

REQUEST FOR FUNDING FOR *CHOICE IN AGING* CAMPUS IN CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

Choice in Aging is a not-for-profit organization that has been serving Contra Costa County's frailest and most vulnerable residents since 1949. It provides a variety of services to older adults and children in Contra Costa, Solano, Napa, and Sacramento counties. Choice in Aging has been a leader in creating innovative programs that allow more people to age independently, in their own homes.

Choice in Aging is in the process of building a new and innovative model for how we age in our community – the Aging in Place on Campus – which will provide elder and fragile adults with independent housing and co-located services that will allow them to age with dignity in their homes. The campus will include intergenerational services that will allow multiple generations to learn and grow together in a single location. Research shows that intergenerational programming provides a myriad of benefits, including decreased isolation and/or increased connectedness, increased self-esteem and feelings of worth, increased trust, and an increased sense of community.¹ This model for aging independently will create a blueprint that can be used nationwide to meet the challenges our aging population faces.

Choice in Aging is seeking a one-time allocation of \$20 million in the 2022-23 state budget to build out the facilities for services for the residents, community members, and preschool attendees. The housing construction funding will be made available from other sources, but the full range of services can only be realized with the help of the state. While the campus will serve local residents, it will stand as both an incubator and policy platform for an intergenerational and integrated service approach to aging in place.

Attached is an FAQ for the project. Additional details of the project and services can be made available upon request.

¹ See http://www.ltsscenter.org/resource-library/Research_Snapshot_Intergenerational_Programming_in_Senior_Housing.pdf



CHOICE IN AGING CAMPUS: FAQ

WHAT ARE THE PROJECT GOALS?

- Create a national model for aging independently with wrap around services outside (and inside) your front door
- Build 82 single bedroom apartment units
- New Choice in Aging adult day health care facility
- New Choice in Learning Montessori intergenerational pre-school

WHAT ARE THE DETAILS OF THE HOUSING COMPONENT?

- 82 single bedroom apartment units in a three-story building (1 is for onsite property manager)
- Satellite Affordable Housing Association (SAHA) is the non-profit developer
- SAHA is securing funding for the housing on the campus – there are a multitude of available funding streams to build housing, such that a capital campaign is not necessary for them

WHY IS A NEW CAMPUS NEEDED?

- Access to affordable senior housing for a fast-growing population
- Current facility is more than 75 years old; maintenance is becoming cost prohibitive

WHAT IS INNOVATIVE ABOUT THIS PROJECT?

- This project is the first of its kind to provide an intergenerational space with independent senior living for frail adults with the services they need right outside their front door to keep them living independently, and out of a skilled nursing facility.
- A senior living independently, instead of in a skilled nursing facility, is healthier and happier. And, it costs less for seniors and their families and for taxpayers.

WHAT IS THE \$20 MILLION CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FUNDING?

- Construction of a new facility for Choice in Aging including:
 - Adult Day Health Care
 - Alzheimer's Day Care Resource Center
 - Caregiver Support and Education
 - Farsi Speaking Program
 - Russian Speaking Program
 - Physical Therapy
 - Outdoor Program and Therapy Spaces
- Construction of a new facility for Choice in Learning including:
 - Montessori classrooms
 - Playgrounds
- Continuation of our innovative intergenerational program and activities
- Expansion of our complex case management programs
- Expansion of our transitions out of skilled nursing program
- Expansion of our wraparound support services including fiduciary, elder abuse prevention and care management services

WHAT IS THE PROJECT STATUS?

- Architectural renderings have been approved by the City of Pleasant Hill
- First phase entitlements have been approved by the City of Pleasant Hill
- Initial construction begins this year; to begin grading and underground infrastructure installed

WHAT ARE CHOICE IN AGING'S PROGRAMS?

- Adult Day Health Care (2)
- Alzheimer's Day Care Resource Center (2)
- Caregiver Support and Education
- Multipurpose Senior Services Program (MSSP) (2) -- provides nursing and social work care management to Medi-Cal eligible individuals who are 65 years or older and disabled as an alternative to nursing facility placement.
- California Community Transitions (CCT) – Transition out of skilled nursing facilities; gives on-going support, services and funding to support seniors and disabled to transition back to community living.
- The Prevention and Early Access for Seniors Program (PEAS) -- a mental health case management program that strives to identify Older Adults 60+ in Solano County that are struggling with isolation, depression or anxiety. There is also a community education component around stigma reduction, suicide prevention and neighborhood support.
- CiA provides other services such as transportation, caregiver support groups, community education and more. Additionally, CiA provides comprehensive budget and policy advocacy at the local, state and federal levels. CiA is also a teaching institute and take advantage of opportunities to provide internships for CNAs, nurses, social workers, physicians and other students pursuing careers in the geriatric health and social fields of practice.
- Young at Heart Intergenerational Program
- Montessori Pre-School

WHAT IS INNOVATIVE ABOUT CHOICE IN AGING'S MODEL OF CARE?

- Participated in the piloting of the first-in-the-nation program that serves seniors with mid to late stage Alzheimer's disease and related dementias in an adult day health care setting – a model for subsequent programs around the country.
- Created a model intergenerational program that allows clients and preschoolers to master and maintain similar motor skills and bust ageism through weekly interactions that build bonds between participants.
- Partnered with the Contra Costa County Health Department to administer vaccination clinics for seniors in congregate care facilities, contributing to one of the highest vaccination rates for seniors in the nation.
- CEO Debbie Toth was appointed by California Health and Human Services Secretary Dr. Mark Ghaly to the California Masterplan for Aging Stakeholder Advisory Committee. The Committee created a blueprint for building an age-friendly environment in California.

MODEL AGING IN PLACE CAMPUS

