



**COUNTY OF NEVADA**  
**HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY**  
**Housing & Community Services Division**

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

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**MEETING DATE:** June 26, 2018

**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** **Michael Heggarty**

**SUBJECT:** Resolution approving execution of a Contract with Interfaith Food Ministry (IFM) related to the purchase of a commercial style food dehydrator to enable IFM to preserve surplus fruits and vegetables, in order to provide low income members of the community with year-round nutritious produce options, in the maximum amount of \$15,000 for the term of July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019.

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**RECOMMENDATION:** Approve the attached Resolution.

**FUNDING:** This contract is supported by Community Initiative Fund (CIF) dollars which are set aside from the County general funds and annually awarded to local non-profits to support single, one-time only funded projects.

**BACKGROUND:** The County in conjunction with the Adult and Family Services Commission (AFSC) issued a Request for Funding (RFF) for Community Initiative Fund (CIF) dollars to provide funding opportunities to local non-profits, to support meaningful projects that will have a beneficial impact for low income residents of Nevada County. After extensive review by the AFSC of the submitted proposals, the Commission's recommendation is to award CIF funding, pending Board of Supervisors' approval, to Interfaith Food Ministry (IFM) of Nevada County for the Pilot Dehydration Project.

Food insecure residents of Nevada County have limited year-round access to the variety of fresh fruits and vegetables necessary to achieve the minimum nutrition guidelines set forth by the USDA. Although, during prime growing season, a surplus of fresh vegetables and fruits are donated to IFM from partnering farms and the Placer County Food Bank, donated produce is

almost nonexistent outside of the growing season. Fresh fruits and vegetables that are available during the winter season are prohibitively expensive for a food pantry operation.

Through support from the Nevada County Board of Supervisors' Community Initiative Funding IFM will initiate a program to dehydrate available fresh produce to provide low income members of the community throughout the year when fresh produce is not readily available. IFM will locate and initiate a partnership with a local non-profit with a licensed/certified commercial kitchen to prepare, dehydrate, package and distribute the processed fruit and vegetable products. The dehydrated produce will be distributed by IFM directly and in collaboration with its partners to reduce food insecurity among Nevada County's low income community.

The impact for low-income individuals/families is greater access to nutritional produce, better health and the reduction of the stress related to balancing insufficient funds to live and eat, while not falling into homelessness, as the average annual income of IFM's clients is \$13,104 or \$1,092/month for a family size of 2.4.

It is recommended that the Board approve this Agreement as it will allow IFM to increase nutritional options for those members of the community that suffer from the burden of food insecurity within Nevada County.

**Item Initiated and Approved by:** Michael Heggarty, Director of Health and Human Services Agency