CITIZENS’ ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON MEASURE Z EXPENDITURES

(Advisory Committee will make recommendations to the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors as to expenditure of funds derived from Measure Z.)

APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

Agency Name: Adult Protective Services and the District Attorney’s Office

Mailing Address: 808 E Street Eureka, CA 95501

Contact Person: Jack Breazeal (Deputy Director - Mental Health) & Maggie Fleming (District Attorney)

Telephone: (707) 362-0610  (707) 445-4711

E-mail Address: jbreazeal@co.humboldt.ca.us  mfleming@co.humboldt.ca.us

AMOUNT OF MEASURE Z FUNDING REQUESTED FOR FY 2020-21: $ 14,000.00

1. ENTITY TYPE -- Please check appropriate box.
   a. Humboldt County Department  X
   b. Contract Service Provider to Humboldt County  
   c. Local Government Entity  
   d. Private Service Provider  
   e. Non-Profit Service Provider  
   f. Other  

2. Please provide brief description of proposal for which you are seeking funding.

The Elder and Vulnerable Adult Services Team¹ (EVAST) is seeking funding to continue the collaborative efforts to address cases of elder and vulnerable adult abuse in our community by using a comprehensive approach to remove barriers and improve our county’s overall systematic response.

The goals of the Elder and Vulnerable Adult Services Team are to:
   • Ensure the safety and wellbeing of elders/vulnerable adults in the community;
   • Conduct joint investigations of elder/vulnerable adult abuse and neglect cases;
   • Address the increasing incidents of financial abuse (up 26.3% since 2016) and self-neglect (up 41.6% since 2016) in our county;
   • Enhance the prosecution of abuse cases; and
   • Provide greater services, support, and access to resources for those who are at risk of, or have been subjected to, elder or vulnerable adult abuse and neglect.

¹ A collaborative partnership between Adult Protective Services (APS), the District Attorney’s Office (DA), the Humboldt County Sheriff’s Office (Sheriff), and other community partners as needed.
All funding requested will, in one way or another, help EVAST to enhance their current Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) aimed at increasing the safety of elders and vulnerable adults in our community.

**Personnel:** EVAST is requesting continued funding for three positions. (1) **Full-Time APS Program Coordinator,** responsible for collaborative program development, community and tribal engagement, best practice research and facilitation and organization of EVAST MDTs. (2) **Part-Time District Attorney Investigator and (3) Quarter-Time Deputy District Attorney:** both positions will be assigned to elder and vulnerable adult abuse and will be responsible for participating in EVAST MDTs, conducting joint investigations with other agencies, and helping to increase the prosecution of elder and vulnerable adult abuse and neglect cases.

**Collaboration & Case Review Team Development** In addition to a Forensic Interview Team, EVAST is developing two Case Review Teams: one internal, specific to APS staff, the other external, in collaboration with county and community stakeholders, including Law Enforcement, Tribal partners, the Public Guardian, Mental Health Crisis Services, Older Adult Mental Health, and Healthcare Agencies. These Case Review Teams will discuss cases in depth, exploring resources and opportunities to decrease risks, and increase the overall safety of elderly and vulnerable adult clients. Case Review outcomes will be considered when reviewing APS policies and procedures.

Over the next year, EVAST will continue to strengthen relationships with local community and will work with other counties who have implemented similar teams to EVAST.

**Professional Development:** EVAST is requesting funds to support the professional development of staff working as part of the elder and vulnerable adult MDT. In April 2020, APS and District Attorney staff will attend the National Elder & Dependent Adult Abuse Symposium in Orange County. This symposium will provide information on how to identify, investigate and prosecute cases involving elder and dependent adult abuse. This is a great opportunity for those working with Elders and Vulnerable Adults to receive training and networking opportunities specific to the work taking place in Humboldt County.

