

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-096

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF THE COUNTY OF SHASTA
APPROPRIATING CARES ACT FUNDS
TO MEET AN EMERGENCY PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 29127**

WHEREAS, international, national, state, and local health and governmental authorities are responding to an outbreak of respiratory disease caused by a novel coronavirus named “SARS-CoV-2” and the disease it causes has been named “Coronavirus Disease 2019” abbreviated COVID-19 (“COVID-19”); and

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization (“WHO”) declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern as a result of COVID-19. On January 31, 2020, the United State Secretary of Health and Human Services also declared a Public Health Emergency of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist in California as a result of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, President Trump, in Proclamation 9994, declared a National Emergency recognizing the threat that COVID-19 poses to the Nation’s healthcare systems; and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, and pursuant to the foregoing provisions, the Shasta County Sheriff acting as the Shasta County Director of Emergency Services proclaimed the existence of a local emergency due to COVID-19 by proclamation, which the Shasta County Board of Supervisors ratified and continued at its meeting on March 24, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, and pursuant to the foregoing provisions, the Shasta County Health Officer proclaimed the existence of a local health emergency due to COVID-19 by proclamation, which the Shasta County Board of Supervisors ratified and continued at its meeting on March 24, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the California Department of Public Health have issued recommendations, including, but not limited to social distancing, staying home if sick, working from home, and other precautions necessary to protect public health and prevent transmission of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, as a result of this public health emergency and the precautions recommended by health authorities to address COVID-19, Shasta County has focused its resources, including, but not limited to, financial and County personnel to address COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the federal government established funding under section 601(a) of the Social Security Act, as added by section 5001 of the Coronavirus Aid, Release, and Economic Security Act (“CARES” Act), which established the CARES Act fund to make payments for uses

by the states and local governments, to cover costs due to the public health emergency with respect to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on July 2, 2020, the County Executive Officer signed a Certification for Receipt of Funds Pursuant of Paragraphs (2) or (3) of Subdivision (d) of Control Section 11.90 of the State Budget Act of 2020 (i.e. CARES Act funding), which was ratified by the Board of Supervisors on July 21, 2020; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Certification for Receipt of Funds, CARES Act funds may be used to cover costs that: (1) are necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to COVID-19; (2) were not accounted for in the County budget most recently approved as of March 27, 2020; and (3) incurred during the period that begins on March 1, 2020, and ends on December 30, 2020; and

WHEREAS, several departments have participated in the county response to COVID-19, including Health and Human Services Agency, Sheriff's Office, County Fire Department, Probation, Community Action Agency, County Administrative Office, Information Technology, Public Works, Support Services, and others; and

WHEREAS, the responding departments have incurred and will incur expenses that (1) are necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency with respect COVID-19; (2) were not accounted for in the budget most recently approved on March 27, 2020; and (3) were incurred or will be incurred during the period that begins on March 1, 2020 and ends on December 30, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Government Code section 29127(a) provides that the Board of Supervisors, after adopting a resolution stating the facts constituting an emergency by a four-fifths vote, may appropriate and make expenditures necessary to meet the emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Shasta incorporates the above recitals contained in international, national, state and local emergencies.

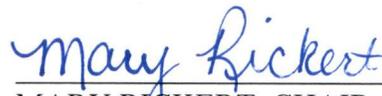
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Shasta, finds and determines the recitals referenced above are true and constitute an emergency for the purposes of Government Code section 29127.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Shasta authorizes the appropriation and expenditure of CARES Act funds, as referenced in the Spending Plan (Exhibit A; attached and incorporated herein), in accordance with the CARES Act fund restrictions, by the Shasta County Executive Officer and his/her designees, as necessary (1) to meet the emergency due to COVID-19, (2) for the immediate preservation of public health, (3) for the relief of a stricken community overtaken by calamity, and (4) to meet mandatory expenditures required by law, in accordance with Government Code section 29127, retroactive to March 1, 2020.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Shasta authorizes the County Executive Officer or his or her designee to adjust the amount allocated for any one particular type of expense identified in the Spending Plan by an amount not to exceed 20%.

