



September 23, 2024

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Alameda
1221 Oak Street
Oakland, CA 94612

**SUBJECT: ACCEPT THE GRANT FOR THE BENEFIT OF HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS (GBHI)
AWARD (NO. 1H79TI086531-01) FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES TO EXPAND COMMUNITY TREATMENT AND RECOVERY
SERVICES TO INDIVIDUALS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS; APPROVE
MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING TO PREVENT OPIOID-RELATED DEATHS
THROUGH THE DISTRIBUTION OF NALOXONE WITH PARTICIPATING
ORGANIZATIONS**

Dear Board Members:

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- A. Accept the Grant for the Benefit of Homeless Individuals (GBHI) (No. 1H79TI086531-01) from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to expand community treatment and recovery services to individuals experiencing homelessness for the period of 9/30/24 – 9/29/25 in the amount of \$500,000 with no matching fund requirements;
- B. Approve Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) with 25 community-based organizations to participate with Alameda County Health Care for the Homeless in the distribution of naloxone to reduce overdose deaths, at no cost to the participating organizations, for the period of 10/8/24 – 6/30/27 as listed in Attachment A;
- C. Delegate authority to the Alameda County Health Director, or designee, to execute the MOUs as referenced in Recommendation B, subject to approval as to form by County Counsel and to submit copies of the MOUs to the Clerk of the Board for filing; and
- D. Authorize the Auditor-Controller to make the related budget adjustments to increase appropriation by \$375,000 with offsetting revenue from the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Grant for the Benefit of Homeless Individuals (GBHI)



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DISCUSSION/SUMMARY:

Alameda County Health (AC Health) requests your Board accept a Grant for the Benefit of Homeless Individuals (GBHI), which was awarded to Alameda County Health Care for the Homeless (ACHCH) on July 5, 2024 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), to expand and strengthen treatment and recovery support services for individuals experiencing homelessness in Alameda County who have substance use disorders or co-occurring mental and substance use disorders, for the period of 9/30/24 – 9/29/25 in the amount of \$500,000 with no matching fund requirements.

Your Board's acceptance of the grant would allow ACHCH to provide nurse care management, behavioral health, and peer-support services at shelters and community-based sites in collaboration with ACHCH staff and community-based service providers.

The SAMHSA GBHI grant is part of a larger strategic plan within ACHCH to both increase access to treatment and prevent overdose deaths in the homeless population. One critical intervention to address preventable deaths is to increase access to Naloxone, a medication that rapidly reverses an opioid overdose. According to the Substance and Addiction Prevention Branch of the California Department of Public Health, “Naloxone is a life-saving medication used to reverse an opioid overdose, including heroin, fentanyl and prescription opioid medications. Naloxone can be quickly given through nasal spray (Narcan®) in the nose, or through an injectable or auto-injector into the outer thigh or another major muscle. Naloxone is safe and easy to use, works almost immediately, and is not addictive. Naloxone has very few negative effects, and has no effect if opioids are not in a person’s system.”

Annually, the number of homeless deaths due to opioid overdoses is rising in the Bay Area. To prevent deaths in Alameda County, ACHCH has provided naloxone overdose rescue trainings and distributed naloxone to homeless-serving, community-based organizations since 2020. In 2024, the State recognized the extent of the crisis, creating the Naloxone Distribution Project (NDP) with oversight by the California Department of Health Services (DHCS). Under the NDP, organizations can directly order free supplies of naloxone and fentanyl test strips.

Furthermore, AC Health requests your Board approve the MOUs with the community-based organizations (CBOs) listed on Attachment A (CBOs participating in the distribution of naloxone to reduce overdose deaths) to work with ACHCH as identified homeless service providers across Alameda County to take advantage of available naloxone through the State and support the installation of naloxone dispensers at key locations so individuals have low barrier, immediate access to this life saving medication.

Under the terms of the MOUs, Alameda County Health Care for the Homeless will work with participating CBOs to implement the California's Naloxone Distribution Project (NDP) to:

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- A. Allow community organizations and other entities in California that are not currently working with a physician to distribute naloxone to a person at risk of an opioid-related overdose or to a family member, friend, or other person in a position to assist; and
- B. Allow for the administration of naloxone by a family member, friend, or other person to a person experiencing or reasonably suspected of experiencing an opioid overdose.

ACHCH shall support participating organizations by providing the following services: training and technical assistance on how to order and maintain supplies of naloxone and developing a plan for distributing naloxone to shelter residents and staff via the convenient placement of wall-mounted dispensers at no cost to the participating CBOs. Participating CBOs are responsible for supporting the project by identifying CBO points of contact, leading staff training, completing the DHCS application to receive free naloxone for distribution, ongoing ordering of naloxone and supplies, and installing and maintaining dispensers.

