



**MEMORANDUM
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES**
County of Placer

TO: Board of Supervisors
DATE: May 3, 2016
FROM: Jeffrey S. Brown, M.P.H., M.S.W., Director of Health and Human Services
SUBJECT: Homeless Shelter Services – Volunteers of America

ACTION REQUESTED

Approve the award of competitive Request for Proposals No. 10535 to Volunteers of America Northern California and Northern Nevada, Inc. (“VOA”) for Homeless Shelter Services in the maximum amount of \$455,000 for the period of June 1, 2016, through March 31, 2017, and authorize the Chairman to sign the resultant Contract for Services and Site Access Agreement.

BACKGROUND

As presented and discussed at the February 9, 2016, Board meeting, the Health and Human Services Department (HHS) worked with the Procurement Services Division to develop Request for Proposals (RFP) No. 10535 for Homeless Shelter Services. The RFP process solicited proposals to contract with a qualified agency or a collaborative of agencies to provide basic shelter and services for homeless adult individuals to assist them in obtaining self-sufficiency and stable housing, and providing specialized services to *chronically homeless individuals* as defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Two-hundred and eighty-two individuals or organizations were notified of the RFP, six firms accessed the RFP documents, and a formal response was received from Volunteers of America Northern California and Northern Nevada, Inc. in partnership with Right Hand Auburn.

An evaluation panel reviewed the response in accordance with the evaluation criteria contained in the RFP. Based on the evaluation of the proposal received, the panel determined that Volunteers of America is qualified to provide the services. This firm has experience and expertise in providing these services in other areas and has successfully provided the services to Placer County as well. Therefore, your Board’s approval is required to proceed with an award in a maximum aggregate amount of \$455,000.

Although Volunteers of America’s proposal suggested a Placer County contribution greater than \$455,000 in order to serve more people and provide additional case management and housing support, the RFP also encouraged applicants to demonstrate matched and leveraged funds committed to the project. Volunteers of America has the ability to leverage substantial work with regional service providers, and has worked with HHS to develop a budget that will continue services at the current level while committing to work with HHS on grant funding proposals that would expand and enhance case management and housing supports.

As presented at the February 9, 2016, Board meeting, HHS has partnered with the Homeless Resource Council of the Sierras (HRCS) to work with local stakeholders regarding the implementation of Marbut Consulting’s recommendations described in the Homeless Needs Assessment and Action Plan presented to the Board in April 2015. HRCS is Placer County’s Continuum of Care for the Homeless and a key partner recommended by Dr. Marbut to help address the needs of chronically homeless individuals in Placer County. One focus of these workgroups has been planning for long term locations for homeless shelters and corresponding services as described in Marbut Consulting’s report. Because consideration of zoning for and

possible development of a potential new shelter and service center site will take time, staff recommends that the Board continue to fund homeless shelter services at the temporary emergency homeless shelter on the Placer County Government Center.

The current shelter, operated by Volunteers of America for Right Hand Auburn, implemented a 24 hour per day, 7 day per week program in November 2015 and incorporated case management services for 47 individuals. The shelter has also provided overflow services since the last week of November 2015, providing immediate sheltering needs for up to an additional 50 people overnight. The shelter has served an average of more than 75 people per day over the past five months, and has been working with County staff and HRCS to align efforts and support the Marbut Study workgroups.

The Temporary Conditional Use Permit to continue shelter services in Building 303 on the Placer County Government Center was extended through March 31, 2017, as a result of the March 8, 2016, Board meeting. Today's item requests your Board's approval to award the competitive RFP No. 10535 to Volunteers of America of Northern California and Northern Nevada, Inc. for the operation of this temporary emergency homeless shelter and to provide a portion of service funding up to \$455,000 for the period from June 1, 2016, through March 31, 2017.

ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE

Your Board's fiscal actions are exempt from environmental review pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15378(b)(4) - Fiscal Activities. Award of the RFP and execution of the Contract for Services and Site Access Agreement are categorically exempt from environmental review pursuant to provisions of Section 15301 of the CEQA Guidelines - Existing Facilities and Section 18.36.030 of the Placer County Environmental Review Ordinance (Class 1, Operation, leasing, licensing or alteration of existing public or private facilities). Award of the RFP and execution of the Contract for Services and Site Access Agreement would result in operations within existing facilities and be temporary in nature.

FISCAL IMPACT

A contribution up to \$455,000 for the period from July 1, 2016, through March 31, 2017, is available through a one-time General Fund contribution from Community and Agency Support (10700).

This Contract for Services and Site Access Agreement are on file with the Clerk of the Board for review.

cc: Brett Wood, Purchasing Manager, Administrative Services-Procurement Services Division