DULY PASSED AND ADOPTED this 15th day of September, 2020, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Shasta by the following vote:

AYES: Supervisors Moty, Rickert, Morgan, and Chimenti
NOES: Supervisor Baugh
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None
RECUSE: None



MARY RICKERT, CHAIR

Board of Supervisors
County of Shasta
State of California

ATTEST:

MATTHEW P. PONTES
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By _____



Deputy

County of Shasta: Spending Plan for Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) Funds

Introduction

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act was written to address COVID-19 impacts on four different groups in our communities: families, small businesses, industries, and state/local governments. The State of California received an allocation of \$15.32 billion in CARES funds for state and local governments, and Shasta County's allocation was \$18,153,000.

The CARES Act requires that the payments from the Coronavirus Relief Fund only be used to cover expenses that (1) are necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19); (2) were not accounted for in the budget most recently approved on March 27, 2020 (the date of enactment of the CARES Act) for the State or government; and (3) were incurred or will be incurred during the period that begins on March 1, 2020 and ends on December 30, 2020.

Shasta County plans to use the CARES funds to: (1) pay for the county's emergency response to COVID-19, and (2) to mitigate the adverse effects of COVID-19 on vulnerable populations and businesses.

County COVID-19 Response

Shasta County has been responding to the COVID-19 crisis since early-March 2020, first through a Department Operations Center within the Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) (through April 4), then through a unified command Emergency Operations Center, which included HHSA, the Sheriff's Office, and County Fire (April 5 through May 15); and once again through an HHSA Department Operations Center (since May 16). Several other departments have participated in the county response, including Probation, Community Action Agency, County Administrative Office, Sheriff's Office, County Fire Department, Information Technology, Public Works, Support Services, and others. The emergency response has included staffing of between 75 and 100 employees since the early weeks of the incident.

All county departments have made modifications to business practices, and many to their public facing access points, including physical changes to their front counters. In addition, the county offered COVID-associated leave to each employee, which can be taken for reasons such as personal COVID-19 illness, to care for family member with COVID-19, and to provide care to vulnerable family members impacted by the stay-at-home order. The expenses associated with the county response are summarized below:

Total Projected COVID-19 Response Expense = \$17,945,375

1. Salaries and Benefits through August 28 = \$7,259,659
2. Services and Supplies through August 28 = \$1,302,407
3. Projected Salaries and Benefits from August 29 through December 30 = \$5,518,510
4. Projected Services and Supplies from August 29 through December 30 = \$504,450
5. Jail costs for quarantine pods and housing state prisoners = \$2,699,366
6. Response contingency = \$149,500
7. Temporary Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU) = \$511,483

To prevent transmission of COVID-19 from the community into the county jail, the Sheriff's Office established several pods within the Jail as "intake quarantine pods," where newly booked male and female inmates reside for 14 days after admission. The cost to set aside this portion of the Jail is projected at \$2,102,914 through December 30, 2020. Also, the state has not been accepting new admissions to state prison, and many prison-sentenced inmates are residing in the Jail while awaiting transfer to state prison. The state reimburses the County \$93.54 a day for these inmates' care, but the County cost for care of each inmate is \$108.67 per day. The difference between cost and reimbursement amounts to \$596,452 from March 25 through December 30, 2020.

Because it is not certain what will happen in the fall with COVID-19 incidence and hospitalization in our community, an additional contingency for COVID-19 of \$149,500 is budgeted. This contingency would cover personal protective equipment stockpile and redundant electricity generation and lease cost should an alternative care site be needed.

HSA has established a temporary 24 hour, 7 day-a-week crisis stabilization unit on the Breslauer campus to better serve the needs of individuals in mental health crisis during the COVID-19 pandemic. There has been a reduction in individuals seeking crisis services, possibly related to concerns about going to the hospital emergency departments, which is addressed by providing an alternative location for individuals in mental health crisis to wait for placement at inpatient psychiatric facilities.

Community Mitigation of COVID-19 Impacts

1. Many of our county's small businesses have been adversely affected by the governor's stay-at-home order, which has required many businesses to stop operating all together, or to operate with significant modifications. Some businesses have benefited from Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL), and Small Business Administration (SBA) loans, but others have received no assistance.

Total Business Impact Mitigation Expense = \$3,000,000

The three cities have partnered with the Redding Chamber of Commerce's foundation, Forward Redding Foundation, to provide grant relief funding to local small businesses to mitigate some of this impact. The Board of Supervisors has already approved an agreement for \$300,000 with Forward Redding Foundation to do the same with a preference for the unincorporated area, but the amount in the agreement is being changed through amendment to \$500,000, with the option for future amendments up to \$3,000,000. Grant relief funding up to \$10,000 per eligible business with COVID-19 losses and no more than 25 employees will be available.

