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**COMPLETE**

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Q1: Name of your organization.	Friendship Shelter
Q2: Grant #	20140447
Q3: Grant Period	August 1, 2014 - July 31, 2015
Q4: Location of your organization	
City	Laguna Beach
State	California
Q5: Name and Title of person completing evaluation.	Dawn Price, Executive Director
Q6: Phone Number:	949-494-6928
Q7: Email address.	dprice@friendshipshelter.org

PAGE 2: Key Outcomes and Results

Q8: Total number of clients served through this grant funding:	528
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Q9: Describe the project's key outcomes and results based on the goals and objectives:

The optimum outcome for homeless individuals is the successful transition from homelessness and despair to permanent, secure housing and a sustainable future. In our grant application we aimed to transition 20 clients from emergency shelter to our self-sufficiency program [SSP]; we exceeded that and transitioned 21. We set a goal to graduate 60 SSP clients to self-sufficiency; we exceeded that and graduated 74 to self-sufficiency (income, stable housing and sobriety). Additionally, in our new permanent supportive housing program we expected to place 32 chronically homeless clients into permanent supportive housing; construction delays on 14 units we are currently renovating caused us to fall short of that number; we did, however, place 21 individuals in permanent supportive housing during the period.

Q10: Please describe any challenges/obstacles the organization encountered (if any) in attaining goals & objectives.

As mentioned above, construction delays (specifically, delays in finalizing financing on construction) hampered our ability to meet our permanent supportive housing goal. However, that has been resolved and we are on track to open 14 additional units of permanent supportive housing in December 2015.

Q11: How did you overcome and/or address the challenges and obstacles?

Our main strategy and tool was perseverance. This was our first experience with CalHFA funding, and the learning curve was steep. We enlisted technical assistance and took the time to make sure we were accurate and ultimately successful. State offices do not share our sense of urgency, of course, and at many points this was simply a waiting game. We are proud and grateful to have come through the process successfully.

Q12: Describe any unintended positive outcomes as a result of the efforts supported by this grant.

During the grant period, based on our successful early experience managing permanent supportive housing, we were asked to be a part of a collaborative of Orange County organizations that applied for and ultimately received HUD bonus funding for a total of 106 additional permanent supportive housing units that we had not anticipated when we wrote our original proposal. Those units begin opening September 1, 2015.

Q13: Briefly describe the impact this grant has had on the organization and community served.

During this year of growth and change, funding like this grant that spanned across all program areas was particularly vital. Program funding stability was key to ensuring that we had the capacity to grow and adapt.

PAGE 3: Budget

Q14: Please provide a brief narrative on how the funds were used to fulfill grant objectives.

Gimbel funds were used, as indicated in our initial application, for program staff salaries. These included program managers, case managers and site supervisors who provide day-to-day client support and execute program objectives.

PAGE 4: Success Stories

Q15: Please relate a success story:

Mitch and Eddie (pseudonyms are being used to protect client confidentiality) first encountered FSI in the City of Laguna Beach's ASL emergency shelter, which FSI operates under a contract with the City. The two were initially very different. Mitch, quiet and anxious, stayed to himself and worked diligently to find employment and a way out of the shelter. Mitch found he could get a job but had trouble keeping those jobs. Chronic, persistent depression and anxiety overwhelmed him. At one point, he remained employed long enough to obtain housing, but the loneliness and isolation of housing with no supportive services exacerbated his depression. He fell back in to homelessness and back to the ASL. Meanwhile, Eddie coped with his homelessness by surrounding himself with other homeless people, including some transient drug abusers. Falling in to substance abuse, Eddie was in and out of jail and had some behavioral problems while at the shelter. When he was sober, Eddie was a gregarious, cooperative shelter resident who volunteered to help clean and cook. But the stress of ongoing homelessness – coupled by post-traumatic stress disorder from a brief stint in the military – led him again and again to drugs and alcohol.

Mitch and Eddie eventually transitioned from the ASL to FSI's Self-Sufficiency Program, a rehabilitative shelter. There, they were assisted in securing social security disability income and made progress on staying sober (Eddie) and addressing anxiety/depression (Mitch) through medication. Without an ability to get or keep a job, however, both languished in the Self-Sufficiency Program for more than a year.

When FSI opened its PSH program in January 2014, Mitch and Eddie were approached by FSI staff. Both scored high on the VI-SPDAT vulnerability index and both met the criteria for chronic homelessness. In February 2013, Mitch and Eddie moved in to FSI's first PSH apartment. The unlikely pair are now cooperative, mutually supportive roommates who help organize events for their fellow PSH tenants. Together, they hosted a holiday party for PSH tenants and staff. Mitch returns to FSI's Self-Sufficiency Program weekly to assist a volunteer shopper in making the weekly grocery run. Eddie has returned to make dinner for residents. In the 18 months since they were housed, they have each improved to the point of needing less frequent staff support – but the support remains vital, as was apparent a few months ago when Eddie relapsed and began drinking again. Staff recognized the issue and together with Mitch staged an "intervention" to help Eddie see the problem and to encourage him to seek help.

While they represent two success stories, Mitch and Eddie also represent opportunities lost. Each spent more than a year at the City's emergency shelter and an additional year or more at the Self-Sufficiency Program. Had PSH been available immediately, they could have bypassed those shelter programs, saving thousands of dollars and making room for others who needed shelter during that time.

Q16: Please relate a success story here:

Our two success stories are interwoven, and thus are both included above.

Q17: Please relate a success story here:

See above.

PAGE 5: Organizational Information

Q18: Which category best describes the organization. Please choose only one. Basic Needs Support

Q19: What is the organization's primary program area of interest? Homeless

Q20: Percentage of clients served through grant in each ethnic group category. Total must equal 100%

African American	7
Asian/Pacific Islander	3
Caucasian	83
Native American	1
Hispanic Latino	5
Other	1

S.L. Gimbel Foundation Fund

Q21: Approximate percentage of clients served from grant funds in each age category.

Young Adults (18-24)	8
Adults	91
Senior Citizens	1

Q22: Approximate percentage of clients served with disabilities from grant funds.

Physically Disabled	20
Mentally/Emotionally Disabled	70

Q23: Approximate percentage of clients served in each economic group.

Homeless/Indigent	100
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Q24: Approximate percentage of clients served from grant funds in each population category.

Single Adults	100
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