



DEPARTMENT OF

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Promoting and protecting health, well-being, self-sufficiency, and safety of all in Marin County.



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May 7, 2024

Marin County Board of Supervisors
3501 Civic Center Drive
San Rafael, CA 94903

SUBJECT: Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Homelessness and Coordinated Care, requests approval of a First Amendment to the agreement with Richardson Bay Regional Agency to extend the term to June 30, 2025, with no change to the accepted grant amount of \$344,680 or scope of services to support housing-based case management services. (Amendment)

Dear Supervisors:

RECOMMENDATION: Authorize the President to execute a First Amendment to the grant award agreement with Richardson Bay Regional Agency, extending the term to June 30, 2025, with no change to the awarded amount of \$344,680 or scope of services.

SUMMARY:

On April 18, 2023, your Board accepted a \$344,680 grant from the Richardson Bay Regional Agency (RBRA) to provide short-term housing-based case management to people living on the water.

After the Department received the award, staff worked with RBRA to identify and prioritize individuals for the program and issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a partner organization to provide these services. Episcopal Community Services was selected as the contractor through the RFP. On August 15, 2023, your Board approved an agreement with Episcopal Community Services in the amount of \$344,680 through June 30, 2024 to provide outreach and housing-based case management services supported by the RBRA grant award funds.

The Department is returning to your board to request approval of the proposed First Amendment with RBRA, extending the grant term to June 30, 2025 with no change to the scope of services or \$344,680 grant award. The Department will return to your Board at a later date to amend the agreement with Episcopal Community Services to extend the term to June 30, 2025 with no change in the scope of services or agreement amount of \$344,680 to provide outreach services and housing-based case management to prioritized participants living on the water in Richardson Bay.

COMMUNITY BENEFIT: Most individuals living anchored in Richardson Bay (“anchor outs”) are considered legally homeless, and the anchorage has become a de facto homeless encampment. Many anchor outs have lived on their vessels for years or sometimes decades and are very disconnected from the community

on land. Additionally, because of their location on water, it is difficult for outreach teams to build trusting relationships with many anchor outs, a necessary first step to transitioning to housing. The proposed First Amendment will support regular case management visits to anchor outs still on the water to begin the housing process, as well as case management support throughout the housing search and transition to a permanent unit. As people stabilize in their permanent housing, they are exited from the caseload and new participants added. To the extent possible, anchor outs who are likely to require long-term case management support will be assigned to other programs.

EQUITY IMPACT: In the general population, African Americans and Latinx people face many barriers that ensure that they remain on the lowest end of the economic spectrum and are therefore significantly overrepresented in Marin’s homeless population. People experiencing homelessness or recently housed in Marin are dying at higher rates and are dying 22 years earlier than the general Marin population, and their causes of death are most often medical or behavioral health conditions. As people living on Richardson Bay are disconnected from healthcare, they are at greater risk for these outcomes. The proposed First Amendment to the RBRA grant award agreement will provide culturally and linguistically appropriate care to facilitate transition to permanent housing and connection to other assistance, including medical and behavioral health care.

FISCAL IMPACT: There is no increase to the General Fund Net County cost associated with this request. With your Board’s approval, the proposed \$344,680 First Amendment to the grant award agreement, extending the term of the agreement by twelve months to June 30, 2025. Awarded funds are already fully budgeted in the Homeless program (28051602). The Department will return to your Board to amend the agreement with Episcopal Community Services. The agreement allows for cancellation, with sixty days’ notice, should either party wish to terminate.

REVIEWED BY:

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Office of the County Executive | <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Department of Finance | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | N/A |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | County Counsel | <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Human Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | N/A |

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Warhuus, PhD
Director