



Award of SB 89 Funds

San Joaquin Continuum of Care awards for Senate Bill 89 portion set aside for immediate COVID-19 response

April 17, 2020

Summary

The San Joaquin Continuum of Care Board of Directors is pleased to announce the allocation of \$410,187.42 to alleviate the impacts of the COVID-19 public health emergency on homeless individuals and service providers within San Joaquin County.

On April 17, 2020, the SJCoC Board voted to award funds from Senate Bill 89 (SB 89), spending authorized by the State of California. These funds are awarded following a process that included determining priorities for spending, strategic consideration of a collaborative response to COVID-19 and homelessness with the City of Stockton and San Joaquin County, a public competition for SJCoC-directed funds, and a two-step review of applications for funding.

These funds are awarded according to the chart in the "Subrecipient Awards" section of this document.

Subrecipients awarded SB 89 funds should read this document in full, particularly the section titled "Allowed Uses, Reporting, and Monitoring Requirements," to understand the conditions under which SB 89 funding can be legally used.

Background

On March 27, 2020, the SJCoC, as a recipient of SB 89 funds to address COVID-19 among the homeless population within San Joaquin County, determined priority areas of need for allocating \$512,733.78 of SB 89 funds locally. The SJCoC dedicated \$410,187.42 to assist nonprofits, agencies, and organizations that serve the homeless in response to the COVID-19 crisis, and dedicated \$102,546.76 to assist Project Roomkey, which aims to provide Non-Congregate Shelter for homeless individuals at high risk of morbidity/mortality due to COVID-19.

On April 1, 2020, the SJCoC distributed a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) to the SJCoC General Membership and publicized the NOFA on its website for Part 1 of this funding (defined as the \$410,187.42 made available to crisis response). The NOFA sought responses from local agencies, organizations, and nonprofits who would act as subrecipients of SB 89 dollars, which could pay for materials and staff costs for outreach, emergency shelter, emergency food, health care, and housing in order to provide necessary services to protect the health and safety of people experiencing homelessness and reduce the spread of the COVID-19 outbreak.

This application period closed April 10, 2020. On April 15, 2020, a working group of the SJCoC Board met to review the 13 received applications and recommend allocations to the entire SJCoC Board. Individuals on the Board with a potential conflict of interest did not participate in the working group. The recommendations were forwarded to the Board for approval at its April 17, 2020, meeting.

The SJCoC Board received no public comment at the April 17 meeting regarding the recommendations for funding. The SJCoC Board then approved the working group's recommendations without amendment by the following 7-0 vote: Adam Cheshire y, Edward Figueroa abstain, Matt Garber y, Kate Hutchinson excused absent, Mike Kelly y, Britton Kimball abstain, John Ledbetter y, Bill Mendelson y, Randy Pinnelli excused absent, Peter Ragsdale abstain, Jenn Rowell abstain, Carrie Wright y, Jon Mendelson y.

Funds will be disbursed by the Administrative Entity (San Joaquin County) on behalf of the SJCoC as soon as possible. Funds will be made available to subrecipients up front. Subrecipients will sign contracts for expenditure of this funding with the Administrative Entity and will be responsible for abiding by the conditions of those contracts.

Allowed Uses, Reporting, and Monitoring Requirements

All SB 89 funds disbursed by the SJCoC must be utilized for costs directly associated with reducing the impacts of the COVID-19 outbreak on individuals without permanent housing.

Subrecipients of SB 89 funds may only spend those funds to address the needs of households that are literally homeless according to the definition put forward by the HEARTH Act Final Rule in the federal register 24 CFR 578. These funds are intended to be spent on expenses directly related to responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Agencies awarded SB 89 funds by the SJCoC will be required to:

- Provide a report on a schedule to be determined by the contract between the subrecipient and the Administrative Entity (San Joaquin County); these reports will include a record of all expenditures of SB 89 funding, including backup documentation of expenses
- Provide documentation that funds are used to provide services to households that meet the definition of homeless
- Enter all information about households and individuals served with this funding into the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) operated by the SJCoC

Reports will be due on a schedule to be determined in the subrecipient contract. A format for quarterly reports will be distributed by the SJCoC or the Administrative Entity prior to the report being due. The SJCoC Chair has been authorized to work with the Administrative Entity to balance the competing interests of alleviating the reporting burden on service providers during an emergency and providing robust oversight of taxpayer money spent through this allocation.

SB 89 subrecipients that do not currently enter information into the HMIS must contact the HMIS Lead Agency — Central Valley Low Income Housing Corp. — through Bill Mendelson at 472-7200 ext. 105 or bmendelson@cvlihc.org, or Jon Mendelson at 470-8425 or jmendelson@cvlihc.org. Subrecipients must be able to document client program enrollment and tracking of service provision in the HMIS prior to spending SB 89 funds.

