

**TEMECULA COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT
AGENDA REPORT**

TO: General Manager/Board of Directors

FROM: Erica Russo, Director of Community Services

DATE: May 26, 2026

SUBJECT: Approve Agreement with Thessalonika Family Services dba Mission Hope for Implementation of the Temecula Family Bridge Program and Flexible Family Assistance Administration for Fiscal Year 2026-2027

PREPARED BY: Lacy Sisler, Principal Management Analyst

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board of Directors approve an agreement with Thessalonika Family Services dba Mission Hope for implementation of the Temecula Family Bridge Program and Flexible Family Assistance Administration for fiscal year 2026-2027 in the amount of \$350,000.

BACKGROUND: The Temecula Community Services District continues to identify and address gaps in the local homelessness response system, particularly for Temecula households with children who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness. While shelter and stabilization resources may exist regionally, they are not always structured in a manner that preserves family unity, employment stability, educational continuity, and local support systems. Traditional shelter models can present barriers for families with fathers, teenage boys, or other household composition considerations, and may require households to separate or leave the community to access shelter. This can force families to choose between remaining intact and accepting placements that significantly disrupt work, school attendance, and daily functioning.

To address these gaps, the Temecula Family Bridge Program was developed. This one-year pilot program is intended to provide short-term bridge housing, flexible financial assistance, emergency motel support, and housing-focused stabilization services for Temecula residents. The program is designed to create a more locally responsive and flexible intervention model that allows families and other vulnerable households to stabilize quickly while remaining connected to the community.

On April 14, 2026, the City Council approved the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Annual Action Plan, which included a \$78,964 public services allocation recommendation for the Family Bridge Program. The Family Bridge Program activity summary identified bridge housing property use and housing operations as the proposed CDBG-funded component of the program. The remaining program costs of \$271,036 will be absorbed within the existing TCSD Annual Operating Budget (AOB). This is made possible through the reallocation of savings realized from reductions in other contracts.

Mission Hope has been identified as the consultant/operator for the pilot program due to its established local presence, demonstrated service capacity, and ongoing partnership with the City.

Mission Hope is already actively engaged in providing housing support, case management, and resource navigation services within the community and will leverage existing programs and resources to support successful implementation of this pilot program.

TEMECULA FAMILY BRIDGE PROGRAM:

The proposed agreement with Mission Hope establishes the framework for implementation of the Temecula Family Bridge Program and Flexible Family Assistance Administration for Fiscal Year 2026-2027. Under the agreement, Mission Hope would administer a coordinated pilot program consisting of four primary components:

1. Bridge Housing Program: Mission Hope would provide and operate a four-bedroom residential property located at 38950 Mesa Road, Temecula, California, for short-term bridge housing for eligible Temecula households with children. Consultant responsibilities would include rent or lease costs, utilities, maintenance and repairs, landscaping, cleaning and sanitation, furnishings and household supplies, insurance, on-site management and/or security, and all other operational costs necessary to maintain the property in a safe, sanitary, and habitable condition. The bridge housing component is intended to serve households that cannot be immediately rapidly rehoused without additional stabilization, transitional support, and case management. Services would include intake and eligibility verification, individualized housing stabilization planning, service coordination, benefits navigation, housing search and landlord engagement, transition planning, and documentation/file maintenance.

2. Flexible Family Assistance Administration: Mission Hope would administer a set budget for flexible family financial assistance. Assistance may include rental assistance, utility assistance, security deposits, move-in costs, arrearages, and other housing stabilization expenses. Eligible populations include: Temecula households with children, Temecula seniors, Temecula veterans, Temecula individuals fleeing domestic violence, and permanently disabled individuals. This component is intended to both prevent homelessness and rapidly stabilize households already experiencing homelessness or housing crisis.

3. Flexible Emergency Shelter / Motel Support: Mission Hope would administer a set budget for short-term motel placements tied to housing stabilization plans. Motel support may be used for households actively receiving financial assistance who require temporary shelter while securing permanent housing, as well as households who would otherwise qualify for bridge housing but are not an appropriate fit for the shared residence, including households with fathers, teenage boys, or other safety or suitability considerations. This structure provides a practical local option for immediate stabilization while preserving family unity and minimizing disruption.

4. Resource and Housing Navigation: Mission Hope would provide one full-time equivalent Resource and Housing Navigator supporting all program components. Navigation services would be delivered through Mission Hope's primary location and scheduled service hours at the Temecula Resource Center and The Barn. The navigator would serve as a primary intake point for referrals, including calls and email inquiries, staff referrals, referrals from RSO, SWAG, and other community providers, as well as self-referrals. This component is intended to improve coordinated access, warm handoffs, and housing-focused case resolution.

The agreement also establishes requirements related to staffing levels, program oversight, training, reporting, file management, and coordination with the City. The City will provide program guidelines, eligibility criteria, funding parameters, and reporting templates, and will retain oversight of program implementation.

FISCAL IMPACT: \$78,964 of the contract will be funded through CDBG Public Service funds. The remaining \$271,036 has been requested as part of the FY 2026-27 AOB process, and reflects no net increase over the current Fiscal Year's budget.

ATTACHMENTS: Agreement