3. **Measure Z funding is scheduled to “sunset” in 2020. How are you developing a plan for sustainability, including diversification of funding sources, in order for your proposal to carry on without reliance on future Measure Z funds?**

The agencies involved in this grant proposal operate as state-mandated programs, regardless of external funding opportunities. Measure Z funding however, will allow for the current processes to be enhanced and expanded upon, increasing collaboration, knowledge, and the safety of elders and vulnerable adults in our community. Measure Z funding will have an ongoing, lasting effect as it allows key partners to streamline their understanding of, and response to, elder and vulnerable adult abuse.

Measure Z funding will also solidify EVAST to the point of being secure enough to seek other sources of funding.

4. **If this request is for the continuation, or expansion, of an existing program/service, what is the current source of funding for that program/service?**

This funding request is for the expansion and enhancement of current programs and services within the County of Humboldt. Current programs and services are funded by Federal, State and County dollars, with most of the funding coming from existing Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) budgets.

5. **If you are awarded Measure Z funds, how will you use them to leverage additional grants, contributions, or community support?**

Measure Z funding allows EVAST to take our collaborations, conversations, and services to the next level. Last year, EVAST finalized an MOU, solidified an inter-agency case review team and finalized the improvements to the Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) aimed at increasing the safety of elders and vulnerable adults in our community. This includes the continued funding for a Program Coordinator, a District Attorney Investigator, a Deputy District Attorney, and interdisciplinary training and networking opportunities.
Measure Z funds will also allow for EVAST to conduct a county-wide Needs Assessment and Survey of Team Effectiveness. This will ensure that EVAST services, prevention and treatment methods will meet the identified needs of the community, increasing the likelihood of willing participation by community partners. EVAST recognizes that Humboldt County has unique needs and geographic barriers that require our team be flexible, reflective, culturally appropriate and collaborative. Identifying the needs and processes of our community partners is crucial to the continued development of our program. The number of APS reports made by EVAST partners has continued to rise. In order to keep moving forward, EVAST must work collaboratively with these partners to identify their unique needs and understandings of elder abuse and neglect.

During the last year, an ongoing data collection process was created to allow the sharing of information between APS and the District Attorney’s Office. Since then, 62 elder abuse cases have been referred to the District Attorney’s office. Of those cases, approximately 21 have been prosecuted.

Once fully established, EVAST will be eligible for various outside funding sources. EVAST plans on becoming active in national associations related to elder abuse, elder justice, and adult protective services. These associations have funding and conference scholarship opportunities that will allow EVAST to remain up-to-date on state policy and best practices in the field.

6. Will this proposal require new or expanded activity on the part of another entity to be fully functional and effective? If so, please describe.

No. The current proposal seeks funding to support the enhancement of an interagency collaboration of current and willing Humboldt County agencies.

7. Are there recurring expenses associated to this application, such as personnel costs? Please check yes or no and if so, please detail those expenses.  

X Yes  □ No

Yes, there are recurring personnel expenses associated with this application. For this FY 2020-21, EVAST is requesting continued funding of the following positions:

**APS Program Coordinator (Full Time)**: This position is responsible for collaborative program development, community and tribal engagement, best practice research and implementation, and management of training and outreach opportunities. The APS Program Coordinator will work closely with the District Attorney’s Office, the Sheriff’s Office, and other community partners working with victims of elder and vulnerable adult abuse and neglect. In addition, this position will ensure that case tracking, trends, projections, etc. are being used to fuel decisions made by EVAST and will organize the meeting and communication between all group members. This position will also work with other team members to meet and review/staff cases or upcoming issues on an ongoing basis.

**District Attorney Investigator (Half Time) and Deputy District Attorney (Quarter Time)**: These positions will be responsible for participating in EVAST MDTs, conducting joint investigations with other agencies, and helping to increase the prosecution of elder and vulnerable adult abuse and neglect cases. Additionally, these positions will conduct outreach and training to others in the community who may be aware of the abuse and neglect of elders or vulnerable adults, as well as contacting and remaining with any elder or vulnerable adults through the criminal case.

Total Request for Continued Funding: 213,254.35*

*Not included in current project budget (Attachment C).

