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Esperanza Colio Warren

COUNTY COUNSEL:
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Agenda Item
Regular Meeting of the
Board of Supervisors
Tuesday, January 27, 2026

Item Number: 1.8

MEETING DATE: **01/27/2026**

DEPARTMENT: **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY**

AGENDA ITEM PREPARER: Mike Hodges

DEPT HEAD/DIRECTOR: Tracey Belton

SUBJECT:

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY-T. BELTON

1. Adopt Resolution accepting the 2026 Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) grant to provide assistance to qualifying program clients with utility payments in the amount of \$359,916.00; and
2. Approve retroactive Standard Agreement No. 26B-4029 with the State of California Department of Community Services and Development for the term of November 1, 2025, through June 30, 2027; and
3. Authorize the Chair, County Executive Officer, or designee to execute each of these agreements and any amendments thereto.

SBC FILE NUMBER: 939

RESOLUTION NO: 2026-11

AGENDA SECTION:

CONSENT AGENDA

BACKGROUND/SUMMARY:

The State Department of Community Services & Development (CSD) has made available Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) funds to San Benito County. LIHEAP funds are designed to assist low-income households with energy assistance services. Approximately 350-450 eligible households will receive assistance with their energy bills for an amount up to \$390 and up to \$1,500 for emergency situations. The total contract amount is \$359,916 of which \$92,764 is used for the administration of the program and \$267,152 for utility assistance for qualified households. The State issues payment for energy assistance directly to the utility company.

The contract term begins in November of each year and is for an 18-month term. The contracts overlap

the previous years and have included increased funding for the past several years. The overlapping and additional funding assures our ability to assist low-income households.

CSWD requests adoption of a resolution accepting the 2026 LIHEAP grant, approving the grant agreement, and authorization to take certain actions necessary to administer the grant, including executing Standard Agreement No. 26B-4029 and any amendments thereto that do not require a budget augmentation, and any administrative documents relating to said Agreement on behalf of the County.

As part of ongoing operations, this grant is incorporated in the FY25/26 approved budget. There is no impact to the county general fund.

The reason for the retro contract is due to the State Allocation Award Documents were received on December 1, 2025, and the final State Contract were received on December 17, 2025. This agreement is annual, and the state has specified a start date of November 1, 2025.

FISCAL IMPACT:

San Benito County has received these allocations on an annual basis. It has been the practice for the State to add increased funding through amendments to the contract for the LIHEAP program beyond the original contract amount.

In 2019, the County received \$329,433;
in 2020, the County received \$448,997;
in 2021, the County received \$494,734;
in 2022, the County was awarded a contract in the amount of \$371,039 and later the contact was increased to \$423,177;
in 2023, the county received \$371,208.00;
in 2024, the county received \$370,588.00;
in 2025, the county received \$370,588.00.

The G/L account numbers being utilized for revenue funds is 240.80.2555.2760.551.101 LIHEAP.
The G/L account numbers being utilized for expense funds is 240.80.2555.2760.610 to 649 LIHEAP.

This item has No impact to General Fund.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

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3. Authorize the Chair, County Executive Officer, or designee to execute each of these agreements and any amendments thereto.

ATTACHMENTS:

[Agenda Fact Sheet - 2026 LIHEAP Grant](#)
[Contract - LIHEAP 26B-4029](#)
[Resolution - LIHEAP 26B-4029](#)