



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:** January 28, 2020  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimated Tme:**  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:**  
**Vote Required:** Majority

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Department Van Do-Reynoso, MPH, PhD  
Director Public Health Department  
Contact Info: Dana Gamble, LCSW 681-5171  
Assistant Deputy Director, Primary Care & Family Health  
**SUBJECT:** Resolution to accept the one-time funding opportunity from the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to initiate a Whole Person Care Pilot

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**County Counsel Concurrence:**

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence:**

As to form: Yes

**Other Concurrence:** Risk Management

As to form: Yes

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Adopt a resolution to accept an award of \$1,166,412.39 as a one-time funding from the State of California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to initiate a Whole Person Care Pilot.
- b) Determine that the recommended action is not a "Project" with the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") and is exempt per CEQA Guideline section 15378(b)(5), since the recommended action is an organizational or administrative activities of the government that will not result in direct or indirect physical change in the environment.

**Summary Text:**

This item is on the Agenda to serve as the final agreement between the County and the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to accept an award of \$1,166,412.39 as a one-time funding opportunity to initiate a Whole Person Care Pilot. Santa Barbara County will be using the funds to build information technology (IT) and other infrastructure and develop programmatic activities to expand access to permanent housing and/or structured transitional housing for seniors aged 55 and older who have recently become homeless, or are at immediate risk of being homeless. Now that the funds are awarded, it is anticipated that a more extensive programmatic development process with internal and external stakeholders can commence.

**Background:**

California's Whole Person Care Pilot program coordinates health, behavioral health, and social services in a patient-centered manner with the goal of improved beneficiary health and well-being. Low-income populations are more likely to experience a multitude of health, behavioral health, and social needs, requiring them to seek care across multiple and fragmented systems. The need for a Whole Person Care (WPC) approach arose due to unmet social, behavioral health, and health needs within Santa Barbara County's vulnerable senior population.

There are nearly 5,700 patients over the age of 55 who receive their care at the Public Health Department (PHD) Health Care Centers. Approximately 14% (~770) of these patients are known to be experiencing homelessness. Due to the high cost of housing in the south county, there are many more elderly at risk for becoming homeless. These at risk individuals are low income and frequently seen in PHD's Health Care Centers.

As the primary contact for the WPC program in Santa Barbara County, PHD submitted a Letter of Interest (LOI) to receive funding to DHCS on December 2, 2019. The LOI served as the application to participate and broadly indicated how the County will use the funds. PHD will serve at the lead agency for all county departments. DHCS transmitted the notification of award to PHD on December 26, 2019 (Attachment A).

As stated in the LOI, Santa Barbara County will use the funds to build IT and other infrastructure and develop programmatic activities to expand access to permanent housing and/or structured transitional housing for seniors aged 55 and older who have recently become homeless, or at immediate risk of being homeless. Part of the infrastructure building includes exploring mechanisms to share data between county departments, as well as between county departments and external partners. The pilot will also include case management services to enhance access and linkage to supportive social services, health services, and behavioral health services. This funding will be leveraged with other grant funds and community partnerships to expand or sustain the pilot as appropriate.

Members from the Inter-Agency Policy Council (IAPC), which is an interdisciplinary multi-department County leadership team made up of the County health and human service departments, will serve as the initial planning group. Additional community partners will be invited to join the planning to further develop the scope of work for the pilot. The overarching goal of the pilot is to assist seniors to live in a more stable environment with social connectivity, so that they can achieve better management of their chronic disease conditions. In addition to the collaborative application developed with various County departments including Housing and Community Development, Behavioral Wellness, and Social Services, PHD has also received conceptual support of this pilot from external partners, including Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital, Lompoc Valley District Hospital, Marian Regional Medical Center, CenCal Health, and New Beginnings Safe Parking Program. PHD will return to your Board to request a 1.0 FTE Health Program Coordinator to serve as the lead in implementing the WPC pilot, and other homeless grant awards, such as the Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) funds.

**Performance Measure:**

Counties are required to submit an evaluation and summary report within 90 days after the full expenditure of funding. The report shall include the disposition of funds, the services provided, and the number of individuals who received services.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: No

**Fiscal Analysis:**

The County will receive a one-time funding of \$1,166,412.39 by March 31, 2020, to be expended or encumbered by June 30, 2025.

Upon approval by your board and further development of the programmatic aspects of the WPC, including a timeline for implementation, a budget revision request will be submitted upon receipt of the funds.

**Staffing Impacts:**

**Legal Positions:**

1

**FTEs:**

1

**Special Instructions:**

Please execute two (2) Resolutions and retain one (1) executed Resolution and a certified copy of the Minute Order for pickup by PHD. Please email [PHDCU@SBCPHD.ORG](mailto:PHDCU@SBCPHD.ORG) when the documents are ready.

**Attachments:**

- A. DHCS Whole Person Care Whole Person Care Grant Award Letter dated December 26, 2019
- B. Whole Person Care Grant Acceptance Resolution

**Authored by:**

Dana Gamble, LCSW Assistant Deputy Director, Public Health Department