

**Monterey County Board of Supervisors
Referral Submittal Form**

Referral No. 2023.08
Assignment Date: 04/18/2023
(Completed by CAO's Office)

SUBMITTAL - Completed by referring Board office and returned to CAO no later than noon on Thursday prior to Board meeting:

Date: 2/6/2021	Submitted By: LUIS ALEJO	District #: 1
Referral Title: Monterey County COVID Funeral & Burial Assistance Program		
Referral Purpose: To continue the existing COVID Funeral and Burial Assistance Program for low-income undocumented families, who do not qualify for the FEMA program, with \$100,000. Remainder of allocated funding to supplement the pending Rental Assistance Program before the Board of Supervisors.		
Brief Referral Description (attach additional sheet as required): On February 6, 2021, Supervisor Chris Lopez and I submitted a referral to create a COVID Funeral and Burial Assistance Program for undocumented immigrants who did not qualify for the FEMA program. In July 2022, the Board of Supervisors approved allocated \$350,000 for the program. Sadly, Monterey County has now lost over 829 residents to COVID since the start of the pandemic.		
This referral seeks to extend the Funeral & Burial Assistance Program and to request staff to provide a report on all bilingual outreach efforts to promote the program and to ensure our local communities were aware of its existence and eligibility requirements. This referral also requests that at least \$100,000 of the allocated funding be kept in this program for an extension. The remainder is requested to AUGMENT the pending Rental Assistance Program for storm and flood victims that we will consider giving a final approval on April 18, 2023.		
The COVID virus continues to impact the health and lives of our residents, and there is a continued need to maintain this program for our residents who will not qualify for the FEMA program. A new referral was submitted this week that attempts to raid and redirect the funding completely away from this program and these impacted families, despite continued deaths of our residents in 2023 and that there may still be families who are eligible, but do not yet know about the program's existence. Families are still struggling to pay for funeral and burial expenses that run in the thousands of dollars. The average funeral and burial costs in California are between \$7290-12,000. With the downturn in the economy and recent flood/storm impacts, it has made it even more challenging for families to cover these expenses.		
Classification - Implication		Mode of Response
<input type="checkbox"/> Ministerial / Minor	<input type="checkbox"/> Memo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Board Report <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Presentation
<input type="checkbox"/> Land Use Policy	Requested Response Timeline	
<input type="checkbox"/> Social Policy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2 weeks	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 month <input type="checkbox"/> 6 weeks
<input type="checkbox"/> Budget Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Status reports until completed	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Disaster Assistance</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Specific Date: _____	

ASSIGNMENT – Provided by CAO at Board Meeting. Copied to Board Offices and Department Head(s) Completed by CAO's Office:

Department(s): County Administrative Office	Referral Lead: Tracy Molfino and Ezequiel Vega	Board Date: 04/18/2023
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REASSIGNMENT – Provided by CAO. Copied to Board Offices and Department Head(s). Completed by CAO's Office:

Department(s):	Referral Lead:	Date:
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ANALYSIS - Completed by Department and copied to Board Offices and CAO:

Department analysis of resources required/impact on existing department priorities to complete referral:

Analysis Completed By:

Date: _____

Department's Recommended Response Timeline

- By requested date
- 2 weeks 1 month 6 weeks 6 months
- 1 year Other/Specific Date: _____

REFERRAL RESPONSE/COMPLETION - Provided by Department to Board Offices and CAO:

Referral Response Date:

Board Item No.:

Referrals List Deletion:

Note: Please cc Claudia Escalante and Karina Bokanovich on all CAO correspondence relating to referrals.