**ATTACHMENTS — Please include the following with your application**

**Proposal Narrative**: Brief description of your request for Measure Z funds – Please explain how it is an essential service or for public safety (one page maximum).
Prior Year Results: If your request is a continuation of a program funded with Measure Z in prior fiscal years, please provide the results of implementation (one page maximum).

Program Budget

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the above statements and all attachments are true and correct

DATE: 2-18-20  SIGNATURE: Jack Breazeal, Deputy Director, Mental Health

DATE: Feb 18, 2020  SIGNATURE: Maggie Fleming, District Attorney

SUBMIT THIS APPLICATION TO:
Humboldt County Citizens' Advisory Committee on Measure Z Expenditures c/o County Administrative Office
825 Fifth Street, Room 112
Eureka, CA 95501-1153
Attachment A: Proposal Narrative – Elder and Vulnerable Adult Services Team Personnel (Continued Funding from FY 20-21 – Not in current Budget)

Program Coordinator (Full Time): The continued funding of this position will allow for collaborative program development, community and tribal engagement, best practice research and implementation, and management of training out outreach opportunities. The Program Coordinator will work closely with the District Attorney’s Office, the Sheriff’s Office and other community partners working with victims of elder and vulnerable adult abuse and neglect. The Program Coordinator will ensure that case tracking, trends and projections are being used to fuel decisions made by EVAST and will work with other team members to meet and review/staff cases or upcoming issues on an ongoing basis.

District Attorney Investigator (half Time) and Deputy District Attorney (Quarter Time):
These positions will be responsible for participating in EVAST MDT’s, coordination joint investigations with other agencies and helping to increase the prosecution of elder and vulnerable adult abuse and neglect cases. In addition, these positions will conduct outreach to others in the community who may be aware of the abuse towards elders or vulnerable adults, as well as contacting and remaining with any elder or vulnerable adults through the criminal case.

Transportation & Travel

Professional Development: Funds will be used to enhance the skills and practices of agencies working with elders and vulnerable adult victims of abuse. Funding will be used to send four EVAST partners to attend yearly trainings in Sacramento, Ca. and the Adult Abuse Symposium in Garden Grove, Ca. (April 2020).
Attachment B: Prior Year Results

Below are the accomplishments of EVAST made possible by FY 2019-20 Measure Z funding.

Community Outreach

Over the last year, EVAST has continued to strengthen relationships with local community members. EVAST has collaborated with Bear River Band Rancheria to provide APS/IHSS training. EVAST will continue to reach out to other tribal members to help meet the needs of elder and vulnerable individuals in Humboldt County.

Training

In May 2019, UC Davis Continuing and Professional Education held two trainings in our community. "Working with the Criminal Justice System" and "Collaborating to Build Criminal Elder Abuse Cases". These trainings helped APS and Law Enforcement improve the ability to successfully work together to build elder abuse cases and effectively conduct coordinated investigations.

Personnel

In 2019, EVAST was funded $201,890.07 for personnel expenses. With those funds, EVAST was able to continue to fund a Program Coordinator, a half-time Deputy District Investigator and a quarter-time Deputy District Attorney, both assigned specifically to elder and vulnerable adult abuse cases. Each of these positions are key to the day-to-day operations of EVAST.

Other Accomplishments

In addition to Measure Z specific accomplishments, EVAST has:

Developed a Monthly APS Case Review Team to discuss high-end APS cases and reports of abuse and neglect. This team is working with the Program Coordinator to develop the structure of a larger, quarterly EVAST Community Multidisciplinary (Case Review) Team.

Continued to strengthen relationships with community partners, city and county law enforcement agencies and the Public Guardian. These members are regularly attending the EVAST meetings and assist with the review of cases.

Continued to collect and share ongoing case information with the District Attorney's Office. Approximately, 62 elder abuses cases have been referred to the District Attorney's Office. Of those cases, 21 have been prosecuted.
# Attachment C: Budget - Absolute Minimum

Elder and Vulnerable Adult Services Team (EVAST) - APS and the District Attorney's Office

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