

**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: 8/29/02
Department Name: Public Health
Department No.: 041
Agenda Date: 9/10/02
Placement: Administrative
Estimate Time:
Continued Item: NO
If Yes, date from:

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Roger E. Heroux, Director
Public health Department

**STAFF
CONTACT:** Anne Patterson, R.D., M.P.H.
ext. 5279

SUBJECT: Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program Contract Amendment

Recommendation(s):

That the Board of Supervisors:

Execute Amendment A08 with the State Department of Health Services for the Women, Infants and Children Program for the period of October 1, 2001 through September 30, 2002 in the amount of \$121,503.00 for a total amount of \$1,816,024.00.

Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:

Goal II: A safe and healthy community in which to live, work and visit.

Goal V: A high quality of life for all residents.

Goal VII: A community that fosters the safety and well being of families and children.

Executive Summary and Discussion:

The Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program provides specific supplemental nutritious foods and nutrition education to low-income pregnant, breastfeeding, and post-partum women, infants and children under age five who have a nutritional risk. WIC is an optional federal program funded through the California Department of Health Services. The program has been operational in Santa Barbara County since 1975 and operates on the Federal Fiscal Year, October 1, 2001 through September 30, 2002.

The goal of the WIC program is to decrease the risk of poor birth outcomes and to improve the health of participants during critical times of growth and development. To meet this goal, nutrition education, breastfeeding promotion and support, medical care referrals and food instruments (checks) for nutritious foods are provided. Foods are purchased in local markets of participants' choice. In order to ensure accessibility, services are provided at four permanent sites and six satellite sites throughout the county. The monthly caseload for Federal Fiscal Year 2001-2002 is 14,450 individuals.

The goal of this Amendment is to provide funding for:

- Technology update at all sites: new computer operating system and equipment.
- Infrastructure improvements at all sites.
- Administrative funds to support the WIC Farmer's Market Nutrition Program.

Mandates and Service Levels:

This is an optional program. Receipt of these funds obligates the county to comply with statutes: Federal Title VII, Agriculture USDA, Chapter II, Part 246, Public Law 94-105.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Approval of this Amendment does not increase General Fund contribution or the use of Public Health Department special revenue funds. This amendment will augment funding of the increased federal Fiscal Year 2001-2002 costs of the Nutrition Program. The \$100,145 increase in federal funding will be expended as follows:

1. \$38,360 will cover equipment upgrades to communicate with the State to operate WIC computer system.
2. \$78,017 will be used for infrastructure improvements to improve customer service. Specific examples of purchases include new waiting room and office furniture, children's play equipment, children's books, nutrition education and breastfeeding incentive items.
3. \$5,126 will be used to educate clients and issue Farmer's Market Nutrition Program coupons.

This amendment was not included in the Public Health Department's Fiscal Year (FY) 2001-2002 or Fiscal Year 2002-03 adopted budgets. Upon adoption by your Board, a budget revision will follow amending the Department's budget for unanticipated revenue and offsetting appropriation in the amount of \$121,503 in: Fund 0042, Department 041, Program 1252, Revenue account 3974, and various expenditure accounts.

This action will not result in a need for any additional facilities.

Special Instructions:

Please call Anne Patterson at 681-5279 to pick up the five (5) Amendments with original signatures and three (3) Certified Minute Orders.

Concurrence:

Not applicable