AC Health also requests your Board's approval to delegate authority to the AC Health Director, or designee, to execute the MOUs referenced in Recommendation B, upon review by County Counsel as to form.

AC Health will bring subsequent Board letters to approve contacts with providers once selected through the Alameda County Vendor Pool process and funded by the SAMHSA Grant for the Benefit of Homeless Individuals (GBHI).

SELECTION CRITERIA/PROCESS:

The community-based organizations listed in Attachment A to participate with Alameda County Health Care for the Homeless (ACHCH) in the distribution of naloxone to reduce overdose deaths were selected based on interest and capacity to participate in naloxone distribution efforts from more than 30 organizations who serve unhoused populations, including emergency shelters and transitional housing sites.

FINANCING:

Funding for these recommendations (\$500,000) comes from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Grant for the Benefit of Homeless Individuals (GBHI) and is not included in the AC Health Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-2025 Approved Budget. Of this total, AC Health requests a budget adjustment to increase appropriations in the amount of \$375,000 offset by revenue in the same amount per the financial recommendations. The remaining balance of \$125,000 will be requested in the AC Health FY 2025-2026 Maintenance of Effort (MOE) budget. Approval of these recommendations will have no impact on net County cost.



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VISION 2026 GOAL:

Providing substance use treatment services and naloxone distribution to persons experiencing homelessness meets the 10X goal pathways of **Healthcare for All** and **Eliminating Homelessness** in support of our shared vision of a **Thriving & Resilient Population**.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:


Colleen Chawla, Director
Alameda County Health



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ATTACHMENT A

CBOs participating in the distribution of naloxone to reduce overdose deaths

Community-Based Organization	Location	Signatory
Bay Area Community Services (BACS)	Oakland	Jamie Almanza
Building Opportunities for Self-Sufficiency (BOSS)	Berkeley	Donald Frazier
Larkin Street Youth Services	San Francisco	Sherilyn Adams
Women's Daytime Drop-in Center	Berkeley	Leslie Berkler
Dorothy Day House	Berkeley	Robbie Montoya
Building Futures (BFWC)	San Leandro	Liz Varela
CAREavan: Castro Valley Safe Parking, Fairmont Safe Parking (ALCO)	Union City	Jesus Garcia
Family Emergency Shelter Coalition Family Shelter (FESCO)	Hayward	Sara Voit
First Presbyterian Church of Hayward	Castro Valley	Hallie Hottle
Village of Love Inc.	Alameda	Joey Harrison
Ruby's place Inc.	Castro Valley	Sophora Acheson
Safe Alternatives to Violent Environments (SAVE)	Fremont	Kate Hart
Open Heart Kitchen	Livermore	John Bost
Urban Alchemy	San Francisco	Dr. Lena Miller
Covenant House	Oakland	Paida Ndemera
Dos De Febrero	Oakland	Abel Sanchez
Dream Center	Oakland	Walter Montgomery
East Oakland Community Project (EOCP)	Oakland	Shari Wooldridge
Housing Consortium of the East Bay (HCEB)	Oakland	Darin Lounds
Men of Valor	Oakland	K.J. Williams
Family Bridges	Oakland	Corinne Jan
Operation Dignity-Dignity House	Oakland	Laura Mason
St. Vincent De Paul	Oakland	Blase Bova
Youth Spirit Artworks	Oakland	Alexandria Wilson
Salvation Army Garden Street	Oakland	Renita Steward

AGENDA DATE: 10/8/2024BOARD LETTER SUBJECT: ACCEPT GRANT NO. 1H79TI086531-01 FROM U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
FOR THE PERIOD 9/30/24 - 9/29/25, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$375,000; AUTHORIZE THE AUDITOR-CONTROLLER TO MAKE RELATED BUDGET
ADJUSTMENTS.BUDGET YEAR: 2025FUND: 10000

The use of Designations, as follows:

NAME OF DESIGNATION	ORG	AMOUNT

The increase (decrease) in anticipated revenue, as follows:

Informational

ORG	ACCT	PROG	PROJ/GR	AMOUNT
350155	456120	00000	HCGHCHPH79I6531	\$375,000

ORG TOTAL\$375,000GRAND TOTAL ANTICIPATED REVENUE\$375,000

The increase (decrease) in appropriations, as follows:

Informational

ORG	ACCT	PROG	PROJ/GR	AMOUNT
350155	610000	00000	HCGHCHPH79I6531	\$375,000

ORG TOTAL\$375,000*Informational*GRAND TOTAL APPROPRIATION\$375,000