



DEPARTMENT OF
HOUSING AND HUMAN CONCERNS
 COUNTY OF MAUI

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April 20, 2017

Ms. Lynn A.S. Araki-Regan *W*
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Honorable Alan M. Arakawa
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 200 South High Street
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For Transmittal to:

Honorable Riki Hokama
 Chair, Budget and Finance Committee
 Maui County Council
 200 South High Street
 Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Dear Chair Hokama:

SUBJECT: REQUESTS/QUESTIONS FROM THE APRIL 18, 2017 MEETING
 (HC-6) (BF-1)

Thank you for your correspondence of April 19, 2017 requesting responses to questions asked at the April 18, 2017 meeting. The questions posed in your letter are listed below in bold and are followed by the Department's responses.

- 1. Under HC Office on Aging Operation, what is the County grant subsidy of \$25,000 for (index code 914150B-6317, page 8-25 of the Budget Details)? Is the Office on Aging a State responsibility? (RH)**

The County grant subsidy of \$25,000 (index code 914150B-6317) has been used to build volunteer capacity. We use the term "capacity building of volunteers" to describe the process that our service partners use to recruit, train, match, supervise, support, and retain valuable volunteers in our community.

The growth of our aging community and our goal of keeping more of our elders in homes (vs. nursing home/institutions) requires not only the ability

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and availability of service providers (nurses, case managers, chore providers, et al), but it also requires that many more volunteers be added to the system of care. In Hawaii, family and other informal caregivers (including volunteers) constitute a very high percentage of the care provided to our elders.

These county funds are allocated to agencies that coordinate and work closely with the Maui County Office on Aging to increase the opportunities for volunteerism specifically for our aged population. We contract with a variety of community partners to achieve the highest use of these funds.

2. **Provide a cost breakdown of items covered under the following Office on Aging (index code 914150B) sub-object codes (pages 8-24 and 8-25 of the Budget Details):**
 - a. **6035 Miscellaneous Supplies \$500**
 - b. **6129 Other Services \$550**
 - c. **6221 Miscellaneous Other Costs \$300 (EC)**

The description of these sub-object codes lend flexibility to their use. For example, many of the expenses are not regular annual or monthly expenses, but occasionally arise in the course of our operations and functions. The sub-object codes allow us to allocate the funds to the code that best describes the nature of the expenses when they cannot be allocated to more clearly defined accounts.

Some of the costs associated with the sub-object codes include the following:

- Supplies for training and meetings (Office on Aging has at least 24+ meetings per year)
- Services related to the maintenance of the Office on Aging fleet of County vehicles. These vehicles are essential to conduct in-house assessments of the many clients who don't have transportation and for staff to attend County-related meetings and business.
- Notary public renewal and bonding fees
- Disposal fees for obsolete equipment

3. **What are the measurables for the \$1 million appropriation to the Homeless Program? Specifically, how will funds be used to address the homeless issues and public safety issues the community is currently facing? (SC/RH)**

The \$1 million appropriation for Homeless Program provides funds for various homeless service agencies for essential homeless-related purposes that support the goals of the County of Maui's Homeless Division. Depending upon the purpose of the funds, each grantee is required to abide by their own set of Performance Measures and Outcomes and Outputs. These Performance Measures are monitored by the Grants Management Division to ensure applicability and maximize prudent use of County funds.

The following agencies received funding from the \$1 million appropriation:

- Family Life Center
 - Funding to increase outreach. The purpose is to engage unsheltered individuals who are on the streets, beaches, parks, etc., to get them document-ready and connect them to necessary support services. The goal is to identify and focus on those who indicate a willingness to work towards housing, get them off the streets and into permanent housing. It is no longer about providing food/basic needs, but a focus on housing.
 - Funding to increasing case management. These funds are used to provide assistance to individuals who are in shelter/housing. The purpose is to provide the necessary case management support services to achieve the goals of stabilizing and improving physical and mental health and social functioning of clients, maximizing the use of social resources/services. The goal is to successfully exit individuals out of homelessness and ensure that they are able to sustain permanent housing.
 - Funding to convert existing space into 2 family units will enable FLC to serve families and not just singles. Current rules prohibit families and singles to coexist in the same place.
 - Funding to purchase and install 40 10x10 lockers. Access to lockers to store belongings will allow homeless individuals to attend appointments, seek employment, go to school and to work without having to take their belongings with them. Having a secure place to store important documents makes it easier to stay in school or find a job or housing and can even prevent violence. Day-to-day it alleviates stress about feeling that important possessions are in jeopardy of being lost, stolen, discarded or damaged.
- Ka Hale A Ke Ola
 - Funding to support the operations of the Central & West Maui facilities which provide housing and case management

services for our homeless. This is especially critical in West Maui, where they are the only facility for homeless. The organization provides safe and secure housing and wrap around services to stabilize homeless individuals and families, which helps to facilitate placement in permanent housing.

- Legal Aid Society
 - Funding to provide free legal assistance to homeless individuals in such areas as obtaining and maximizing social security benefits; obtaining identification, child custody and other legal issues that they normally wouldn't be able to afford. Thus helping homeless individuals to become more self-sufficient.
- Malama Maui Nui
 - Funding to remove and dispose of homeless individuals' abandoned property and trash along public roadways, property and waterways. This service is closely coordinated with the Department of Housing & Human Concerns and the Maui Police Department's Community Officers to address the safety and health impacts of homelessness and reduce the impact on the environment.

4. Is the \$1 million appropriation to the Homeless Program connected to the goals and objectives of the Homeless Division? If not, explain why. (KK)

Each of the grants funded from the \$1 million appropriation align with many of the DHHC's Homeless Division's goals to:

- Develop ongoing strategies to end homelessness
- Research, assess and make recommendations of new programs which address housing needs and gaps relating to the assistance for the homeless
- Address homeless impacts and concerns pertaining to health and safety related issues on homeless topics
- Address homeless prevention

DHHC's Homeless Division works in unison with our homeless providers to address the many, complex issues of homelessness. Most importantly, one of the top strategies in ending homelessness is utilizing the Housing First model to further our goal of ending homelessness. The County, along with all of the homeless service providers, work together to focus on the neediest of the homeless clientele. These are the individuals and families that are using the majority of the resources.

As an example, the funding of the Family Life Center's outreach efforts result in the collection of data. This data that collected by outreach is utilized by DHHC's Homeless Division via our centralized Coordinated Entry System which will efficiently enable the identification and assessment of an individual's needs, and makes prioritization decisions based upon needs, thereby avoiding duplicative services.

5. Explain what the \$50,000 County grant subsidy for the Mental Health Association (page 8-39 of the Budget Details) will be used for. (RH)

The proposed County grant subsidy for the Mental Health Association will be used for personnel costs, equipment and supplies.

6. Why is the \$100,000 appropriated for the Lanai Youth Center Facility (page 8-44) listed as a grant instead of as a capital improvement project? (RH)

The \$100,000 appropriation was proposed as a grant. The Lanai Youth Center stated in its application that the intended use is to complete the planning and design phases of a new facility which commenced with a grant award received by the County in FY17.

It is important to note that grants have been provided to other non-profits who are on County-owned property for planning and construction. Examples include J. Walter Cameron Center and Aloha House.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this information. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at Ext. 7805.

Sincerely,



CAROL K. REIMANN
Director of Housing and Human Concerns