



COUNTY OF NEVADA HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

950 Maidu Ave.
Nevada City, California
95959

Agency Director
Ryan Gruver

Telephone (530) 265-1627
Fax (530) 265-2295

Department Directors
Phebe Bell, MSW, Behavioral Health
Jill Blake, MPA, Public Health
Mike Dent, MPA, Child Support Services / Collections / Housing &
Community Services Division
Rachel Roos, LCSW Social Services

NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE: March 22, 2022

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Mike Dent

SUBJECT: Resolution approving execution of a Contract with Foothills House of Hospitality, d/b/a Hospitality House to provide Non-Congregate Interim Shelter located at the Sierra Guest House and pre-development work for future improvements in the maximum amount of \$668,900 for the term of April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023 and authorizing and directing the Auditor-Controller to amend the Housing and Community Services Department's Budget for Fiscal Year 2021/22 (4/5 Affirmative Vote Required).

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the attached Resolution.

FUNDING: Funding is from the Housing and Community Services Division's allocated Homelessness Housing, Assistance and Prevention Round 2 funds, Permanent Local Housing Allocation funds, and County Department of Social Services Project Room Key funds. A budget amendment is required for the FY 2021/22 amount of \$241,225 and is included in this Resolution. The remaining \$427,675 will be budgeted in FY 2022/23. There are no county general fund dollars required in the Agreement.

BACKGROUND: Hospitality House Shelter operates 69+ beds of shelter across a variety of program types including low barrier shelter, recuperative care, weather triggered and traditional emergency shelter. These shelter beds are the backbone of the emergency response to homelessness and of vital importance to people experiencing homelessness and for all providers who work to assist households in gaining permanent housing.

In March of 2020, the COVID pandemic resulted in the need to reduce shelter capacity and rapidly implement other shelter strategies that could provide for social distancing and basic hygiene in

order to curb the spread of the virus among sheltered and unsheltered homeless households. To assist in this effort, the State created the “Project Room Key” program, providing funding to lease or secure non-congregate sites such as hotel rooms for highly vulnerable, medically fragile households. The County worked with Hospitality House to quickly relocate shelter stayer to reduce the bed count in the shelter facility and to provide additional non-congregate capacity for households who did not reside at the shelter but where at extreme risk of contracting the virus. The County worked to lease the rooms and the shelter worked to ensure that households in the rooms received food and essential items to promote quarantine and isolation and curb the spread of COVID. This collaboration was vital to ensuring the health safety of the houseless community as well as staff at homeless service providers and broader community.

Over the course of the last two years, the County has used allocated funds to provide non-congregate shelter for vulnerable county residents experiencing homelessness and worked with a variety of providers including Hospitality House to coordinate case management and essential services. State funding guidance and Notice of Funding Allocations continue to promote the use of non-congregate settings and the expansion of interim non-congregate shelter options.

To continue to provide this service, the Department of Housing and Community Services issued Request for Proposal No. 148501 on October 5, 2021, seeking qualified providers interested in providing oversight and management of non-congregate shelter locations/beds. The County received one response which met the requirements and is recommending a contract award to Hospitality House’s Sierra Guest House program.

Funds awarded through this contract will support the operations and staffing of the Sierra Guest House, a 28-bed facility (owned by Hospitality House and separate from the existing shelter) that will provide interim non-congregate shelter and services under this contract for up to 20 individuals at a time. The remaining 8 beds not part of this contract will be occupied at the discretion of Hospitality House staff. The expansion of beds will provide much needed interim shelter capacity for vulnerable county residents. Referral and case management will be coordinated through the weekly county-led Housing Resource Team and will utilize standardized Housing Navigation Plans. Participants will be quickly connected to appropriate services with the goal of expediting permanent housing placement.

It is recommended that the Board approve this Agreement as it will improve shelter capacity and service linkage, allowing more people experiencing homelessness to transition toward permanent housing solutions.

Item Initiated by: Brendan Phillips, Program Manager

**Approved by: Mike Dent, MPA, Director of Child Support, Housing and
Community Services**