

County of Santa Clara
Behavioral Health Services Department



24-4470

DATE: February 27, 2024 (Item No. {{item.number}})

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Sherri Terao, Director, Behavioral Health Services Department

SUBJECT: Appropriation Modification for Behavioral Health Bridge Housing Funds

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approve Request for Appropriation Modification No. 150 - \$5,345,659 increasing estimated revenue and expenditure appropriations in the Behavioral Health Services Department budget, relating to Behavioral Health Bridge Housing. (4/5 Vote)

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

On November 7, 2023 (Item No. 43) the Board of Supervisors approved a revenue agreement with Advocates for Human Potential, Inc. (AHP), the State of California's Behavioral Health Bridge Housing (BHBH) program administrator. The County's total BHBH Round 1 award of \$51,568,399 is to be used from fiscal year (FY) 2023-2024 through FY 2026-2027 to provide temporary housing, rental assistance, and other services for unhoused or at-risk people with serious mental illness (SMI) or substance use disorder (SUD). The Behavioral Health Services Department (BHSD) would manage the grant funding, and both BHSD and the Office of Supportive Housing (OSH) would implement the programming.

The requested Appropriation Modification would increase revenue and expenditures in the amount of \$5,345,659 in one-time funds in the BHSD for FY 2023-2024. Of those funds, \$4,642,459 would be transferred from BHSD to OSH to increase expenses in OSH's budget appropriation. BHSD administration will continue to manage these funds and would incorporate the balance of the award through the County's annual budget process. Exhibit 1 below provides a summary of the total budget by department and fiscal year.

Exhibit 1 – Budget Summary FY 2023-2024 – FY 2026-2027

	FY 2023-2024	FY 2024-2025	FY 2025-2026	FY 2026-2027
BHSD	703,200	9,564,927	10,925,464	10,057,081
OSH	4,642,459	6,018,051	4,825,019	4,832,198
Totals	5,345,659	15,582,978	15,750,483	14,889,279

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION AND BACKGROUND

California's BHBH program was signed into law in September 2022 under Assembly Bill (AB) 179 and will provide funding to counties through June 30, 2027. The purpose of the BHBH grant is to address housing stability and homelessness among people with serious behavioral health conditions. Funding will support an array of housing options, such as rental assistance programs and assisted living settings. The BHBH grant aims to help the most vulnerable individuals who suffer from serious behavioral health conditions and who are unhoused. Having access to housing will support these individuals in maintaining treatment due to increased safety, supportive services, and the ability to have basic necessities met. Under this grant, all bridge housing settings must include voluntary supportive services to help individuals obtain and maintain housing, manage symptoms of their behavioral health conditions, and support wellness and recovery.

On May 16, 2023 (Item No. 34), the Board of Supervisors ratified a grant to Department of Health care Services (DHCS) submitted by BHSD and OSH to receive funding to support shelter/interim housing (e.g., transitional housing, recovery housing), rental assistance, and licensed assisted living settings (e.g., residential care facilities, adult residential care facilities).

On November 7, 2023 (Item No. 43), the Board of Supervisors approved a Revenue Agreement between BHSD and AHP to allocate \$51,568,399 in BHBH grant funding to BHSD to support shelter/interim housing, rental assistance, licensed assisted living settings, outreach and engagement, program administration/implementation, and start-up infrastructure.

The recommended action would approve an Appropriation Modification to increase revenue and expenditures in the BHSD FY 2023-2024 Adopted Budget to receive \$5,345,659 in grant funding. The BHBH program provides the County with resources to increase temporary shelter and permanent housing for unhoused and at-risk individuals who have SMI and/or SUD. **Exhibit 2** below provides the initial \$5,345,659 expenditure plan, number of planned night beds, and current status for each program.

Exhibit 2 – Expenditures for FY 2023-2024

Programming	Implementing Department	Units	FY 2023-2024	Status
Shelter and Interim Housing	OSH	Budget	\$ 1,200,000	Beds are currently in use.
		Nightly Beds	30	
Transitional Housing Unit Master Leasing	BHSD	Budget	\$ 703,200	Contract negotiations are ongoing.
		Nightly Beds	40	

Capital Infrastructure for New Palo Alto Shelter	OSH	Budget	\$ 3,250,000	Construction has started and the contract is pending.
		New Beds	44	
County Program Implementation		Budget	\$ 192,459	Staffing is in place.
Budget Total			\$ 5,345,659	

Attachment 1 – Program Plan, provides the grant distribution schedule for all four years, planned programming uses, and the number of planned night beds or households funded with BHBH funds. The status of programs and planned additional services scheduled for operations starting in FY 2024-2025 are described below.

- **Substance Use Treatment Services (SUTS) Outpatient Homelessness Prevention services** are being planned, expanding the existing homeless prevention system in summer 2024.
- **Criminal Justice Involved SUTS Outpatient Rapid Rehousing** is pending solicitation and expected to be operational in fall 2024.
- **Rental Assistance for Intensive Outpatient Clients Living with Family** will be incorporated into existing contracts and service expansion will begin in summer 2024.
- **Board and Care Patches** will be incorporated into existing contracts and service expansion will begin in summer 2024.
- A **Habitability Improvements Fund** is in the planning stage of development and will utilize the experience gained from similar pilot programs. A qualified service provider needs to be identified.
- BHSD would repurpose and expand an existing **Outreach and Engagement** team to provide services beginning in summer 2024 to meet the needs of County residents who could benefit from this service.

CHILD IMPACT

The recommended action would have a positive impact on children and youth by increasing housing support available to households that include children and youth and are receiving behavioral health services.

SENIOR IMPACT

The recommended action would have a positive impact on seniors by expanding housing services to serve older adults receiving behavioral health services.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

The recommended action balances public policy and program interests and enhances the

Board of Supervisors' sustainability goals of social equity and safety by accepting funding to support the expansion of housing services for people with serious mental illness or substance use disorders.

CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION

Failure to approve the recommended action would prevent BHSD and OSH from receiving \$5,345,659 in grant funding to provide housing supportive services for residents of Santa Clara County receiving behavioral health services.

STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL

Upon approval, the Clerk of the Board is requested to send e-mail notifications to Hilary Barroga (Hilary.Barroga@ceo.sccgov.org), Soo Jung (Soo.Jung@hhs.sccgov.org), Angeleah Macatiag (Angeleah.Macatiag@hhs.sccgov.org), Earl Ong (Earl.Ong@hhs.sccgov.org), and Evonne Lai (Evonne.Lai@hhs.sccgov.org).

ATTACHMENTS:

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