



**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL**

(1) DEPARTMENT Health Agency	(2) MEETING DATE 12/15/2020	(3) CONTACT/PHONE Megan O'Brien, 805-788-2723	
(4) SUBJECT Request for permission to apply for a Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development Grant under the California Reinvestment Grants Program (CALCRG) in the total amount of \$900,000 for a thirty-six month period from May 2021 – April 2024 to support job placement, behavioral health treatment, system navigation, and linkages to medical care for communities disproportionately affected by past federal and state drug policies. All Districts.			
(5) RECOMMENDED ACTION It is recommended that the Board grant permission to the Health Agency to apply for a Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development Grant under the California Reinvestment Grants Program (CALCRG) in the total amount of \$900,000 for a thirty-six month period from May 2021 – April 2024 to support job placement, behavioral health treatment, system navigation, and linkages to medical care for communities disproportionately affected by past federal and state drug policies.			
(6) FUNDING SOURCE(S) Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development Grant	(7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT \$0.00	(8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT \$300,000 (FY 2021-22) \$300,000 (FY 2022-23) \$300,000 (FY 2023-24)	(9) BUDGETED? No
(10) AGENDA PLACEMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing (Time Est. _____) <input type="checkbox"/> Board Business (Time Est. _____)			
(11) EXECUTED DOCUMENTS <input type="checkbox"/> Resolutions <input type="checkbox"/> Contracts <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinances <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A			
(12) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR) N/A		(13) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED? BAR ID Number: <input type="checkbox"/> 4/5th's Vote Required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	
(14) LOCATION MAP N/A	(15) BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT? N/A	(16) AGENDA ITEM HISTORY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A Date _____	
(17) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW Morgan Torell			
(18) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S) All Districts			



## COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Michael Hill, Health Agency Director  
Penny Borenstein, MD, MPH, Health Officer

DATE: 12/15/2020

SUBJECT: Request for permission to apply for a Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development Grant under the California Reinvestment Grants Program (CALCRG) in the total amount of \$900,000 for a thirty-six month period from May 2021 – April 2024 to support job placement, behavioral health treatment, system navigation, and linkages to medical care for communities disproportionately affected by past federal and state drug policies. All Districts.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Board grant permission to the Health Agency to apply for a Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development Grant under the California Reinvestment Grants Program (CALCRG) in the total amount of \$900,000 for a thirty-six month period from May 2021 – April 2024 to support job placement, behavioral health treatment, system navigation, and linkages to medical care for communities disproportionately affected by past federal and state drug policies.

### **DISCUSSION**

The Health Agency's Public Health Department submitted a grant application in response to the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development - California Reinvestment Grants Program (CALCRG) Funding Opportunity Announcement released September 21, 2020. The application was due by November 2 and was submitted electronically via the grant application portal. Public Health is retroactively requesting the Board provide permission to apply, given the short application timeline and the inability to bring the request to the Board before the submission deadline. The grant offered by CALCRG, in the total amount of \$900,000, will support the department's expansion of the Whole Person Care Program and partnerships with community-based organizations, Transitions-Mental Health Association (TMHA) and Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo (CAPSLO), to provide job placement, behavioral health treatment, system navigation, and linkages for a period of thirty-six (36) months (May 2021 – April 2024). Grant award announcements are anticipated in the spring 2021.

CALCRG aims to address disproportionately affected communities impacted by federal and state drug policies. These policies negatively impacted justice-involved individuals with a history of substance use by increasing poverty rates and disparities in income per capita, increasing behavioral health risk factors particularly in communities of color, and

increasing school drop-out rates. Although the County is not identified geographically by the grantors as one of the jurisdictions with the highest drug-related arrest rates, SLO County does meet grant criteria based on high percentages of the population representing communities of color, poverty rates, and school dropout rates in specific census tracts in North and South County, and the City of San Luis Obispo. These census tracks also meet grant criteria by showing a higher incidence of justice-involved individuals with drug-related charges. If awarded, the goal of the Public Health department will be to utilize a whole person, integrated approach to target the specific needs of clients, to connect clients with needed services in a coordinated way, to build community capacity for wellness and recovery. The grant solicitation identified eligible applicants that include, among others, local health departments and community-based service providers able to work collaboratively to provide an array of comprehensive services for individuals with a history of justice involvement and drug-related offenses in our community. The Public Health department has a long, collaborative history with TMHA and CAPSLO who are willing to partner, once again, on this effort, and who contributed information and program planning for the application.

