



## CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON MEASURE Z EXPENDITURES

(Advisory Committee will make recommendations to the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors  
as to expenditure of funds derived from *Measure Z*.)

### APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

Agency Name: Humboldt County Department of Health & Human Services

Mailing Address: 507 F Street Eureka CA 95501

Contact Person: Kelly Johnson, LCSW Title: Senior Program Manager

Telephone: 707-407-9577 E-mail address: kjohnson@co.humboldt.ca.us

1. AMOUNT OF MEASURE Z FUNDING REQUESTED FOR FY 2019-20: \$ 257,500

2. ENTITY TYPE -- Please check appropriate box.

- |   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| a. Humboldt County Department                   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b. Contract Service Provider to Humboldt County | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| c. Local Government Entity                      | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| d. Private Service Provider                     | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| e. Non-Profit Service Provider                  | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| f. Other  | <input type="checkbox"/>            |

**RECEIVED**  
**FEB 25 2019**  
**CAO**

3. Please provide brief description of proposal for which you are seeking funding.

Mobile Intervention Services Team (MIST) Expansion:

MIST was previously funded from Measure Z as part of an award to the City of Eureka. The project has been successful and DHHS intends to make it available in more communities of Humboldt County, beyond Eureka. MIST has expanded our partnerships to include Arcata Police Department (APD) and Humboldt County Sheriff's Office (HCSO) in unincorporated areas of the County. We hope to build partnerships with the Rio Dell and Fortuna Police Departments as well.

MIST activities provide public safety by having law enforcement officers and clinical staff from County Mental Health work together in the field to identify and engage homeless persons with serious mental illness and/or substance use disorders. The goal for participants is to obtain and retain stable housing and to engage in substance use disorder and/or mental health treatment.

4. How are you developing a plan for sustainability, including diversification of funding sources, in order for your proposal to carry on without reliance on future *Measure Z* funds?

Mental health services funded by MediCal, Medicare and private insurance are available from the County. The gaps covered by this request are related to housing since participants are homeless and to support the work of outreach and clinical staff that will be working with LE officers. Housing may be short-term (such as motels or supervised group living) to get participants off the streets immediately while other housing and treatment is being arranged; may be transitional for persons that require stability and supervision while participating in treatment to be successful; may be transitional with aftercare for persons leaving 30-day residential treatment to avoid a return to the street and relapse into addiction; or, may be financial assistance to cover security deposits, application fees and temporary rental assistance so participants will obtain permanent housing.

Humboldt County Board of Supervisors have made affordable housing a priority for the County. The State is releasing substantial funding to build more housing and to address the multiple issues of persons experiencing homelessness. DHHS expects to make use of these funds and to reduce dependence on *Measure Z* or O.

5. If this request is for the continuation, or expansion, of an existing program/service, what is the current source of funding for that program/service?

Previously, MIST obtained funding for substance use disorder treatment and housing assistance for homeless people in Eureka from the City of Eureka's *Measure Z* project.

Staff and operations costs for Mental Health Clinical and Outreach staff were paid from DHHS Mental Health budget.

6. If you are awarded *Measure Z* funds, how will you use them to leverage additional grants, contributions, or community support?

MIST activities are part of the DHHS efforts to reduce the numbers of individuals and families experiencing homelessness in Humboldt County. MIST focuses on the difficult population of "street homeless" that require extraordinary effort to engage and have substance use disorders and/or serious mental health issues. DHHS is very active in developing housing opportunities and grant funding to support housing stability for low and very low-income residents. Currently DHHS receives funding from HUD, Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), and State sources for CalWORKS families and persons existing on General Relief while waiting for SSI.

DHHS expects to continue receiving these funds and increasing the amount available. In the coming year DHHS will receive additional funding from the HomeSafe program for APS referrals, and from No Place Like Home (NPLH) for persons with serious mental illness. DHHS just received funding to support additional outreach staff and related expenses from the CA Department of Health Care Services. DHHS will apply for available funds from HEAP in response to the recent RFP and continue to apply for funding dedicated to ending homelessness and increasing supply of available housing.

7. Will this proposal require new or expanded activity on the part of another entity to be fully functional and effective? If so, please describe

MIST does require the cooperation of Law Enforcement entities. DHHS has been exploring the expansion of MIST during the past year and has started working closely with Arcata Police Department and the HCSO. Some early groundwork has been done with the City of Rio Dell and the City of Fortuna has expressed interest in having MIST available in their community.



