



**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

Submitted on:
(COB Stamp)

Department Name: County Health Department
Department No.: 041
Agenda Date: July 1, 2025
Placement: Administrative Agenda
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: 4/5

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Mouhanad Hammami, Director, County Health Department
Contact: Paola Hurtado, Division Chief, Primary Care & Family Health
SUBJECT: Medi-Cal Capacity, Access, and Workforce Grant Program Funding Agreement

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management, CEO Budget

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve, ratify, and authorize the Director of the County Health Department to execute the Medi-Cal Capacity, Access, and Workforce Grant Program Funding Agreement for a period of twelve months, beginning April 1, 2025 and terminating on March 31, 2026 for a total amount of \$343,624 for practice support and recruitment (Attachment A);
- b) Approve and authorize Budget Revision BJE# 0010475 in the amount of \$343,624 in the County Health Department Health Care Fund for Labor Costs, Hiring Incentives, and Services & Supplies (Attachment B); and
- c) Determine that the recommended actions do not constitute a "Project" within the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to Section 15378(b)(4) of the CEQA Guidelines, because the actions consist of the creation of government funding mechanisms or other government fiscal activities, which do not involve any 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 for the approval of the Director of the County Health Department (CHD) to execute the Medi-Cal Capacity, Access, and Workforce Grant Program Funding Agreement between CenCal Health and CHD. Approving this agreement will allocate \$343,624 to CHD for the performance period from April 1, 2025, to March 31, 2026. The funding will be dedicated to practice support, physician recruitment, and the expansion of endocrinology services in Lompoc and Santa Maria.

Discussion:

The items mentioned above are essential for CHD to successfully acquire Medi-Cal Grant Funds. These funds are critical for advancing physician recruitment initiatives in underserved areas such as Lompoc and Santa Maria. Additionally, the funds will improve clinical support for Santa Maria Health Care Clinic (SMHCC) and Lompoc Health Care Clinic (LHCC) and enable the implementation of endocrinology services at both facilities.

Background:

CenCal Health has developed a Medi-Cal Capacity, Access, and Workforce Grant Program ("Capacity Grants") to improve access to care through strategic and community-oriented investments. CHD applied and was awarded Capacity Grant Funds to expand access to care by enhancing provider recruitment efforts for the SMHCC, providing practice support in Lompoc and Santa Maria, and providing endocrinology services in North County, specifically at the SMHCC with virtual coordination for residents of Lompoc and other areas impacted by the lack of Endocrinology.

The Capacity Grant funds will be specifically utilized to hire one medical assistant for the LHCC and one medical assistant for SMHCC. Additionally, these funds will be used to provide hiring incentives for physicians and contracted endocrinology services in North County. CHD currently has two unfunded medical assistant positions, each at 1.0 Full-Time Equivalent (FTE). These positions will be matched with the awarded funds to facilitate their hiring.

Performance Measure:

The performance measures are detailed in Attachment A: Project Description of the Agreement and include the following:

- Member Access Impact: Serve a total of 720 new CenCal Health members within 12 months of disbursing grant funds. Hire one (1) Medical Assistant at LHCC within two months of disbursing grant funds.
- Hire one (1) Medical Assistant at SMHCC within two months of disbursing grant funds.
- Provide hiring incentives for Physicians, with the goal of having a new hire in place by May 2025.
- Provide CenCal Health with a mid-year report due six (6) months following disbursement and a final annual report due at the end of the twelve (12) month period

Contract Renewals:

Either party may terminate this Agreement, for no cause or for convenience, upon sixty (60) days prior written notice. If necessary, the parties may mutually agree to extend the term of the Agreement by a written amendment.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

None

Fiscal Analysis:

Authorizing the Director of the County Health Department to execute the Medi-Cal Capacity, Access, and Workforce Grant Program Funding Agreement, along with approving Budget Revision BJE# 0010475, will enable the department to hire two medical assistants, one for the LHCC and one for the SMHCC. Additionally, the funding will provide hiring incentives for physician positions and cover contracted endocrinology services in North County. The total funding amount of \$343,624 will be disbursed in one installment following the full execution of the Agreement. The Budget Revision will add revenue and appropriations to the FY 2025-26 CHD budget.

Funding Source	FY 2025-26	Total
General Fund		
State	\$343,624.00	\$343,624.00
Federal		
Fees		
[Other Source]		
Total	\$343,624.00	\$343,624.00

Staffing Impacts:

Two unfunded medical assistant positions will be funded by this grant. After the grant term, the positions will be billing Medi-Cal and Medicare for services provided, and those revenues will be included in the FY 2026-27 Recommended budget.

Special Instructions:

Please email one Minute Order to the CHD Contracts Unit at phdcu@sbcphd.org when available.

Attachments:

Attachment A – Medi-Cal Capacity, Access, and Workforce Grant Program Funding Agreement

Attachment B – Medi-Cal Capacity Budget Revision BJE# 0010475

Contact Information:

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