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San Diego County Awards \$1.5 Million Contract To Community Health Improvement Partners For Independent Living Education

On June 27, 2012, the County of San Diego's Health and Human Services Agency awarded Community Health Improvement Partners (CHIP) a \$1.5 million, three-year contract to improve the quality of Independent Living (IL) housing. With this contract the county's goal is to improve local housing options that will save healthcare and law enforcement resources, reduce homelessness, and improve public safety and the quality of life for those living with mental illness. The contract began July 1, 2012 and ends June 30, 2015, with single one-year option period and an optional one-to- six- months if needed at the end of the contract term.

Under the contract, CHIP will:

- Establish an Independent Living Association that will encourage engagement in a model similar to the Better Business Bureau and support IL owners, residents and the community
- Develop a set of quality standards for ILs
- Build an online directory to provide quality information about IL options for consumers, family members, and the community
- Develop a curriculum rooted in recovery principles to educate IL owners, residents and the community and encourage high quality ILs
- Provide appropriate and reliable housing resource coordination, as well as increased transparency and accountability of ILs
- Encourage consumer and community participation, and foster awareness of consumer/resident rights

The county believes this project is the first of its kind to organize and promote ILs. It is designed as a model for other communities across the nation.

This project is facilitated by Community Health Improvement Partners and funded by the County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency's Behavioral Health Services Innovations Program funded by the Mental Health Services Act. Additional community partners include 2-1-1 San Diego, the Corporation for Supportive Housing, and many other IL owners, residents, community organizations and law enforcement.

Founded in 1995, CHIP is an independent non-profit collaboration of San Diego health care systems, hospitals, community clinics, physicians, universities, community based organizations and the County of San Diego Health & Human Services Agency who are dedicated to a common vision. CHIP assesses and addresses priority health needs through collaboration. CHIP currently has more than 20 programs, initiatives, and work groups, including the Childhood Obesity Initiative, Suicide Prevention Council, and Health Literacy San Diego. In fiscal year 2010-2011, CHIP had expenditures totaling \$2.1 million and revenue of \$1.9 million.

A link to the full text of "County of San Diego RFP 5133 for Independent Living Facilities (ILF) Project" may be found in *The OPEN MINDS Circle Library* at www.openminds.com/library/110111sandiegorf.htm.

For more information, contact: Kristin Garrett, Chief Executive Officer, Community Health Improvement Partners, 5095 Murphy Canyon Road, Suite 105, San Diego, California 92123; 858-609-7974; Fax: 858-609-7998; E-mail: kgarrett@sdchip.org; Web site: www.ilasd.org; or Craig Sturak, Communications Officer, San Diego County Health and Human Services Agency, 1600 Pacific Highway, Room 208, San Diego, California 92101-2422; 619-515-6579; E-mail: Craig.Sturak@sdcounty.ca.gov; Web site: www.sdcounty.ca.gov/hhsa.

For more information on this opportunity (Ref Number 5133), contact Vera Konstantinova, Procurement Contracting Officer, San Diego County Department of Purchasing and Contracting, 10089 Willow Creek Road, Suite 150, Mail Stop 032, San Diego, CA, 92131, 858-537-2551, 858-715-6454 fax, E-mail Vera.Konstantinova@sdcounty.ca.gov.

San Diego County Awards \$1.5 Million Contract To Community Health Improvement Partners For Independent Living Education. (2012, December 31). OPEN MINDS Weekly News Wire.

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