

DEPARTMENT: Human Services BY: William E. L'Heureux PHONE: 966-3609

**RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION:**

That the Board of Supervisors approve a budget transfer in the amount of \$2,800 and appropriate \$7,500 from contingencies to support the General Assistance program for the remainder of the Fiscal Year.

SEE ATTACHED FOR FURTHER JUSTIFICATION

**BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:**

The Board of Supervisors approved expenditure authority of \$20,000 for the General Assistance program. The Department asked for \$25,000.

**LIST ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:**

The program will be in deficit.

**COSTS:** ( ) Not Applicable  
A. Budgeted current FY \$ 20,000  
B. Total anticipated costs \$ 30,300  
C. Required Add'l funding \$ 7,500  
D. Source: Reserved Contingencies

**SOURCE:** ( ) 4/5ths Vote Required  
A. Internal transfers \$ 2,800  
B. Unanticipated revenues \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
C. Reserve for contingency \$ 7,500  
D. Description: \_\_\_\_\_

Balance in Reserve for Contingencies,  
if approved: \$ 51,827.97  
44,322.97

**CLERK'S USE ONLY:**  
Res. No.: 90-120  
Ord. No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Vote - Ayes: 5 Noes: \_\_\_\_\_  
Absent: \_\_\_\_\_ Abstained: \_\_\_\_\_  
(know) Approved ( ) Denied  
( ) Minute Order Attached

The foregoing instrument is a correct copy of the original on file in this office.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
ATTEST: MARGIE WILLIAMS  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
County of Mariposa, State of CA  
By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy

**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:**  
List the attachments and number the pages consecutively:  
Pages 1 thru 3  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:**  
This item on agenda as:  
 Recommended  
 Not Recommended  
 For Policy Determination  
 Submitted with Comment  
 Returned for Further Action

Comment: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
A.O. Initials: [Signature]

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of Mariposa County, a political subdivision of the State of California, that pursuant to the provisions of the Government Code of the State of California, Sections 29120 et seq., the following APPROPRIATIONS and/or TRANSFERS within the Budget of the County of Mariposa are hereby adopted:

<u>Department</u>	<u>APPROPRIATIONS (4/5ths Vote Required)</u> <u>Item</u>	<u>Account No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
From: General	General Contingency	019-103-6-000	\$7,500
To: Human Services	General Relief	019-491-3-740	\$7,500

<u>Department</u>	<u>TRANSFERS (3/5ths Vote Required)</u> <u>Item</u>	<u>Account No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
From: Human Services	Indigent Burials	019-491-3-742	\$1,000
Human Services	Hospital Care	019-491-3-741	1,800
To: Human Services	General Relief	019-491-3-740	\$2,800

## General Assistance Program Increased Expenditure Justification

### Summary

A budget transfer of \$2,800 and an appropriation from Contingencies in the amount of \$7,500 is needed to offset anticipated expenditures of \$10,300 in the General Assistance program for the remainder of the current fiscal year. The Social Services Division received General Assistance expenditure authorization of \$20,000 for the current fiscal year.

### Background

General Assistance is a State mandated non reimbursable program which provides aid to local indigent residents pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code Sections 17000-17410. Recipients of this assistance are those individuals who are not otherwise eligible for any other program, such as Aid to Families with Dependent Children or State Supplemental Income/State Supplementary Payments. The criteria for providing General Assistance program services is contained in resolution number 89-482, adopted by the Board of Supervisors in September 1989.

### Analysis

Applications for General Assistance have increased over the past couple of years. This increase may be attributable to a general increase in population, economic factors where job opportunities are limited and jobs may only be seasonal. There also appears to be an increase of alcohol and drug related problems which is impacting the program.

### Profile

The average Mariposa County General Assistance recipient is a single adult, male or female, between the ages of 35 and 55. He/she has lived in the County for 2 or more years, owns no property and may or may not have established some sort of fixed residence. The work history is often a series of odd jobs for which he/she was paid cash. SDI and UIB benefits have either been exhausted or do not exist. This person has one or more physical or mental dysfunctions, often alcohol or drug related, and has probably had more than one contact with local authorities.

Information on program participant demographics with charts appears below.

Number of months on GA  
and % of GA Population

FY 1988/89			FY 89/90 (7/89-12/89)		
# of Mo.	# persons	%of pop.	# of Mo.	# persons	%of pop.
1	17	43.59%	1	12	42.86%
2	9	23.08	2	2	7.14
3	4	10.25	3	4	14.29
4	2	5.13	4	1	3.57
5	2	5.13	5	4	14.29
6	0	0	6	5	17.86
7	2	5.13			
8	1	2.56			
9	0	0			
10	2	5.13			
11	0	0			
12	0	0			

It is significant that in FY 88/89, 26 persons (67% of the 88/89 GA population) received 60 days or less in emergency assistance and did not return to the rolls. Only 2 persons received aid for 10 months and none were on aid for the full 12 month period. Seven persons are permanently off the rolls because they now have other income (commonly SSI), ten persons have received at least one grant in both fiscal years, the balance of persons from 89/90 have either found work or left the County.

In the FY period 7/89-12/89 the % of GA population receiving only one month assistance is nearly the same as that of the prior year. It is too soon to tell whether the other percentages will show the same spread. An analysis of the recipients for the month of December '89 does shed some light on high number of recipients in that month. Of the 20 recipients granted in that month, 10 have provided medical certification of disability and 2 have been certified as temporarily incapacitated for 3 to 6 months. The rest have been referred to the "workfare" program and of those referred, 2 have been disqualified for not participating. All permanently disabled persons have been referred to Social Security and have SSI applications pending.

Denials

No analysis of GA can be complete without looking at denials and the reasons for them. Over the past 18 months, the denials have been for the following reasons: (in order of frequency)

1. Failure of applicant to complete application process
2. Found work or other income source
3. Failed to complete workfare assignment
4. Left the County
5. Excess property
6. Other

Number of persons granted and average  
grant per month per person

FY 1988-89  
39 Total recipients FY  
23 Male  
15 Female  
1 Married Couple

FY 1989-90  
28 Total recipients 7/89  
19 Male  
7 Female  
2 Married Couples

Month	#Persons	Avg.\$person	#Persons	Avg.\$person
July	7	\$145.24	10	139.66
Aug	5	238.20	8	135.17
Sept.	9	225.55	16	167.38
Oct	8	220.77	19	146.84
Nov	5	173.98	20	133.02
Dec	12	130.17	20	168.58
Jan	14	157.03		
Feb	10	148.95		
Mar	13	164.04		
Apr	6	177.19		
May	11	153.87		
June	9	176.15		

As can be seen by the above comparisons, the number of recipients has increased significantly in the 7/89 to 12/89 period over the same period in the prior fiscal year. At the same time the average grant per person has declined. The maximum grant for one person in FY 89/90 is \$285. Most are receiving well below this amount.

In conclusion, it appears that the increases in applications is attributable to three factors.

1. Economy
  - lack of job opportunities for unskilled labor
  - seasonal employment
2. Increase in population
3. Disability, eg. alcohol and drug related