If awarded, the CALCRG will provide services and support to individuals adversely impacted by drug policies in the following manner:

- Develop and implement career planning and coaching, employment assignment, and financial literacy classes;
- Establish follow-up and care coordination by providing and engaging clients with mental health and substance use assessment, connection, prevention, early intervention, outreach, and education to improve overall behavioral health symptoms;
- Provide and sustain system navigation services by engaging in one-on-one services, identification of clients' needs, and reduction of barriers to health care access and services; and
- Work across systems to ensure access to health care insurance, preventive care information and services, primary care providers, and community-based organizations expanding health education and counseling services.

#### **OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT/IMPACT**

The grant proposal includes partnerships with TMHA and CAPSLO. A collaborative agreement form has been completed and agreed upon by all three organizations. In addition, the County Whole Person Care Program Manager (funded by the Whole Person Care Grant) will be involved in the development, implementation, and evaluation of the activities and interventions related to the comprehensive and integrative care of the grant, which includes referrals and linkages with the other community organizations such as Eckerd Connects Workforce Development, Echo Homeless Shelter, Restorative Partners, and others.

#### **FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Based on allowable costs, the total grant budget being requested over thirty-six months is \$900,000, with \$300,000 allocated to each partnered organization. This budget will include:

- (1) \$300,000 for a 1.00 FTE Limited Term Behavioral Health Specialist I located at County Behavioral Health to provide mental health and substance use assessment, connection, prevention, outreach, education, and coordination of behavioral health services and response as needed by the clients. This amount will also include supplies including telehealth equipment if needed;
- (2) \$300,000 for a 1.00 FTE Employment Specialist and 0.50 FTE Peer Navigator/Mentor located at TMHA. The Employment Specialist will provide career planning and coaching, help with interviewing skills, and financial

literacy. The Peer Navigator will provide one-on-one mentorship and system navigation to behavioral health and ancillary services. This amount will also include supplies including telehealth equipment if needed; and (3) \$300,000 for 1.00 FTE Family Advocate located at CAPSLO to provide family system support, system navigation of services, identification of clients' needs, reduction of barriers to access to care, preventive care information, and primary care provider connectivity. This amount will also include supplies including telehealth equipment if needed.

The application was submitted to CALCRG November 2, 2020. If awarded, the Health Agency will return to the Board for approval of the grant agreement which will further outline the budget and other project requirements, including the County and funder's ongoing roles and responsibilities. There is no match required and there will be no impact to the General Fund.

## **RESULTS**

Public Health's proposal outlines interventions that are consistent with the practices and requirements of the grant as it relates to services to enhance and reduce barriers experienced by justice-involved and drug-related communities. These practices and services have demonstrated effectiveness in engaging clients in a comprehensive approach that promotes and maintains access to services from job placement, to medical care, to substance use and mental health services. The proposal submitted by Public Health focuses on the following outcomes:

Outcome 1: The grant will provide two hundred fifty to three hundred (250-300) clients with career planning and coaching, employment assignment, and financial literacy.

Outcome 2: The grant will provide one hundred to one hundred fifty (100-150) clients with mental health assessment connection, prevention, early intervention, outreach, and education services to improve mental health symptoms.

Outcome 3: The grant will provide one hundred to one hundred fifty (100-150) clients with substance use disorders assessment connection, screenings, early intervention, outreach, and education to improve substance use behaviors.

Outcome 4: The grant will provide two hundred fifty to three hundred (250-300) clients with navigation services by providing one-on-one engagement, identification of service provision that best match the clients' needs, and retention of services.

Outcome 5: The grant will provide one hundred to one hundred fifty (100-150) clients with access to health insurance, preventive care information, primary care providers, and community organizations providing health education and counseling services.

If awarded, CALCRG will issue additional performance indicators the County will be required to monitor. Client-level data collected from grantees includes demographics, substance use and abuse services, mental health and physical health functioning, and other key variables.

The department will collect data required as part of the CALCRG project and analyze that information to manage, monitor, and enhance the program. Data collected during the grant will assess performance by tracking short- and long-term outcomes, as well as process outcomes which will provide community partners with tools for continuous needs assessment, and the Public Health Department with important information in designing future programming.

If awarded, the grant will help Public Health achieve its mission of working in collaboration with the community to provide services necessary to improve the integrative health approach and safety of individuals and families affected by federal and state drug policies targeting vulnerable populations. By increasing the probability of positive early intervention and treatment outcomes, Public Health continues to contribute to the County vision of a safe and healthy community.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. CalCRG Grant Solicitation
2. County of San Luis Obispo Health Agency Grant Application
3. Collaborative Application Declaration Form