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**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



**FROM:** Director of Mental Health      **SUBMITTAL DATE:** March 31, 2003

**SUBJECT:** Approval of Operational Agreement between Riverside County  
Department of Mental Health and Episcopal Community Services for Collaborative  
Homeless Grant Application.

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:** Move that the Board of Supervisors,

1. Approve the attached Operational Agreement between the Department of Mental Health and Episcopal Community Services, and,
2. Authorize the Director of Mental Health to sign the Agreement.

**BACKGROUND:** In late February, 2003, a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) from a collaborative of Federal agencies was published. The NOFA announced a \$35 million initiative to help end chronic homelessness. The initiative is coordinated by the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (ICH) and involves the participation of The Department of Housing and Urban

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**THIS AGREEMENT HAS BEEN FORM APPROVED BY COUNTY COUNSEL**

*John J. Ryan*  
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 John J. Ryan, Director  
 Department of Mental Health

JJR:NE

**FINANCIAL DATA:** NA

**CURRENT YEAR COST:** \$ NA

**NET COUNTY COST:** \$ NA

**ANNUAL COST:** \$ -0-

**IN CURRENT YEAR BUDGET:** N/A

**BUDGET ADJUSTMENT:** NA

**SOURCE OF FUNDS:** Federal 100%

**C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:**      **APPROVE**

County Executive Officer Signature *Roger U...*

COUNTY COUNSEL

APR 01, 2003

BY *JJR*

Department Recommendation:  Policy  Policy  
 Per Executive Office:  Consent  Policy

**SUBJECT:** Approval of Operational Agreement between Riverside County Department of Mental Health and Episcopal Community Services for Collaborative Homeless Grant Application. (Adult/Older Adult Services)

**BACKGROUND (Continued)**

Development (HUD), the Veteran's Administration (VA), and the Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). As required by the grant guidelines, a collaborative effort to apply for the grant funds at the local level is being coordinated by Episcopal Community Services (ECS). ECS has served the homeless population for over twenty years, and currently operates eight (8) transitional housing facilities in both Riverside and San Diego Counties.

As the lead organization for the grant application, ECS will be responsible for submission of the collaborative application and any reporting requirements. They will serve as the primary housing provider for the target population and will be responsible for entering into operational agreements with organizations providing other services outlined in the NOFA. Specifically, ECS requests to enter into an operational agreement with the Department for the provision of mental health and substance abuse services, the local veteran's organization for services to homeless veteran's and has entered into an operational agreement with Community Health Systems, Inc., to provide primary healthcare to grant beneficiaries.

**Purpose of the Initiative**

The purpose of initiative is to create a collaborative and comprehensive approach at the State and local level that addresses the problems of homelessness of the most vulnerable citizens. The collaboration among the Federal departments offers housing, mental health and substance abuse services, comprehensive primary care and veterans' services to the target population.

HUD has made \$20 million available for permanent housing activities. HHS/SAMHSA has offered \$7 million for mental health and substance abuse services. HHS/HRSA has provided \$3 million in funding for supplemental awards to Sec. 330 Health Centers and the VA is funding \$5 million to local veteran's organizations who provide in-kind support.

**Target Population**

Chronically unaccompanied homeless individual with mental illness and/or substance abuse problems or homeless adult with a disabling condition accompanied by at least one dependent child.

**Grant Period**

If awarded, the grant will be effective from the date of the award to September 30, 2006.

**Collaborative Grant Applications**

The NOFA requires that the grant applications demonstrate a comprehensive approach that address both the overall approach and the specific technical requirements established by the participating agencies. Funding provided by HUD must be used to provide permanent housing; HHS/SAMHSA funds will be directed toward substance abuse treatment, mental health and related supportive services; and HHS/HRSA funds will be used for primary health care services. Applicants will be able to obtain additional resources from local VA facilities by addressing the specific needs of chronically homeless veterans in their applications.

**SUBJECT:** Approval of Operational Agreement between Riverside County Department of Mental Health and Episcopal Community Services for Collaborative Homeless Grant Application. (Adult/Older Adult Services)

The application submission deadline is April 14, 2003. A signed Operational Agreement is required as part of the application packet.

### **Operational Agreement**

Episcopal Community Services (ECS), like the Department, is a partner on the Riverside County Continuum of Care task force. The task force meets regularly to address the needs of the homeless population in Riverside County and attempts to provide a forum where resources from various organizations serving the homeless population can be disseminated. Many collaborations are borne out of the task force and the Department's Homeless Intervention Team has linked its clients to many of the services provided by its members.

As the lead agency, ECS will submit the collaborative application on or before April 14, 2003. Included in the application is a request for approximately \$1,000,000 on behalf of the Department in order to fund salaries and benefits of four (4) mental health professionals, operating expenses and administrative costs for the three- year grant period.

If the grant application is successful, the Department will submit a Form-11 to the Board of Supervisors to accept the grant award.