

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY BOARD AGENDA LETTER



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

Agenda Number:
Prepared on: 11/2/05
Department Name: Social Services
Department No.: 044
Agenda Date: 11/22/05
Placement: Administrative
Estimate Time:
Continued Item: NO
If Yes, date from:

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Kathy Gallagher
Social Services Department

STAFF CONTACT: Davida Willis
x 1251

SUBJECT: Extend the Contract With Santa Barbara Regional Health Authority to Provide Health Insurance to Qualified In-Home Caregivers for the period of January 1, 2006 through December 31, 2006.

Recommendation(s):

That the Board of Supervisors: Approve the extension of the contract with the Santa Barbara Regional Health Authority to provide health benefits to qualified in-home caregivers who provide care to customers of the In-Home Supportive Services program. The extended term of the agreement is from January 1, 2006 through December 31, 2006, in an amount not to exceed \$1,262,280.

Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:

The provision of health care benefits is aligned with the Board of Supervisors' strategic plan goal number II: A Safe and Healthy Community in Which to Live, Work, and Visit.

Executive Summary and Discussion:

Pursuant to a Memorandum of Understanding with United Domestic Workers of America dated June 1, 2004, the In-Home Supportive Services Public Authority is required to offer health and dental benefits to qualified caregivers. The Santa Barbara Regional Health Authority has designed "Caradigm Health" specifically for the Santa Barbara In-Home Supportive Services Public Authority as a vehicle to provide the health benefits. Caradigm Health meets, and in some cases, exceeds all the requirements of the Knox-Keene requirements for health insurance.

Health care providers are located County-wide, through Sansum-Santa Barbara Medical Foundation and Central Coast Family Care. All hospitals in the County are also contracted to Caradigm Health. Major pharmacy chains are under contract with the Santa Barbara Regional Health Authority for prescription drugs.

Caregivers qualify for benefits by working a minimum of 70 hours per month for two (2) consecutive months, and then maintaining that level of work in order to continue the benefit.

The current monthly premium is \$335, and each insured will pay 10% or \$33.50 monthly toward the total cost of the health insurance premium.

Mandates and Service Levels:

The Public Authority was created by AB 2235, which mandates that the Public Authority is the employer of record for all in-home caregivers. As the employer of record, the Public Authority is charged with negotiating wages and benefits with the assigned bargaining unit.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

This contract will be funded with Federal, State, DSS, and Tobacco Settlement funds. The respective funding levels are approximately 50%, 32.5%, 1.5% and 16%, depending on the eligibility of each specific IHSS case and activity. Appropriations of \$608,648 for the 2005-2006 fiscal year have been included in Department's approved budget under the IHSS Public Authority sub-division, located with the Social Programs Division. Appropriations of \$653,632 for July 1, 2006 - December 31, 2006 will be included in the Department's Fiscal Year 2006/2007 requested budget.

Special Instructions:

After execution by the Chair, please return one (1) certified copy of the agreement for the contractor, one (1) copy for the Public Authority, and one (1) copy of the minute order, attention: Laura Mejia.

Concurrence:

County Counsel

**Amendment to Agreement Between the Santa Barbara Regional Health Authority
and the County of Santa Barbara**

Recital:

- a. On December 14, 2004, the Board of Supervisors approved and executed an agreement with the Santa Barbara Regional Health Authority to provide health benefits to qualified In-Home-Supportive-Services (“IHSS”) caregivers.
- b. The agreement became effective January 1, 2005, and will expire December 31, 2005.
- c. Both the County of Santa Barbara and the Santa Barbara Regional Health Authority wish to amend the Agreement as follows:
 - 1) Extend the term of the agreement for one year from January 1 through December 31, 2006;
 - 2) Change the address for mailing reimbursements for out-of-town medical expenses from the SBRHA at its business address to “Attn: Adjudication” at SBRHA at the same business address.
 - 3) Delete the Summary of Benefits and Covered Services Matrix found on pages 29-33.
 - 4) Amend Attachment 1, entitled Rate Schedule to reflect the extended term and clarify that the existing rate of \$335 per member per month will continue.

It is agreed as follows:

1. Pursuant to paragraph number 1 under the Declarations of the existing contract, the agreement shall be extended for one year, from January 1, 2006 through December 31, 2006.
2. The address in paragraph 3 of section 2.5, Reimbursement Provisions, is amended to read ATTN: Adjudication.
3. The Summary of Benefits and Covered Services Matrix, pages 29 – 33 is deleted in its entirety.
4. Attachment 1, Rate Schedule, is amended to read as follows:

The following monthly rates are effective January 1, 2005 and will continue through December 31, 2006: \$335 per member per month.

All other provisions of the Agreement shall remain in effect.

