



**NEVADA COUNTY
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY**

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**NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Board Agenda Memo**

MEETING DATE: January 9, 2023

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: **Rachel Pena- Director of Social Services**

SUBJECT: Resolution approving execution of Amendment No. 1 with FREED Independent Living Center, D/B/A FREED to increase the maximum contract price from \$150,000 to \$201,000 (an increase of \$51,000) and revise Exhibit “B”, Schedule of Charges and Payments to reflect the increase in the maximum contract for the term of July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024. (RES 23-363)

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the attached Resolution.

FUNDING: Under this amendment, up to \$201,000, (an increase of \$51,000) is being committed to FREED for FY 23/24. Funds will be used to serve Housing and Disability Advocacy eligible participants. The program will be funded by State Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP) funds.

BACKGROUND: According to the National Health Care for the Homeless Council, people with disabilities constitute 40% of the homeless population. Approximately half of the people experiencing homelessness suffer from a mental health issue, according to the National Alliance to End Homelessness. Mental and physical health problems are exacerbated by the ongoing stress and associated trauma from living on the streets and/or in homeless shelters.

FREED has been providing services to persons with disabilities in Nevada County since 1985. FREED’s mission is to promote independence and self-determination for people with disabilities through person-driven services, collaborative community partnerships and education, and leadership that advocates for fully inclusive communities.

On July 11, 2023, per Resolution 23-363, the Nevada County Board of Supervisors approved execution of the Professional Services Contract with FREED Independent Living Center, D/B/A FREED. Since 2018, FREED has provided contracted services to Nevada County residents through the SOARWorks program. In that time FREED has established itself as one of the state’s best HHAP programs. The Program provides specialized case management aimed at assisting households

experiencing homelessness in gaining income as well as post housing supports to ensure that households can retain their housing and that the housing is suitable for persons living with disabilities. Consistent with the core components of Housing First, Contractor will work in collaboration with the Continuum of Care and the Coordinated Entry System to ensure populations with the highest needs are given the highest priority and are able to access SOARWorks services.

Item Initiated by: Tamaran Cook, Program Manager

Item Approved by: Rachel Pena, LCSW, Director of Social Services