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[www.sanbenitocountyca.gov](http://www.sanbenitocountyca.gov)

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**Agenda Item**  
**Regular Meeting of the**  
**Board of Supervisors**  
**Tuesday, September 23,**  
**2025**

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**Item Number: 1.5**

**MEETING DATE:** 09/23/2025

**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. Approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between San Benito County and Central Coast Energy Services, Inc. (CCES) for Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) weatherization services to San Benito County residences as the primary contractor, for the term of November 1, 2025 through June 30, 2029; and
2. Authorize the Chair of the Board of Supervisors, the County Administrative Officer (CAO), or the CAO designee to execute the MOU and any amendments thereto related to the MOU.

SBC FILE NUMBER: 939

**AGENDA SECTION:**

CONSENT AGENDA

**BACKGROUND/SUMMARY:**

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The State Department of Community Services & Development (CSD) has allocated Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) funds to California counties to support energy assistance for low-income households. In San Benito County, approximately 400 eligible clients are expected to receive bill assistance, with benefits of up to \$330 for regular assistance and up to \$1,000 for emergencies. The Health and Human Services Agency (HHS) Community Services and Workforce Development (CSWD) has successfully administered LIHEAP for over twenty years.

By regulation, 25% of the County's LIHEAP allocation is dedicated to Weatherization Services and 3% to

the Energy Crisis Intervention Program (ECIP) and Assurance 16. Weatherization helps residents lower energy costs and improve home comfort through insulation upgrades, leak sealing, and repair or replacement of heating and cooling systems, while also enhancing household health and safety. ECIP provides emergency utility assistance during crises such as shutoffs or heating failures, and Assurance 16 ensures equitable, timely delivery of energy crisis services.

For approximately twenty years, Central Coast Energy Services (CCES) has managed San Benito County's Weatherization program, serving about 20 households annually. To continue this partnership, CSD now requires a formal Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between San Benito County and CCES, which must be executed by September 30, 2025. Without it, the State will no longer contract directly with CCES, and the County would be responsible for delivering these services.

CCES brings over 30 years of Weatherization expertise, while the County does not have the capacity to operate the program independently. Partnering with CCES ensures continued, high-quality services for local low-income households. With approval of this MOU, CSD will continue allocating Weatherization funds directly to CCES, with no impact to the County General Fund.

Under the MOU, CCES will assume full responsibility for program administration, reporting directly to the State. The program operates on a cost-reimbursement basis, and CCES is expected to fully expend allocated funds. CSWD staff will continue referring eligible households, while CCES also serves residents who apply directly, ensuring broad outreach and access and will monitor expenditures and service levels through semi-annual reports, and regular coordination meetings.

### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

The County receives an annual allocation from CSD for the LIHEAP and the Weatherization program. For 2025-2026, the County received a total allocation amount of \$824,462. The allocated portion for CCES to operate the Weatherization program is \$260,157 and is contracted between CCES and CSD. The remaining balance of \$564,305 is for SBC and is budgeted for the program years 2025-2026.

There is no impact to the general fund.

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

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2. Authorize the Chair of the Board of Supervisors, the County Administrative Officer (CAO), or the CAO designee to execute the MOU and any amendments thereto to the MOU.

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

[Board Agenda Fact Sheet - LIHEAP Weatherization 2025](#)  
[Central Coast Energy Services MOU-LIHEAP 25-29](#)  
[LIHEAP 25 Allocation](#)