



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF VENTURA**  
GOVERNMENT CENTER, HALL OF ADMINISTRATION  
800 SOUTH VICTORIA AVENUE, VENTURA, CALIFORNIA 93009

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD  
PETER C. FOY, Chair  
STEVE BENNETT  
LINDA PARKS  
KATHY I. LONG  
JOHN C. ZARAGOZA

**STEVE BENNETT**  
SUPERVISOR, FIRST DISTRICT  
(805) 654-2703  
FAX: (805) 654-2226  
E-mail: [steve.bennett@ventura.org](mailto:steve.bennett@ventura.org)

May 14, 2013

Board of Supervisors  
County of Ventura  
800 S. Victoria Avenue  
Ventura, CA 93009

**SUBJECT:** Recommendation of Supervisor Bennett and Supervisor Long to Direct the CEO to Include Funding in the FY 2013-2014 Budget to Contract With a Nonprofit Organization to Provide a Fixed-Term Staff Person for the Home Share Program.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Direct the CEO to Include funding in the FY 2013-2014 Budget to contract with a nonprofit organization to provide a fixed-term staff person for the Home Share Program.

**DISCUSSION:**

As our Board heard at the presentation by Home Share on April 23, 2013, the Home Share Program addresses two issues:

- 1) the need for low income housing for those at risk for homelessness; and
- 2) the need for homeowners, particularly senior citizens, to earn some extra income or receive home assistance such as cooking/running errands/help with household chores.

Program volunteers review applications, do background checks and home inspections and introduce potential "good matches". This program introduces potential home "providers" with potential home "seekers". Thus far, the program is mainly in the city of Ventura; however, residents throughout the County could benefit from this program to provide affordable housing and, in some cases, assistance and companionship to seniors.

During the April 23<sup>rd</sup> presentation, the Home Share program coordinator indicated that the program could expand county wide if funding was available for a staff position. Therefore, it is our recommendation that the CEO coordinate with Home Share Program volunteers, non-profit partners and the appropriate County staff to develop a pilot program to help expand the program county-wide.

Homelessness is a complex issue, requiring innovative ideas and partnership across agencies and organizations. The Home Share Program has demonstrated an ability to positively impact the availability of affordable housing and help seniors stay in their homes longer.

I hope you will join us in supporting this effort to expand the Home Share Program county wide. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Cordially,



Steve Bennett  
Supervisor, First District

  
Kathy I. Long  
Supervisor, Third District