If a subrecipient believes it is unable to meet these requirements, it should immediately contact SJCoC Chair Jon Mendelson at jmendelson@cvlihc.org. Inability to meet these requirements may result in a request from the SJCoC to return funds. Any returned or unused funds because of an inability of a

subrecipient to meet these requirements may be made available to support Project Roomkey or a Project Roomkey Bridge to underwrite COVID-19 social distancing, isolation, and quarantine for homeless households.

Subrecipient failure to utilize these funds in a manner consistent with this direction may result in recapture of funds and/or disqualification for future funding from the San Joaquin Continuum of Care.

Authorizing Language

Priority SB 89 funding areas of the SJCoC are described by the SB 89 Allocation Plan approved by the SJCoC Board. These priority areas conform with eligible expenses contemplated by the California Department of Finance and align with the priorities of the under-development SJCoC Strategic Plan on Homelessness. Priority SB 89 funding areas were determined following extensive feedback from SJCoC members, service providers, health care officials, and in consultation with officials from Stockton and San Joaquin County:

SB 89 funds from the SJCoC are available for COVID-19 response efforts throughout San Joaquin County, including within the City of Stockton. Strategic priority may be given by the SJCoC to efforts that demonstrate sufficient capacity and that operate outside the City of Stockton, as other funds have been directed by the city toward city-based homeless service providers.

Support for Front-Line Service Providers (\$410,187.42) — SB 89 SJCoC Part 1

Organizations in San Joaquin County that provide emergency shelter, emergency food, outreach to encampments, sanitation and supplies to the homeless, and health care to the homeless are critical to containing the local spread of COVID-19 and providing resources for the most vulnerable members of our community. SB 89 funding will provide these organizations the tools they need to maintain sanitary conditions, provide essential services such as shelter and food, implement best practices regarding sanitation and social distancing, maintain staff levels needed for adequate service delivery, and perform triage and referral for individuals who present with possible symptoms of COVID-19.

Anticipated uses of this funding include materials and staff costs for homeless service providers that provide outreach, emergency shelter, emergency food, health care, and housing in order to provide necessary services to protect the health and safety of people experiencing homelessness and reduce the spread of the COVID-19 outbreak.

Subrecipient Awards

Awards to the following subrecipients are made by the authority of the SJCoC Board of Directors.

A working group of the SJCoC Board met to review the 13 received applications and recommend allocations. The working group discussed general priorities for the funding in accordance with the SB 89

Allocation Plan, including a discussion of how to fairly determine award allocations given the pressing need to act quickly to disburse funds to support services to homeless households. The working group discussed each applicant proposal individually, considering their alignment with the stated goals of SB 89 and the direction of the SJCoC, their articulation of how the expenditures were related to addressing the needs of homeless households impacted by COVID-19, and their strategic impact considering other available funding sources to address the COVID-19 crisis.

The working group’s recommendations are also based on an examination of the following factors:

- The proposal’s focus on directly responding to the needs of the homeless presented by COVID-19
- The proposal’s alignment with priorities as presented by the SJCoC SB 89 Allocation Plan and the State of California’s published intentions for SB 89 funds
- The applicant’s reliance on SJCoC SB 89 funds to provide the proposed services

The working group also prioritized funding applicant proposals that serve individuals outside the City of Stockton, as other funds are available for agencies within the city jurisdiction, and prioritized funding for applicant proposals that may not be eligible for other funding sources directed to these ends, such as Emergency Solutions Grants or Emergency Food and Shelter Program funds.

These considerations and recommendations are consistent with the SJCoC SB 89 Allocation Plan. Please see the following chart for Subrecipient Allocations:

APPLICANT	APPROVED AWARD
Gospel Center Rescue Mission	\$35,106.56
Stockton Shelter for the Homeless	\$17,472.56
Haven of Peace	\$20,106.56
McHenry House	\$25,000.00
Salvation Army Hope Harbor	\$4,276.00
HOPE Ministries	\$20,000.00
St. Mary's Dining Room	\$25,000.00
City of Lodi	\$63,250.00
City of Tracy	\$19,286.18
Community Medical Centers	\$81,534.00
Community Partnership for Families	\$31,198.00
Ready to Work	\$27,707.56
Tracy Community Connections Center	\$40,250.00

Total Awarded \$410,187.42

By accepting funds, a subrecipient agrees to abide by all requirements stipulated in this document, all requirements contained in the subrecipient contract, and all requirements contemplated by the State of California relevant to this funding source.

In recognition of the need for service providers to have immediate access to resources during this crisis, these awarded funds will be made available up-front by the Administrative Entity on behalf of the SJCoC.

Allocations of SB 89 funds approved by the SJCoC Board are considered final in accordance with the SJCoC SB 89 Allocation Plan and NOFA.