



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

TO: Board of Supervisors

DATE: July 28, 2020

FROM: Jeffrey S. Brown, M.P.H., M.S.W., Director of Health and Human Services

SUBJECT: Placer County Bringing Families Home Housing Program Contracts

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**ACTION REQUESTED**

1. Approve a contract with Volunteers of America (VOA) to provide assistance to Child Welfare Court involved families in finding and maintaining permanent housing, for the period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, in the amount of \$175,000 and authorize the Director of Health and Human Services to sign the contract with Risk Management and County Counsel concurrence and subsequent amendments up to \$17,500, consistent with subject matter and scope of work with Risk Management and County Counsel concurrence.
2. Approve a contract with AMI Housing (AMIH) to provide assistance to Child Welfare Court involved families, for the period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, in the amount of \$175,000 and authorize the Director of Health and Human Services to sign the contract with Risk Management and County Counsel concurrence and subsequent amendments up to \$17,500, consistent with subject matter and scope of work with Risk Management and County Counsel concurrence.

**BACKGROUND**

In 2015, Placer County Human Services was allocated funding through the CalWORKs Housing Support Program (HSP). Human Services contracted with AMI Housing (AMIH), and later additionally with Volunteers of America (VOA), to assist families in securing housing. AMIH and VOA currently work with identified homeless CalWORKs recipients that are referred by Placer County Human Services to them to find, secure, and maintain permanent housing in a Rapid Re-housing/ Housing First model program, the CalWORKs Housing Support Program. VOA serves clients in the Roseville, Lincoln, and Rocklin areas and AMIH serves clients in the Auburn area. Since 2015, CalWORKs HSP has housed over 200 homeless families in Placer County, and more than 30 families are presently housed through the program.

The Bringing Families Home (BFH) Program was established by Assembly Bill 1603 (Chapter 25, Statutes of 2016) and updated by Senate Bill (SB) 80 (Chapter 27, Statutes 2019) to reduce the number of families in the child welfare system experiencing or at risk of homelessness, to increase family reunification, and to prevent foster care placement. In 2019, Placer County Children's System Of Care was awarded funding to serve this population, and will partner with Human Services to administer the program as the division already has experience in and the infrastructure in place to assist families finding housing. The BFH housing program will operate very similar to CalWORKs HSP, with some minor differences, with the primary difference being that the families served will be those with Child Welfare Court involvement. As many of these families are served by both CSOC and Human Services, the partnership will allow the two divisions to leverage multiple programs to best serve Placer County families in crisis.

AMIH and VOA will assist the families in securing and maintaining lease agreements with property owners for the purpose of providing houses or apartments to homeless CSOC court involved families. Families initially enter into an agreement for 12 months of housing assistance. Following standard practices employed by similar Continuum of Care housing programs, AMIH and VOA will pay the families' rent, deposit and utilities for the first month, and require families to pay a percent of their gross income toward rent and utilities for months thereafter. Rental assistance pays the difference up to the fair market value of the housing unit.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

The revenue and expenditures are included in the Department's FY 2020-21 Budget. The expenditures are fully funded through the state allocation for a total amount of \$350,000 for the period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021. No County General Fund contribution is required.

The agreements are on file with the Clerk of the Board.