



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: September 21, 2021
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Van Do-Reynoso, MPH, PhD
Director(s) Public Health Department
Contact Info: Dana Gamble, LCSW 681-5171
Interim Deputy Director, Primary Care & Family Health
SUBJECT: Medical Doctors Associates dba Cross Country Locums Agreement

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions: That the Board of Supervisors consider the following:

- a) Approve, ratify, and authorize the Chair to execute a professional services agreement with Medical Doctors Associates dba Cross Country Locums to provide locum tenens coverage for the period of September 21, 2021 through June 30, 2022 in an amount not to exceed \$650,000; and
- b) Approve and authorize the Director of Public Health, or designee, to execute Confirmation Agreements acknowledging acceptance of a Locum Tenens assignment; and
- c) Determine that the proposed actions do not constitute a "Project" within the meaning of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to Section 15378(b)(4) of the CEQA Guidelines, because they 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 impact on the environment.

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda for approval to execute an Agreement with Medical Doctors Associates dba Cross County Locums (Cross Country Locums) for medical provider services. This item is on the agenda for approval to execute an Agreement with Cross Country Locums for medical provider services to temporarily fill physician vacancies while recruiting for regular positions.

Background

PHD operates five health care centers and three shelter-based clinics throughout Santa Barbara County to provide medical services to the uninsured and underinsured members of our communities. The department’s physicians who are regular County employees provide the greater part of the physician services. On some occasions, when there are physician vacancies, the recruitment process can take some time. In order to continue to provide services, PHD has contracted with firms who recruit and place physicians on a temporarily basis. These physicians are known as “locum tenens”.

The locum tenens rates include the cost of the physician services and local transportation. The contracted services do not replace physician employee positions, but serve as fill-ins on a temporary basis during the recruitment process. The recruitment of qualified family practice, internal medicine or pediatric physicians is a highly competitive and difficult process, and often takes months. Using the services provided by a locum tenens service assists the department in minimizing wait times and assists in reducing the number of patients seeking care at local emergency departments.

This agreement was not competed because the County is open to working with any vendor that is able to provide qualified professionals.

Performance Measure:

N/A

Contract Renewals and Performance Outcomes:

This is a new agreement, although PHD has had previous agreements with Medical Doctor Associates and they have provided excellent physician services for the department.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Current FY Cost:</u>	<u>Annualized On-going Cost:</u>	<u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u>
General Fund			
State			
Federal			
Fees			
Other: Patient Revenues	\$ 650,000.00		\$ 650,000.00
Total	\$ 650,000.00	\$ -	\$ 650,000.00

There is no use of general fund dollars associated with this request. The services of the locum tenens physicians generate patient service revenues from Medi-Cal, Medicare, and other public programs which pay for the cost of the agreement.

Key Contract Risks:

The department has a long standing relationship with Cross Country Locums and Medical Doctors Associates since 2003, and they have provided quality service to PHD. Cross Country Locums provides malpractice coverage for their physicians. The Agreement has a termination for convenience clause and authorizes the County to dismiss any Professional for any reason.

Staffing Impacts:

<u>Legal Positions:</u>	<u>FTEs:</u>
0	0

There are no staffing impacts.

Special Instructions:

Please execute two (2) original Agreements with Medical Doctors Associates dba Cross Country Locums and retain one (1) original Agreement and one (1) Minute Order for pick up by the department. Please email PHD at Kelly.Lazarus@sbcphd.org when available for pick up.

Attachments:

- A. Medical Doctors Associates dba Cross Country Locums Agreement

Authored by:

Dana Gamble, Assistant Deputy Director, Public Health Department