



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: Public Health
Department No.: 041
For Agenda Of: May 4, 2021
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: 4/5

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Van Do-Reynoso, MPH, PhD
Director Public Health Department
Contact Info: Dana Gamble, LCSW 681-5171
Interim Deputy Director, Primary Care & Family Health
SUBJECT: Health Resources and Services Administration Grant for COVID-19 Activities during FYs 2020-2021, 2021-2022, and 2022-23.

County Counsel Concurrence:

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence:

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve, ratify, and authorize the Public Health Department Director to accept and receive supplemental funding for the County's Federally Qualified Health Centers through the Health Resources and Services Administration Grant Award H8F41679 from the American Rescue Act Plan of 2021 for the period of April 1, 2021 through March 31, 2023 in the amount of \$5,210,375 (Attachment A); and
- b) Approve and authorize Budget Revision BJE 0007484 in the amount of \$1,000,000 to establish appropriations for \$1,000,000 of unanticipated revenue from the Federal Government for Health Resources and Administration supplemental funding to increase Salaries and Benefits (\$900,000) and Services and Supplies (\$100,000) for FY 2020-21 in the County's financial system (Attachment B); and
- c) Determine that the recommended actions are not a "Project" with the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") and is exempt per CEQA Guideline section 15378(b)(4), since the recommended actions are government fiscal activities which do not involve commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment.

Summary Text:

This item is on the Agenda to authorize the Public Health Department (PHD) to accept a grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) from the American Rescue Act Federal Stimulus bill to provide one-time support to health centers for the detection of and/or the prevention, diagnosis,

and treatment of Coronavirus; as well as; vaccine-related activities. These allocations can be used for maintaining or increasing health center capacity and staffing levels during the coronavirus-related public health emergency, provide support for increased testing, disease containment, vaccination activities, and for costs related to continuing of care and patient visits while practicing *social distancing*.

Background:

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through HRSA, has made these awards available to Federally Qualified Health Centers as part of their ongoing support during the COVID-19 pandemic. County's Federally Qualified Health Centers may use the awards to help their communities detect coronavirus; prevent, diagnose, and treat COVID-19, plan for and provide vaccinations, and to maintain or increase health capacity and staffing levels to address this public health emergency. Since the Coronavirus crisis commenced, it was recognized that health centers around the country would need additional resources in assisting patients and communities in responding to the pandemic. It is also recognized that clinic volume could significantly decline adding difficulties in keeping staff employed at health centers to provide services. Thus, this funding supports health centers' capacity for vaccinations, response and treatment, and recovery and stabilization of workforce. The awards will be used locally to help maintain or increase health center capacity and staff by covering costs associated with PHD Health Center staff salaries and benefits and the costs of increased supplies of personal protection equipment for staff and patient safety, and other costs related to COVID-19 vaccination, testing, and screening.

Performance Measure:

HRSA requires that PHD use the funds to assist patients in preventing, diagnosing, treating, and vaccinating for COVID-19. PHD must budget, and report on activities to HRSA on a periodic basis. No specific performance measures other than how the funds are expended are expected.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: No

Fiscal Analysis:

Approving and authorizing the Public Health Director to accept these one-time funding allocations and the related Budget Revision Request will provide some funding for the Department's efforts for vaccination *Point of distribution* (POD) costs utilizing federally-provided vaccine at the County's Health Centers and other sites, as well as support the salaries and benefits for those staff unable to work due to childcare issues or that have underlying health conditions. It is anticipated that \$1,000,000 of the award of \$5,210,374 may be used during Fiscal Year 2020-21 and is not budgeted and will require appropriation from Budget Revision #0007484. The remainder of the award or will be used during Fiscal Years 2021-2023 to continue to help prevent, diagnose, treat, and vaccinate against COVID-19. We will return to your Board with necessary Budget Revisions as needed.

This action is not anticipated to increase the need for any additional facilities.

Key Contract Risks:

NA

Staffing Impacts:

Legal Positions:
0

FTEs:
0

Special Instructions:

HRSA Grant COVID 2021 Funding

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Please return an electronic copy of the Minute Order to the PHD Contracts Unit at Kelly.Lazarus@sbcphd.org.

Attachments:

A. HRSA Notice of Grant Award H8F41679

B. Budget Revision Request #0007484

Authored by:

Dana Gamble, LCSW Assistant Deputy Director, Public Health Department