COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

For the meeting of: 1/7/2025

File #: 25-51

To: Board of Supervisors

From: DHHS: Administration

Agenda Section: Consent

Vote Requirement: Majority

SUBJECT:

Resolution Rescinding Resolution No. 20-72 and Authorizing the Humboldt County Department of Health and Human Services to Secure Funding Previously Made Available through the California Department of Housing and Community Development's Homekey Program

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Adopt the attached Resolution rescinding Resolution No. 20-72 and authorizing the Department of Health and Human Services Director, or a designee thereof, to execute and deliver a State of California Standard Agreement, and any other agreements, amendments, certifications and documents necessary to secure funding previously made available through the California Department of Housing and Community Development's Homekey Program; and
2. Direct the Clerk of the Board to return one(1) fully executed certified copy of the attached resolution to the Department of Health and Human Services - Contract Unit for submission to the California Department of Housing and Community Development.

STRATEGIC PLAN:

The recommended actions support the following areas of the Board of Supervisors' Strategic Plan:

Area of Focus: Housing for All
Strategic Plan Category: 4001 - Provide housing and sheltering solutions for people experiencing homelessness

DISCUSSION:

On July 16, 2020, the California Department of Housing and Community Development ("HCD") issued a Notice of Funding Availability for the Homekey Program. This program was designed to build on the Project Roomkey effort to provide shelter to Californians experiencing homelessness who were at high risk for serious illness and impacts by COVID-19. HCD administered Six Hundred Million Dollars ($600,000,000.00) in grant funding for local public entities and tribal governments to purchase, rehabilitate and convert hotels, motels, vacant apartment buildings and other buildings into interim or permanent, long-term housing.

On August 18, 2020, the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors ("Board") adopted Resolution No. 20-72 which authorized the Department of Health and Human Services ("DHHS") Director to execute and deliver a State of California Standard Agreement, and any other agreements, amendments, certifications and documents necessary to jointly apply for, and secure, if awarded, up to Four Million Six Hundred Thousand Dollars ($4,600,000.00) in funding made available through the Homekey Program. With this authorization from the Board, DHHS and Providence Health & Services - Washington ("Providence Health") jointly applied for HomeKey Program funds to acquire and convert a hotel into permanent housing for eligible Humboldt County residents. In October 2020, Providence Health and DHHS were notified of a grant award in the amount of Three Million Seven Hundred Ninety-Five Thousand Four Hundred Fifty-Five dollars ($3,795,455.00).

On November 20, 2020 a State of California Standard Agreement was executed. Providence Health was identified as the project "Designated Payee." Therefore, the full amount of funding awarded under the Homekey Program was received by Providence Health. The grant award was combined with philanthropy and other grant funds to support Providence Health's acquisition and conversion the Humboldt Inn to permanent housing for eligible Humboldt County residents. Today, the project is named the Mother Bernard House. It consists of forty-eight (48) units, including forty-two (42) units of permanent housing and six (6) units that provide recuperative care services, and is fully occupied.

After execution of the state Standard Agreement and completion of the acquisition and conversion of the property, Providence Health established a Limited Liability Company, Providence Mother Bernard House, LLC as a borrower and sponsor entity to carry out all ongoing business responsibilities of Mother Bernard House. Accordingly, HCD is requesting the Board add a second legal entity, "Providence Mother Bernard House LLC" to the resolution regarding the acceptance of funding made available through the Homekey Program. This addition will allow Providence Health to complete the legal process necessary to maintain its obligations under the State Standard Agreement with the State of California.

Accordingly, DHHS recommends that the Board adopt the attached resolution rescinding Resolution No. 20-72 and authorizing the DHHS Director, or a designee thereof, to execute and deliver a State of California Standard Agreement, and any other agreements, amendments, certifications and documents necessary to secure funding previously made available through the Homekey Program.

SOURCE OF FUNDING:
None

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
There are no direct costs associated with adopting the attached resolution. As a result, adoption of the attached resolution will not impact the Humboldt County General Fund.

STAFFING IMPACT:
Adoption of the attached resolution will not impact current staffing levels.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:
California Department of Housing and Community Development

ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:
The Board may choose not to adopt the revised resolution rescinding Resolution No. 20-72 and authorizing the DHHS Director, or a designee thereof, to execute and deliver a State of California Standard Agreement, and any other agreements, amendments, certifications and documents necessary to secure funding previously made available through the Homekey Program. However, this alternative is not recommended as it will prevent Providence Health from completing the legal processes necessary to ensure ongoing operation of the Mother Bernard House permanent housing project.

ATTACHMENTS:
1. State of California Standard Agreement
2. Resolution Rescinding Resolution No. 20-72 and Authorizing the Humboldt County Department of Health and Human Services to Secure Funding Previously Made Available through the California Department of Housing and Community Development's HomeKey Program

PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:
Meeting of: 8/18/2020
File No.: 20-1028