8. Are there recurring expenses associated to this application, such as personnel costs? Please check yes or no and if so, please detail those expenses. ☐ Yes ☒ No

**ATTACHMENTS—Please include the following with your application**

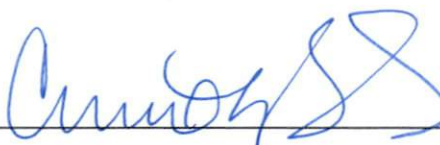
**Proposal Narrative:** Brief description of your request for *Measure Z* funds – Please explain how it is an essential service or for public safety. (one page maximum)

**Prior Year Results:** If your request is a continuation of a program funded with *Measure Z* in prior fiscal years, please provide the results of implementation. (one page maximum)

**Program Budget**

**I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the above statements and all attachments are true and correct**

DATE: 2-25-19

SIGNATURE: 

**SUBMIT THIS APPLICATION TO:**

Humboldt County Citizens' Advisory Committee on *Measure Z* Expenditures  
c/o County Administrative Office  
825 Fifth Street, Room 112

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## NARRATIVE

## MIST EXPANSION

Measure Z funds are a critical piece of the effort to ameliorate the public safety hazards associated with chronic homelessness combined with serious mental illness and substance use disorders. These hazards affect both community members and the homeless people experiencing problems because of their exposure to housed and unhoused persons that prey on highly vulnerable people.

Law enforcement officers and other public safety entities spend considerable hours of time in repeated interactions with chronically homeless people, particularly those with serious mental illness and heavy substance use disorders. There are frequent calls for service that can tie up officer time for an hour or longer. If a mentally ill person must be transported by an officer to the County's mental hospital, Sempervirens, the officer must first take them to an emergency room for medical clearance and wait with the individual to be cleared and then transport the person to County Mental Health. This can mean hours that the officer is off the street and unavailable. In the case of southern Humboldt, transport and process by the Sheriff can take most of a shift, leaving residents with reduced law enforcement.

Homeless persons with chronic diseases or disorders that affect physical ability frequently fall or otherwise injure themselves. People with substance use disorders can overdose or exhibit dangerous behaviors resulting in both officer time and intervention by ambulance and fire departments, again consuming hours of time that could be devoted to other crime prevention activities.

Seriously mentally ill people experiencing homelessness are particularly at risk of being crime victims themselves. They may be impaired by their psychiatric medications or by symptoms of their mental illness and vulnerable to theft and physical abuse. Some are receiving regular SSI, Veterans' benefits or Social Security or may have possession of prescribed medications. This makes them easy targets for theft and assault.

Measure Z funding will provide access to multiple forms of housing to get individuals off the streets and in a position to receive services, counseling, medical care, job training and more and connect them to support staff to assist in navigating the system. The other housing funding available from DHHS does not adequately support immediate, short term housing to shelter people or the transitional housing needed for persons that are in recovery and aftercare from substance use disorder treatment. The availability of short-term and transitional housing for persons in recovery will assist in closing the "revolving door" that cycles people from street to treatment then back to street.

Results from the 2019 Point in Time (PIT) count completed January 23, 2019 show that Humboldt continues to have persistently high numbers of unsheltered people experiencing homelessness.

### POINT-IN-TIME COUNT: UNSHELTERED, JANUARY 23, 2019

COMMUNITY	COUNT
Eureka	653
Arcata/Manila	263
Garberville/Redway/Benbow	220
McKinleyville	121
Fortuna/Loleta/Ferndale	83
Willow Creek/Hoopa/Weitchpec/Orleans/Pecwan	49
Rio Dell	40
Orick	14
Blue Lake	14
Petrolia	10
Trinidad	6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,473</b>

Year	Total	Uns	SMI	SUD
2015	1319	844	47.9%	52%
2017	759	434	47%	48.8%
2019	TBD	1,473	TBD	TBD

The chart above illustrates the percent of unsheltered persons in previous counts that self-reported Serious Mental Illness and/or Substance Use Disorders. The total number of Homeless persons in 2019 is to be determined as are percent of persons reporting SMI and/or SUD. If trend continues as expected, this is a public safety problem.

