



County of Marin Community Service Fund Program Application Form

Application Date September 14, 2020

Fiscal Year July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021

Organization Information

Full Legal Name: Community Action Marin

Organization URL: www.camarin.org

Mission/purpose of your organization:

Community Action Marin is the largest non-profit provider of social services to individuals and families of low-income in Marin County. As a champion of the most vulnerable and a catalyst for change efforts, our agency makes it possible for people to achieve well-being by centering them in conversations that bring their strengths to light. We provide education, mental health, and vital services to over 5,000 individuals yearly across five service areas: Economic Opportunity and Workforce Development, Children and Family Services, Safety Net, Mental Health, and Equity Initiatives. Our programs facilitate pathways to opportunity and self-sufficiency for those living in poverty, including those who are homeless, children, veterans, older adults, immigrants, and non-English speakers. In the unfolding COVID-19 crisis, we are dedicated to helping community members who are at heightened vulnerability maintain stability through the worst of this pandemic and the subsequent recovery period.

Grant Request Information

Program/Project Name: Enhancing Access to Information on COVID-19 Community Resources and Vital Services

Summary of how County funds would be used for project:

To equip our community center with an electronic info system so underserved Marin residents with no access to computers can easily find information (in English and Spanish) on emergency aid and support services to cope with the COVID-19 crisis.

Amount Requested Dollar: To equip our community center with an electronic info system so underserved Ma

Total Project Cost: \$25,000.00

Description of the proposed project/program, including the proposed project's goal(s), and the nature of the costs in specific terms, i.e. materials, labor costs, etc. Specifics of how the requested County funds will be used.

We respectfully request \$10,000 to establish our agency's electronic display information system that will increase access to information on vital COVID-19 community resources, benefiting underserved members of the Marin community with no personal access to computers and/or daily access to our operating childcare center in San Rafael. Specifically, grant funds will be used to purchase two computers and a centrally visible TV monitor at the agency's largest child care site, with an estimated cost of \$2,000. The electronic equipment will have a user-friendly interface and accessibility features (such as text-to-speech, speech recognition, and closed captioning), making it easy for community members of all ages to navigate. We will use a service called Enplug, a cloud-based digital signage solution, that enables the centralized updating of information on the TV display (cost of \$3,000 per annum). We will also use iPads to have clients sign up for services. Information will be available in English and Spanish, ensuring that all members of the community – especially underserved Latinx populations – can access our agency's holistic services to help them achieve and maintain stability amid the COVID-19 crisis.

With the system, visitors can quickly get information about upcoming events and workshops, agency news and orientations, and learn about services, for example, credit and debt coaching or safety net services such as utilities payments, rent or cash assistance. They can receive information to improve family well-being, and they can get timely updates on COVID-19 supports (e.g., emergency meals and mental health groups or warmlines). They also gain quick and efficient access to our agency's success coaches for help getting public benefits such as CalFresh. We know this resource will enable families to better understand and access the services available to them because of our trusted partnership in community with them.

List of all community interests that will be affected by the proposed project/program and the public benefit to be derived from it:

Access to information and community services is especially critical to Marin residents amid the unfolding COVID-19

crisis. The county has the highest infection rate in the Bay Area and is continuing to see a worrying increase in COVID-19 cases, particularly in the Latino community, which is who we primarily serve at this project site. The project will benefit the community by:

- Improving access to vital information on resources offered by our agency and its partners: In Marin, up to 20% of households in low-income areas like the Canal district don't have access to their own computers. Through this project, these Marin residents can quickly look up the information they need.
- Increasing awareness on the range of education, mental health, and stabilization resources available to cope with the COVID-19 crisis: Community members can find upcoming events, cash grants, rental assistance, homeless outreach, emergency meals, child care services, and mental health support.
- Helping the Latino community disproportionately bearing the brunt of the pandemic: Latinx residents make up 16% of Marin's population, but account for nearly 80% of the county's coronavirus cases. Many of them work in low-wage essential roles. With limited access to healthcare and government relief, they cannot afford to miss a paycheck and risk their family's needs. The program provides information in English and Spanish to help them easily find the support they need.
- Enhancing our agency's capability to serve more community members by streamlining the sign-up process: The computer terminals lets visitors easily sign up for services, freeing up staff manpower for other vital agency functions and speeding up our ability to get critical resources out to more people of low-income in Marin.
- Enhancing transparency and access to information: With information easily accessible to visitors of the welcome center, the program serves as an investment to the Marin County community beyond the COVID-19 crisis.

This organization has never received Community Service funds.

List of County funding received for this project or others.

No other county funding for this project. We do receive County funding for our agency's mental health program.

\$2.3M BHRS/HHS

Project/program can be completed if amount received is less than requested amount of Community Service funds.

Applicants are encouraged to leverage funding from other non-County sources, and priority will be given to requests that represent no more than 50% of total project cost. To demonstrate all sources of project funding, including other County sources, please provide a project/program budget below. Please fill in as applicable, and round to the nearest dollar.

| Project Funding Sources | Funding Agency | Funding Requested | Received | Notes |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|--|
| County CSF | | \$10,000 | | <i>This grant application</i> |
| Federal Grant | | \$10,000 | \$10,000 | <i>Community Services Block Grant/ CARES Act</i> |
| State Grant | | | | |
| Individual Contributions | | \$5,000 | \$5,000 | |
| Other Local Agencies | | | | |
| In kind services | | | | |
| Other | | | | |
| Total Sources | | \$25,000 | \$15,000 | |
| | | | | |
| Project Expenses | | Budgeted | Spent to Date | Notes |
| Personnel Costs | | \$20,000 | \$0 | <i>Setup, maintenance, operation of the system</i> |
| Services and Supplies | | \$5,000 | | |
| Capital | | | | |
| Other | | | | |
| Total Expenses | | \$25,000 | \$0 | |

