIA ESPINOLA, ADMINISTRATOR

1000 EMELINE ST., SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060

(408) 454-4130 OR 454-4045 FAX: (408) 454-4642

August 1, 1999

Agenda: August 17, 1999

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

County of Santa Cruz

701 Ocean Street

Santa Cruz, CA 95060

REQUEST FROM THE CITY OF SANTA CRUZ FOR ASSISTANCE WITH HOMELESS COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS

Dear Members of the Board:

As a part of last day budget actions in June of this year, your Board indicated your willingness to allocate up to \$10,000 for facility improvements at the Homeless Service Center in order to establish a daytime respite site for families with children. Your Board also referred the request to the Human Resources Agency for further review, analysis and a recommendation regarding the specific amount of funding needed. In addition, the Human Resources Agency was asked to determine if there are similar needs for daytime respite in South County. The purpose of this letter is to provide your Board with an update on the proposed facility improvements and information on the needs of homeless women and children in South County.

As noted in previous correspondence the daytime respite room is a part of a larger site renovation including the construction of a kitchen and additional office space for administrative staff. Based on conceptual plans, the preliminary estimate for the entire project was \$351,000, which was anticipated to be fully provided through CDBG funds. The necessary space for the daytime respite room is a part of the larger project because the project renovations will allow staff to move out of an existing office space. This existing space can be converted to a daytime respite room with minimal expenses, however the cost to relocate administrative staff is approximately \$80,305. Santa Cruz City staff is currently in the process of preparing a more detailed project cost estimate based on specific construction plans. They anticipate that this cost estimate will be completed by the beginning of September. At that time it will be possible to determine if there is a funding gap between the existing CDBG funds and the actual project cost, and whether County funds are needed to make the creation of the daytime respite room possible.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Agenda: August 17, 1999

Homeless Community Resource Center Request

Page 2

HRA staff has contacted Pajaro Valley Shelter Services and the Salvation Army who are the main homeless shelter providers in South County to determine whether or not a similar need for daytime respite room exists. Both programs serve primarily serve homeless women and their children. Pajaro Valley Shelter Services operates a 24-hour emergency shelter and provides comprehensive activities for their clients including case management, child care, job training and housing and transportation services. The emergency shelter operated by the Salvation Army is not open 24 hours. However, daytime programs for women and children are also offered at the Salvation Army site. Both programs also operate transitional housing specifically for women and their children and offer this housing to clients from their emergency shelters. Defensa de Mujeres also offers 24 hour shelter to women who are victims of domestic violence victims and who may also be homeless. At this time these programs appear to meet the daytime needs of homeless women and children in South County.

Because specific information on the Homeless Resource Center renovation costs will not be available before the beginning of September, it would be appropriate to continue consideration of the City of Santa Cruz' request until the last board meeting in September. IT IS THEREFORE RECOMMENDED that your Board take the following actions:

1. Accept and file the information in this letter regarding the needs of homeless women and children in South County; and
2. Direct the Human Resources Agency Administrator to return on or before September 28, 1999 with an analysis and recommendation regarding the City of the Santa Cruz' request for assistance with the Homeless Community Resource Center renovations.

Very truly yours,



CECILIA ESPINOLA
Administrator

Attachments

CE:SG:sg:hcrccity.bos

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Agenda: August 17, 1999

Homeless Community Resource Center Request

Page 3

RECOMMENDED:



Susan A. Mauriello

County Administrative Officer

cc. Councilman Keith Sugar, City of Santa Cruz
Gene Arner, City of Santa Cruz
Ken Cole, Executive Director, Homeless Community Resource Center