



COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

AGENDA ITEM NO.
I-3

For the meeting of: April 18, 2017

Date: April 3, 2017
To: Board of Supervisors
From: Connie Beck, Director, Department of Health and Human Services
Subject: Winter Shelter Program and Budget updates for Winter 2016-2017

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the Board of Supervisors receive and file a presentation by Connie Beck, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Director

SOURCE OF FUNDING:

General fund

DISCUSSION:

The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) administers the County's Winter Shelter program annually. This presentation will provide the Board with an update on the Winter Shelter program and changes made to serve more families experiencing homelessness through the use of CalWORKs housing programs. In Fiscal year 16-17 the program has seen more families permanently homed and significant cost savings.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There is no financial impact to the county's General Fund associated with the recommendation before your

Prepared by Laurel Johnson, AAll CAO Approval Erica Hays

REVIEW: Auditor _____ County Counsel _____ Personnel _____ Risk Manager _____ Other _____

TYPE OF ITEM:
 Consent
 Departmental
 Public Hearing
 Other _____

PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:
Board Order No. _____
Meeting of: _____

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT
Upon motion of Supervisor Fennell Seconded by Supervisor Sundberg
Ayes Sundberg, Fennell, Bass, Bohn
Nays _____
Abstain _____
Absent Wilson

and carried by those members present, the Board hereby approves the recommended action contained in this Board report.

Dated: Apr 18, 2017
By: Ann Huntwell
Kathy Hayes, Clerk of the Board

Board. This action supports the board's strategic framework by protecting vulnerable populations and creating opportunities for improved safety and health.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

None

ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Board could choose not to receive a presentation on the current status of Winter Shelter program and funding. This is not recommended.

ATTACHMENTS:

Winter Shelter Program PowerPoint Presentation

Winter Shelter Program

Presented by DHHS Director Connie Beck



Past Winter Shelter Program

- Short-term lodging in local motels for homeless families:
 - Families with minor children and pregnant women
 - Other family groups: legal guardians, grandparents raising children
- Prioritized on a scale with points for:
 - Each child age 5 and younger
 - Last trimester of pregnancy
 - Mental/medical compromised condition
 - Length of time on wait list



Past Winter Shelter Program

- Mid-November until mid-March (18 weeks)
- \$124,500 Budget
- Length of stay: 6 weeks with possible extension under certain circumstances
- Sheltered families received case management services with goal of securing permanent housing



What Didn't Work

- Families were not getting permanent housing
- That lead to a high number of repeat customers
 - 1 family received motel vouchers 4 years in a row
 - 4 families received motel vouchers 3 out of 4 years
 - 12 families received motel vouchers 2 out of 4 years



Changes We've Made

- Shelter applicants are required to apply for and receive CalWORKs benefits if eligible to receive support through the many housing programs CalWORKs offers
- Applicants are only eligible for motel vouchers through the Winter Shelter Program if they aren't eligible for CalWORKs

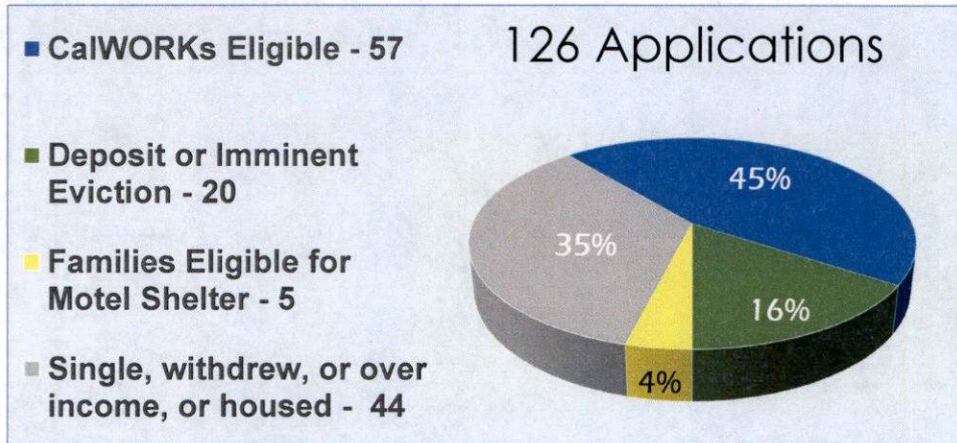


Changes We've Made

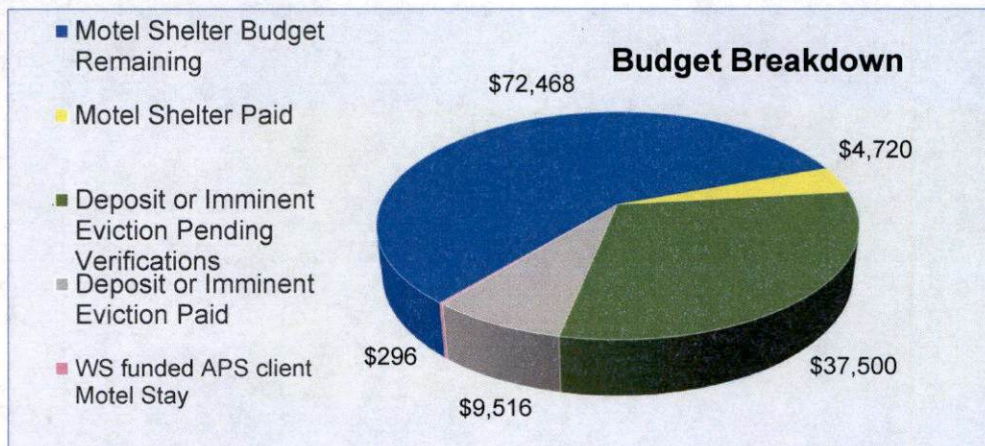
- Like rapid re-housing, eligible families with income may receive a one-time grant to help with move-in costs or avoid eviction instead of a motel stay
- Families sheltered in motels receive referrals to community partners and other programs that may help with income



Results



Results



Results

Increased permanency

- 2 families had move in assistance from Winter Shelter funds
- 2 families had evictions prevented from Winter Shelter funds
- 16 families will have deposit paid or eviction prevented if verifications provided
- Over 45% of applicants eligible through CalWORKs programs

Cost savings

- \$72,468 remaining in Winter Shelter funds as of 03/31/17

