



Pinellas County

Staff Report

File #: 22-1152A, Version: 1

Subject:

Service Area Competition grant application for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources Services Administration for the Health Care for the Homeless program.

Recommended Action:

Approval of the Service Area Competition grant application for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and delegation of authority to the Human Services Department Director to serve as the Authorized Organizational Representative role in order to administer the grant through HRSA's grant management system, the Electronic Handbook (EHB).

Also included for approval is the Health Care for the Homeless Co-Applicant Board Roster and Notice of Award for the current budget period.

- The next three-year grant period of federal funding supports the County's Health Care for the Homeless program for a project period starting March 1, 2023, through February 28, 2026.
- Federal funding supports the provision of medical, dental, and behavioral health care for individuals experiencing homelessness and receiving care at the Bayside Clinic and Mobile Medical Unit.
- Federal funding for the grant application is in the amount of \$1,764,565.00 for the first budget year starting March 1, 2023 through February 28, 2024. This is consistent with a funding award for the current grant budget period March 1, 2022 - February 28, 2023.
- HRSA's EHB is the grant management system utilized to submit applications, reporting and any changes to the grant. Delegating Authority to the Human Services Director allows for administering the grant activities in the federal system and has no impact on funding received.
- The HCH Co-Applicant Board maintains shared oversight and authority of the HCH program as defined in the Co-Applicant Agreement, last approved on March 9, 2021. The Co-Applicant Board will review and approve the grant application submission on August 9, 2022.
- In 2021, the County served 1,819 unduplicated homeless patients through the MMU and Bayside Health Clinic. This award will allow the County to continue providing primary medical care and prevention services to homeless residents. The funding will support clinical services for 2,979 unduplicated patients by December 31, 2024.
- No cash match required.

Strategic Plan:

Ensure Public Health, Safety, and Welfare

2.2 Be a facilitator, convener and purchaser of services for those in need

Deliver First Class Services to the Public and our Customers

5.1 Maximize partner relationship and public outreach

5.2 Be responsible stewards of the public's resources

Summary:

This application for federal funding supports the County's Health Care for the Homeless program for a three-year project period starting March 1, 2023 through February 28, 2026. The purpose of this grant program is to improve the health of the Nation's underserved communities and vulnerable populations by assuring continued access to comprehensive, culturally competent, quality primary health care services. In 2021, the program provided basic health care services on the Mobile Medical Unit (MMU) and at Bayside Health Clinic to 1,816 homeless patients. A majority (97%) of these clients have an income at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL).

The HCH Co-Applicant Board serves as the patient/community-based governing board to set health center policy for the Healthcare for the Homeless Program on behalf of the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners. As a public center, the HCH Co-Applicant Board includes a representative majority of consumer/patient representatives, meets monthly, and fulfills all the required authorities of a governing board.

Background Information:

A SAC application is a request for federal financial assistance to continue support of comprehensive primary health care services in a service area currently served by a health center program grantee whose project period is ending in FY 2022.

Since 1988, medical and dental care referrals have been provided to the homeless population in the County via the MMU. The MMU visits shelters, soup kitchens, drop-in centers and other locations where the homeless congregate. In April 2016, the County opened the Bayside Health Clinic located adjacent to the Safe Harbor homeless shelter.

In 2021, the County served 1,819 unduplicated homeless patients through the MMU and Bayside Health Clinic. This award will allow the County to continue providing primary medical care and prevention services to homeless residents. The funding will support clinical services for 2,979 unduplicated patients by December 31, 2024.

Fiscal Impact:

This grant application is requesting \$1,764,565.00 in federal funds. While no cash match is required, the County anticipates applying non-federal funds to the program totaling approximately \$3,437,610.00. This grant is included in the FY23 Proposed Budget. The grant award for the current budget period is \$1,764,565 in federal funds.

Staff Member Responsible:

Karen Yatchum, Director, Human Services

Partners:

Health Care for the Homeless Co-Applicant Board
Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County
Operation PAR
Directions for Living
Homeless Leadership Board

Attachments:

Intent to Apply Approval

Grants.Gov Application Package

HCH Co-Applicant Board Roster

Notice of Award - H80CS00024-21-00