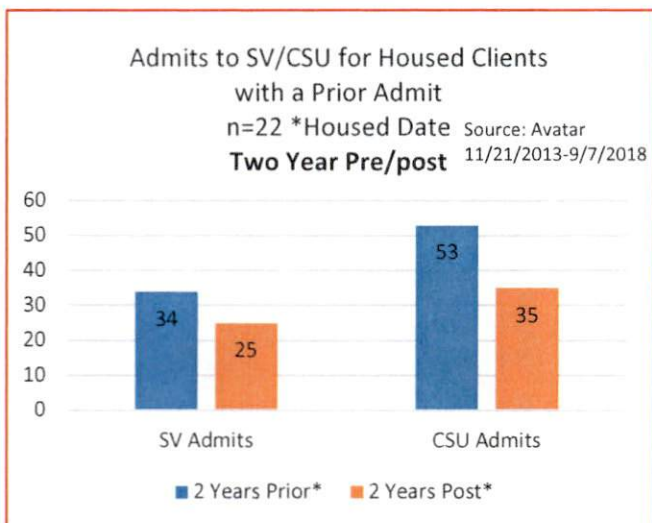
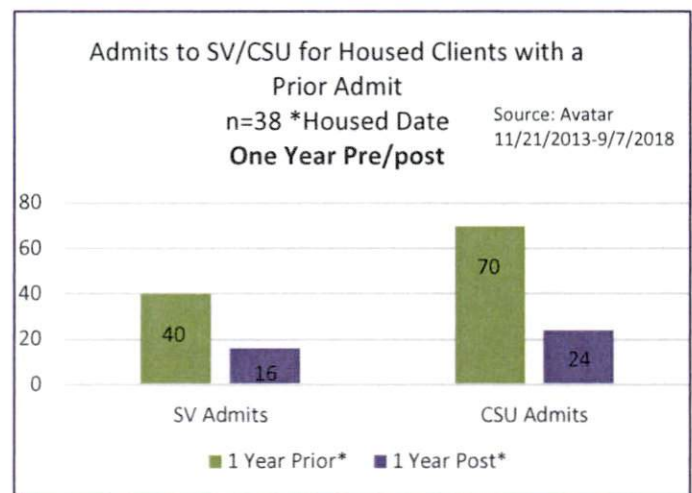
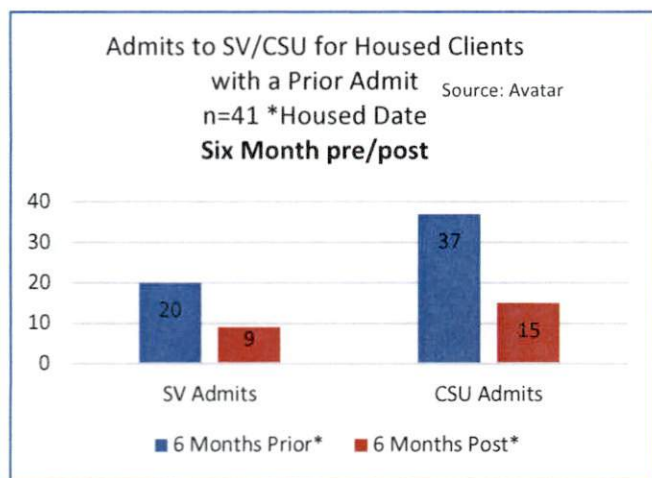


## PRIOR YEAR RESULTS

MIST began in January 2015 and picked up momentum around the time of the evacuation of the Palco Marsh. DHHS and the Eureka Police Department (EPD) developed MIST together and have relied on Measure Z funding to build the program. It has been very successful in multiple ways. The MIST/EPD team was able to identify persons with suspected mental illness and have them immediately assessed. For individuals unwilling to be assessed for treatment, it got the person introduced to outreach staff that would begin the process of engagement needed to build trust with the homeless individual.

Many of the people that left the Marsh were willing to go to the MAC and begin the process of getting treatment and housing. The MIST/EPD team worked by developing a list of the "top ten" individuals causing law enforcement problems and concentrating attention on that group.

Thus far, DHHS has successfully housed more than one hundred formerly chronically homeless people with mental illness into permanent housing with support services. Participants pay a portion of the rent with Measure Z and other housing funds pay the balance. Pre- and post-housing reports from County Mental Health show reductions of 26% to 66% in the number of visits to County Mental Health facilities after being housed compared to number of visits before being housed. Soon, DHHS will be able to report on outcomes for participants in numbers of visits to hospital emergency rooms and to the jail and EPD noted significant reductions in calls for service after some of the "top ten" were housed.



Pre- and Post-Housing Comparison; reduction in # of visits							
		SV Admits			CSU Admits		
TIME	N=	Pre	Post	%	Pre	Post	%
6 months	41	20	9	-55%	37	15	-59%
One Year	38	40	16	-60%	70	24	-66%
Two Years	22	34	25	-26%	53	35	-34%

**PROPOSED BUDGET**

Housing Support	\$250,000
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Includes short term housing, immediate temporary housing, transitional housing for participants in aftercare and recovery, rental assistance for permanent housing including security deposits and application fees, and other similar costs that assist participants in achieving housing stability.

Project administration (Accounting and reporting) 3%	7,500
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<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>\$257,500</b>
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