

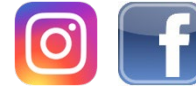


SANTA CRUZ COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES

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RANDY MORRIS, DIRECTOR

NEWS RELEASE



Date: June 3, 2024

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CORE INVESTMENTS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS RELEASED

County Invites Funding Proposals Starting June 3, 2024

In alignment with its commitment to ensure intentional opportunities and access that foster an environment where everyone can thrive and belong, the County of Santa Cruz, in partnership with the City of Santa Cruz, is pleased to accept funding proposals for the Collective of Results and Evidence-based (CORE) Investments Program. Eligible community organizations are invited to submit a proposal for funding in response to the Request for Proposals (RFP).

The CORE RFP released on June 3, 2024 is a first step in awarding \$3,790,025 for the upcoming 2025-28 three-year funding cycle. County Supervisors and Santa Cruz City Councilmembers also approved setting aside \$1.5 million of the available CORE funding, to be awarded specifically for shelter and homeless prevention services through a separate process.

"The design of this RFP integrates community feedback while following the direction given by the County Board of Supervisors and Santa Cruz City Council to shift to a competitive process focused on collective impact that meets critical community priorities with limited funds," said Randy Morris, Santa Cruz County Human Services Department Director. "We look forward to receiving proposals that address needs related to three CORE Conditions for Health and Well-being; Lifelong Learning and Education, Thriving Families, and Healthy Environments."

CORE Investments, formerly known as Community Programs, has operated for more than 40 years to allocate local funds to help families and individuals thrive. Enhanced in 2015 to better define community priorities and selection criteria, CORE Investments engages community and subject matter expertise in the proposal review process, provides technical assistance to applicants and to the community, and promotes equity-centered and outcomes-driven collective impact results. The 2025-28 funding cycle will fund eligible agencies that provide a variety of services for those in our community most impacted by systemic inequities such as racism and poverty, helping to collectively ensure Santa Cruz County is a safe, healthy community with equitable opportunities for all.

To find the CORE RFP solicitation and any addenda please visit:

<https://santacruzcountyca.gov/Departments/GeneralServices/Purchasing/Solicitations.aspx>.

For more information on the CORE Investments RFP, including a timetable of all major dates, training and technical assistance opportunities, and all corresponding documents, please visit:

<https://www.santacruzhumanservices.org/Home/FundingOpportunities/COREInvestments>.

PROTECTING THE VULNERABLE ♦ PROMOTING SELF-SUFFICIENCY ♦ ALLEVIATING POVERTY

STRENGTHENING OUR COMMUNITY BY IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF ALL COUNTY RESIDENTS