2. The mental health effects of the COVID-19 pandemic are well documented. Social connection is a protective factor against mental illness and stress, so social isolation is a risk factor for mental unwellness. Many vulnerable populations who were already fairly isolated are now more isolated, especially seniors. Additionally, job loss and business interruption has created significant stress to many families within the county. Therefore, we have budgeted to support several organizations who have the resources to address mental well-being of vulnerable community members, as summarized below:

Total Mental Health Projected Expense = \$610,800

1. Shasta CARES (NVCSS) = \$230,000
2. Anxiety and Stress Reduction (HCHWC) = \$206,800
3. Senior Connection and Support (Dignity Health Connected Living) = \$174,000

Northern Valley Catholic Social Services (NVCSS) implemented the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)-funded Crisis Counseling Services following the Carr Fire, through a program known as CalHOPE. We are duplicating that effort through December 2020 with a similar program dubbed ShastaCARES. NVCSS will do outreach and marketing for the program; provide clinical counseling services for individuals and groups; and provide job search, housing assistance, child care, food, and gas assistance to individuals experiencing unemployment due to COVID.

Hill Country Health and Wellness Center (HCHWC) is a well-known Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) in our community that provides an extensive array of behavioral health services to communities throughout Shasta County. HCHWC was the lead agency for a community resiliency building effort after the Carr Fire that provided training to more than 70 facilitators in mind-body stress reduction techniques to assist fire survivors in reducing anxiety and stress. To build on that effort, this agreement would enable the training of 20 more facilitators, train 10 peer supervisors, provide workshops for health care and education professionals, pay stipends to facilitators to allow free participation by community residents, and marketing for the virtual groups.

Dignity Health Connected Living is the county's main provider of direct services to seniors. They operate a warm line which provides information to seniors regarding important community services. They also provide nutritional services in the form of congregate meals and Meals on Wheels Services to seniors in normal times, but have only been providing Meals on Wheels during the pandemic. Demand for delivered meals has increased more than 40% during the pandemic, and they need additional staffing and vehicles to fulfill the demand. The seniors who receive the delivered meals are often very isolated, and the interaction with the meal delivery people is an important daily social interaction for these seniors. This agreement will also provide some resources to pay the utility bills of seniors at risk of having their power turned off.

3. The job uncertainty, social isolation, and home educational responsibilities associated with the COVID-19 pandemic impact stressed families in ways that can push them into further dysfunction and violence. This may result in spousal abuse and domestic violence, which requires safety planning for family members. Also, the stress of job loss or loss of social support can result in child abuse and neglect, but these conditions are more difficult to detect when children are not in school. There is a need to reach out to vulnerable families to offer services to assist in healthful and safe child rearing during this stressful time.

Total Family Support Projected Expenses = \$280,321

One Safe Place (OSP) is our community's provider of shelter and one-stop services for domestic violence victims. OSP has seen an increase in demand for services during the pandemic, and has had to modify its business practices to keep its shelter (max capacity=55) free of COVID-19,

including quarantining victims in motels prior to admitting them to the shelter. These expenses, in addition to other impacts, such as extra cleaning, installation of physical barriers, and additional child care needs, will be mitigated through this agreement.

Pathways to Hope for Children (formerly known as the Child Abuse Prevention Coordinating Counsel) is establishing a Hotline to Hope to provide a portal for parents to access to receive supportive parenting services. This agreement will provide resources to staff the hotline 14 hours a day on weekdays and 10 hours a day on weekends, perform assessment and referral to activities and services, and conduct evidence-based programming with families with a strengthening families approach, such as Safecare and Triple P. The agreement will also require marketing of the hotline.

4. As schools reopen, it was important that barriers be installed to prevent transmission of COVID at school front counters and cafeterias. The Shasta County Office of Education (SCOE) agreed to survey all 25 Shasta County school districts to assess their needs for physical barriers. Eighteen school districts responded that some assistance was needed to purchase materials and install barriers. SCOE has agreed to enter into an agreement with Shasta County to receive the funds, account for district spending, and reimburse the various districts, relieving the county of the need for multiple agreements.

Total Education Projected Expense = \$110,000

GRAND TOTAL = \$21,946,496