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Assembly California Legislature



JOE COTO
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, TWENTY-THIRD DISTRICT

COMMITTEES
INSURANCE, CHAIR
ELECTIONS AND REDISTRICTING
GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION
JOINT LEGISLATIVE AUDIT
REVENUE AND TAXATION

June 15, 2009

HNVF Leadership Committee
City of San Jose - City Hall
200 E. Santa Clara Street - 18th Floor
San Jose, CA 95113

Dear Committee Members:

Several agencies have expressed concerns to me regarding the manner in which the HNVF were distributed. I realize that there are not enough dollars to meet the needs of all the applicants but I strongly urge you to consider their issues before you finalize the allocation of the funds.

The major concerns raised were:

- ◆ Several of the providers will receive 200% to 300% increases from the previous year's funding based on their request without providing substantial evidence of need;
- ◆ There are systemic flaws in the new HNVF system but it was the sole tool used for determining resources;
- ◆ We have a large Vietnamese population in the City and neither of the agencies that provide services specifically for them were funded.

During these difficult times, it was suggested that it may be more appropriate to limit the increases, fund more of the projects to meet the needs of our community and take steps to address any issues with the evaluation process.

I appreciate your consideration of their concerns and recommendations.

Sincerely,

Joe Coto
Assemblymember

cc: Mayor Chuck Reed
City Councilmembers