



**NEVADA COUNTY
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY**

**Ryan Gruver
Agency Director**

**Mali Dyck
Interim Department of
Social Services Director**

Department of Social Services

950 Maidu Ave., PO Box 1210 Nevada City, CA 95959
Ave., Ste 202 Truckee, CA 96161
988 McCourtney Road Grass Valley, CA 95949

Telephone (530) 265-1340
Telephone (530) 582-7803
Telephone (530) 265-1340

FAX (530) 265-9860 10075 Levon
FAX (530) 582-7729
FAX (530) 274-1049

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

MEETING DATE: May 26, 2020

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: **Mali Dyck**

SUBJECT: Resolution approving execution of Amendment No. 2 to the Agreement with FREED Independent Living Center, d/b/a FREED for funding to administer the SOARWorks program to eligible clients to: 1) increase the Maximum Contract Price from \$282,083 to \$582,083 (an increase of \$300,000); 2) revise Exhibit "A" Schedule of Services to incorporate specific guidance pertaining to the purchase of trailers or other approved structures, and 3) revise Exhibit "B" Schedule of Charges and Payments to reflect the increase in the maximum contract price for the term of July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2020 and Authorizing and Directing the Auditor-Controller to amend the Social Services Budget for Fiscal Year 2019/20 (4/5 vote required). (18-424; 20-102)

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the attached Resolution.

FUNDING: Under this agreement, up to \$150,000 in recently awarded SOARWORKS funds and additional in-kind County matching funds is being committed to FREED over the remainder of Fiscal Year 19-20. Funds will be used to provide additional housing assistance to SOARWORKS participants, purchase trailers or other county approved structures to provide housing to SOARWORKS participants, and to reimburse for other expenses related to services provided by the contractor as outlined in Exhibit "A" Schedule of Services and The program will be funded by the State Department of Social Services Housing and Disability Advocacy program funds and County in-kind matching funds from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Federal Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Housing Choice Voucher funds, and local general funds committed to supporting low-barrier shelter, interim bridge housing and hotel/motel vouchers to homeless county residents. A budget amendment is included and requires a 4/5 vote by the Board Members. There are no county general fund dollars required in the Agreement.

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 suffers 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.

FREED serves over 100 un-duplicated individuals annually who have a disability and who are experiencing homelessness. In addition, FREED provides over 300 housing services annually to support individuals who are homeless in locating appropriate housing, assisting individuals who are housed with services to prevent eviction or retain housing, and with services and supports to improve home accessibility and safety. All FREED direct service staff are trained in person-centered counseling and two SOAR trained staff.

SOARWorks Housing and Disability Advocacy Program:

The SOARWorks Program will provide specialized case management, direct housing support (including rental subsidies and supportive services) and disability advocacy to individuals with disabilities who are experiencing homelessness and who may be eligible for social security or disability benefits. FREED has used Board approved CSBG funds to hire a Housing Coordinator and will leverage SOARWorks funds to bring the position to full-time. The Housing Coordinator will administer the SOARWorks program. The Housing Coordinator will coordinate outreach, case management, housing assistance and disability advocacy to eligible participants.

Consistent with the core components of Housing First, Contractor will work in collaboration with the Continuum of Care (CoC) and the Coordinated Entry System (CES) to ensure populations with the highest needs are given the highest priority and are able to access SOARWorks services.

It is recommended that the Board approve this Amendment No. 2 as it will allow FREED to provide additional housing assistance to keep highly vulnerable residents by adding additional awarded funds to expand housing assistance and options to participants while they work with SOARWorks program staff to secure disability benefits. This is an addition of funds reallocation of funds between to existing line items.

Item Initiated and Approved by: Mali Dyck, Interim Director of Social Services