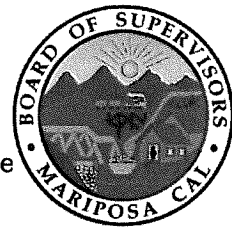




MARIPOSA COUNTY

Human Services/Employment and Community Service



RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2016-343

MEETING: June 28, 2016

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Chevon Kothari, Human Services Director

RE: General Assistance Resolution

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Approve an updated General Assistance resolution providing greater flexibility within the General Assistance program. The General Assistance Resolution outlines mandates and defines the administration and services to be provided under the General Assistance Program, which provides temporary financial assistance to indigent persons including emergency assistance and indigent burial. A general assistance program is required by California Welfare and Institutions Code Section 17000.

The County's current resolution was approved in 1997. The proposed update would give the Human Services department greater flexibility in updating criteria, rates and program terminology on an annual basis, if needed, and makes those changes part of the County's budgeting process.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

Resolutions 89-482, 90-120 and 97-77 established and/or changed criteria for administering the County General Assistance Program.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

Continue to operate with the current resolution and/or receive direction from the Board for changes.

ATTACHMENTS:

GAResolutionNo.2016 (DOCX)

CAO RECOMMENDATION

Requested Action Recommended

Mary Hodson
Mary Hodson, CAO 6/23/2016

RESULT: ADOPTED BY CONSENT VOTE [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Merlin Jones, District II Supervisor
SECONDER: Rosemarie Smallcombe, District I Supervisor
AYES: Rosemarie Smallcombe, Merlin Jones, Marshall Long, Kevin Cann
EXCUSED: John Carrier

Mariposa County Board of Supervisors Resolution No. 16-343

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Mariposa that the following be adopted to establish policies and standards for the administration of aid and care to indigent persons of the County of Mariposa. This aid and care program shall be known as General Assistance ("G.A.") within Mariposa County.

A. AUTHORITY AND MANDATE

1. The General Assistance program is established pursuant to Chapter 1, Part 5, of the Welfare and Institutions Code of the State of California, commencing with Section 17000 which mandates that counties provide this program.
2. The provisions of this Resolution shall govern in relation to all rules and regulations promulgated pursuant thereto.

B. PURPOSES AND PRINCIPLES

1. This Resolution is enacted to establish policies and requirements for the administration of aid to the indigent and dependent poor of the County of Mariposa and to adopt standards and conditions for such aid.
2. The purpose of the General Assistance Program is to provide temporary financial assistance and/or other services to indigent persons lawfully resident within the county who are unable to support themselves, have exhausted their own means of support and have no relatives who are legally responsible and actually providing support. General Assistance is available to such individuals not eligible for any other federal, state or county financial assistance programs provided they have cooperated with the requirements of those programs.
3. General Assistance is intended to enable and encourage persons aided to attain self-sufficiency by finding employment or job training if employable, or work with the county for alternate income sources if unable to work thus reducing or eliminating the conditions that have led to indigence and the necessity for financial assistance.
4. General Assistance is to be administered without discrimination based on race, color, national origin (including language), ethnic group identification, age, disability, religion, sex, sexual orientation, political affiliation, marital status or domestic partnership

C. POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION

1. The Board of Supervisors has authority for establishing the policies under which the General Assistance program is administered, and any change or exceptions, except as otherwise provided, may be made only upon its authorization.
2. The Mariposa County Department of Human Services ("Employment and

- Community Services Division") and its Director ("Director") shall have administrative responsibility for all public aid and relief pursuant to California Welfare and Institutions Code Section 17000 et seq., to indigent persons of the county. Such aid and relief shall be administered in accordance with standards of aid and care for such persons as adopted herein by the Board of Supervisors.
3. Each county Board of Supervisors establishes its own policies, rules, and regulations to carry out the intent of the law; and these policies may vary from time to time due to economic conditions. The Director of Human Services has the responsibility of developing, implementing and revising the rules and policy to determine eligibility and benefits for this program.
 4. It is the policy of the Board of Supervisors of Mariposa County that General Assistance in the County of Mariposa shall be administered in such a manner to:
 - (a.) Assure uniform, equitable treatment of all needy persons; and
 - (b.) Ensure that every possible effort is made by recipients with the help of the Department of Human Services and other agencies to restore themselves to self-sufficiency; and,
 - (c.) Make sure that persons who receive General Assistance repay to the county the value of such assistance if, after receiving General Assistance, such persons are capable of making repayment.
 - (d.) Ensure that only genuinely needy persons receive services.

D. PROGRAMS

1. **General Assistance**

The intent of the Mariposa County General Assistance Program is to provide assistance to needy, disabled, underemployed or unemployed county residents who are not able to provide for their own support or not eligible for or supported by any other cash assistance program.

2. **Emergency Assistance**

The Emergency Assistance Program is designed to provide emergency assistance to indigent families or individuals in transit through Mariposa County and in need of emergency assistance in order to continue their journey.

3. **Indigent Burial**

The Indigent Burial Program provides for cremation cost of deceased indigent persons who die within Mariposa County.

E. ELIGIBILITY

Rules, benefits and program requirements are developed by the Human Services Department and available to the public. The department will present program changes annually to the Board of Supervisors during the annual budgeting process.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors this 28th day of June, 2016 by the following vote:

AYES: SMALLCOMBE, JONES, LONG, CANN

NOES: NONE

EXCUSED: CARRIER

ABSTAINED: NONE

By: Marshall Long, Vice-Chair



John Carrier, Chairman
Board of Supervisors

Attest:

Approved as to form:



Rene LaRoche, Clerk of the Board



Steven W. Dahlem, County Counsel