



**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 No.:** 041  
**Agenda Date:** June 23, 2026  
**Placement:** Administrative Agenda  
**Estimated Time:**  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:**  
**Vote Required:** Majority

**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Department Directors: Mouhanad Hammami, County Health  
Contact: Paola Hurtado, Division Chief, Primary Care and Family Health  
**SUBJECT: County Health Department and American Indian Health and Services  
Memorandum of Understanding**

Signed by:  
*Mouhanad Hammami*  
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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Other Concurrence:** Risk Management

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: N/A

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve and authorize the Chair to execute the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the County Health Department (CHD) and American Indian Health and Services to facilitate patient referrals between the agencies resulting in shared access to dental services at American Indian Health and Services and Specialty and Obstetrics services at CHD for the period of July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2028;
- b) Approve and authorize the County Health Director to extend the MOU between CHD and American Indian Health and Services for up to an additional term of two years through June 30, 2030 in accordance with Section 6.A of the MOU, and to make immaterial changes pursuant to Section 6.K of the MOU, upon review and approval by the Auditor-Controller, Risk Management, and County Counsel, subject to the Board’s ability to rescind the delegation at any time; and
- c) Determine that the recommended actions do not constitute a “Project” within the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and are exempt pursuant to Section 15378(b)(4) of the CEQA Guidelines, since the recommended actions are the creation of government funding mechanisms or other government fiscal activities that 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 to authorize the Chair to execute an MOU with American Indian Health and Services (AIH&S) to facilitate referrals from County Health Department (CHD) to AIH&S for dental services, and referrals from AIH&S to CHD for Specialty Services, including Obstetrics (OB) services. This MOU constitutes an in-kind exchange of administration services by each organization. Any patient billing or third-party billing is specified within the MOU as the responsibility of the respective organization.

**Discussion:**

CHD is seeking approval to authorize the Chair to execute the MOU with AIH&S to support patient referrals between the two agencies. This arrangement will allow shared access to dental services at American Indian Health and Services and specialty and obstetric (OB) services at CHD.

According to the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), health centers are required to provide a set of primary health care services described in statute and regulations. Any service, whether required or additional, may be provided directly by the health center or through established (formal) arrangements as per Section 330(b)(1)(A) of the Public Health Service Act.

Through this MOU, CHD aims to facilitate dental services for CHD patients via a referral partnership with AIH&S.

**Background:**

CHD and American Indian Health and Services have worked collaboratively since 2011 to provide medical services to the uninsured and underinsured residents of Santa Barbara County. Both organizations are Federally Qualified Health Centers. AIH&S provides both primary care medical and dental services, and CHD provides both primary care medical and specialty services. Both organizations have provided referrals to the other organization to provide access to both dental services and specialty services. Each organization wishes to better describe and clarify the mutual responsibilities for these referrals through this MOU. In 2025, the CHD Health Care Centers processed 182 dental referrals to several sources, including AIH&S. In 2025, AIH&S sent 16 patient referrals to CHD Santa Barbara Health Care Center's specialty services.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

There is no fiscal impact associated with the AIH&S MOU. Each agency bills and receives payment for services provided to patients that have been referred to them by the other agency.

**Special Instructions:**

Please email a copy of the executed MOU and Minute Order to County Health Contracts Unit [PHDcu@sbcpd.org](mailto:PHDcu@sbcpd.org).

**Attachments:**

**Attachment A** – County Health Department and American Indian Health and Services MOU

**Contact Information:**

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