



Legislation Text

File #: 19-1619, **Version:** 1

Health and Human Services Agency recommending the Board:

- 1) Authorize the submission of a grant application to the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services for the Elder Abuse Program, for Fiscal Years 2019-20 and 2020-21, for an estimated grant amount of \$200,000;
- 2) Approve and authorize the Director of Health and Human Services Agency and Chair to Sign the Certification of Assurance of Compliance, pertaining to the Request for Application, as required by the grant;
- 3) Delegate authority to the Director of Health and Human Services Agency to accept funding and execute the grant agreement, if awarded, including any extensions or amendments that do not increase the total funding; and
- 4) Authorize the Director of Health and Human Services Agency, or the Chief Fiscal Officer, to execute and administer any agreement or subsequent administrative documents relating to said award, including required fiscal and programmatic reports.

FUNDING: Federal funding from the 2018 Victims of Crime Act, in the amount of \$200,000, requiring a match contribution of \$50,000, which will be matched with a time commitment by Senior Legal services and/or additional volunteer hours.

DISCUSSION / BACKGROUND

On July 19, 2016, the Board approved the Health and Human Services Agency Director to execute a grant agreement with the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) in the amount of \$400,000 for the Elder Abuse Program, with a term extending from July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2018 (Item #16-0715). The proposal submitted outlined a partnership between the El Dorado County Health and Human Services Agency and the District Attorney's Office, which would consist of a Social Worker, a Victim Witness Specialist, and civil legal assistance from Senior Legal Services, who would together work to ensure more efficient collaboration between County departments working to assist victims of elder abuse. The program also mandated \$100,000 in matching funds which was met by an in-kind contribution of volunteer hours, as well as time and activities of Senior Legal services.

On September 26, 2017, the Board authorized the Health and Human Services Agency to accept an additional \$300,000 in funding, extending the term of the grant through December 31, 2019. Subsequent to the extension, the Board also authorized via personnel resolutions a change from the original Social Worker position proposed to a Program Coordinator, as the model for services changed as a result of changes in the type of services provided to meet client and community demands.

On October 16, 2019, Cal OES released a new Request for Applications for the Elder Abuse Program, allowing those counties who had previously participated in the program to continue participation for one additional year, a term extending from January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020 with a grant amount of \$200,000. The new grant period carries a proportionate match requirement of \$50,000, which will be met by an additional contribution of time and activities by Senior Legal

services as well potentially additional volunteer hours.

It is anticipated HHSA's Elder Abuse Program will undergo additional program level changes for 2020, which will include a focus on public awareness and outreach, coordination between agencies and organizations serving victims of elder abuse, and serving elder abuse victims of financial exploitation.

ALTERNATIVES

Should the Board decline to approve this recommendation, the County would be ineligible to participate in the Elder Abuse Program for 2020.

PRIOR BOARD ACTION

- 1) 16-0715 on July 19, 2016
- 2) 16-0715 v2, on September 26, 2017
- 3) 16-0715 v3, on December 19, 2017

OTHER DEPARTMENT / AGENCY INVOLVEMENT

Certification of Assurance of Compliance is identical to the Certification approved by County Counsel and Risk Management for the County Victim Services Program.

CAO RECOMMENDATION / COMMENTS

It is recommended that the Board approve this item.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

By accepting funding through the Elder Abuse Program, the County becomes responsible for ensuring the match obligation associated with the funding is met. Should the County fail to account for the required \$50,000 in match funding, the County would become responsible for repaying any of the \$200,000 grant funds that were not matched.

In its current iteration, Senior Legal services contributes time and activities in support of civil legal assistance for victims of elder abuse. Under the current model, match is being met sufficiently to meet the requirements of the grant.

CLERK OF THE BOARD FOLLOW UP ACTIONS

- 1) Clerk of the Board to obtain signature of Chair on the required certification; and return said certification to HHSA at 3057 Briw Rd promptly to submit to Cal OES by November 22, 2019;
- 2) Clerk of the Board to provide a Certified Minute Order to HHSA upon approval of the Minutes by the Board.

STRATEGIC PLAN COMPONENT

County Strategic Goal: "Health Communities, Improved Health, Well-being, and Self-sufficiency of El Dorado County communities, residents, and visitors."

CONTACT

Don Semon, Director