

**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: 5/5/03
Department Name: Social Services
Department No.: 044
Agenda Date: 5/27/03
Placement: Administrative
Estimate Time:
Continued Item: NO
If Yes, date from:

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Charlene Chase, Director
Social Services Department

STAFF CONTACT: Peggy Rueda
x 4446

SUBJECT: Agreements with Santa Barbara Community College District, Cottage Health Systems, Ventura County and San Luis Obispo Private Industry Council for the Provision of Licensed Vocational Nurse Training and Retention Services through the Nurse Workforce Initiative

Recommendation(s):

That the Board of Supervisors: Execute agreements totaling \$1,427,027 with four vendors to provide training and retention services under the Nurse Workforce Initiative for the period of October 1, 2002 – July 1, 2006 as follows:

- a) Santa Barbara Community College District, a local vendor, for the period of July 1, 2003 through May 31, 2006, in the amount of \$200,000.00;
- b) Cottage Health Systems, a local vendor, for the period of February 1, 2003 through September 30, 2005, in the amount of \$143,700.00;
- c) County of Ventura, not a local vendor, for the period of January 1, 2003 through July 1, 2006, in the amount of \$805,520.00; and
- d) San Luis Obispo Private Industry Council, not a local vendor, for the period of October 1, 2002, through July 1, 2006, in the amount of \$277,807.00.

Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:

The recommendation is primarily aligned with Goal No. 7: Families and Children – A community that fosters the safety and well-being of families and children.

Executive Summary and Discussion:

In an effort to address the critical nursing shortage that exists in the State, the Governor set aside a separate funding allocation to begin to address this need.

The Workforce Investment Board of Santa Barbara County has been awarded a \$2,100,000 multi-year regional grant from these funds to increase the number of licensed nurses in Santa Barbara, Ventura, and San Luis Obispo Counties. The nursing shortage and its impact have been discussed in a recent article in the *Santa Barbara Newspress* (May 5, 2003). Also, according to *Say What? What California Nurses Say about Working*, Nurseweek/AONE Study (September 2002), RNs in California believe that the shortage creates a major impact on practice, and a negative impact on care quality. Over time, the number of patients and higher acuity are the most significant reasons for a negative impact on care quality.

A component of this Nurse Workforce Initiative is agreements with local providers and our regional partners. The table listed below details the name of the contractor, the amount of the contract, and the expected outcomes. The overall primary outcome of the tri-county project is to increase the local nursing industry by 185 new licensed nurses. Secondary outcomes include strengthening learning communities, working with high school students in Santa Maria and preparing nurses to enter into faculty positions.

Contractor	Amount	Outcomes
Santa Barbara Community College District (SBCC)	\$200,000	65 New Licensed Vocational Nurses
Allan Hancock College*	\$200,000	11 New Licensed Vocational Nurses 8 New Registered Nurses
Cottage Health Systems	\$143,700	26 New Registered Nurses
Ventura County Moorpark College Ventura College Simi Valley	\$805,520	33 New Registered Nurses 21 New Registered Nurses 30 New Licensed Vocational Nurses
San Luis Obispo PIC Cuesta College	\$277,807	12 New Registered Nurses 12 New Bachelor of Science Nurses
Funding in the amount of \$472, 973 is allocated for program and administrative costs for Santa Barbara County including supportive services for in-county contracts, project oversight, and MIS.		

* Due to Contractor delays, this contract will be brought to Board of Supervisors at a later date

Mandates and Service Levels:

The Nurse Workforce Initiative is a competitively awarded program utilizing Governor’s 15% Discretionary Workforce Investment Act Funds. This tri-County award was one of 13 grants awarded out of 57 applications and will address the acute demand for nurses in Santa Barbara County. All project graduates will be readily employable locally upon program completion and successfully passing state licensing requirements.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

These contracts are 100% funded by 15% Discretionary Workforce Investment Act Funds. There will be no County General Funds used to support this program. The appropriations for these contracts are included in both the 2002/2003 approved budget and the 2003/2004 recommended budget. They are shown on D-200 of our current approved budget.

Sufficient Nurse Workforce Initiative funds have been allocated to Santa Barbara County to meet the contracted amount. No County general funds are involved in this agreement.

Special Instructions:

After execution by the Chair, please return one (1) originally-signed agreement for each Contractor, the Department copy of each agreement, and one (1) copy of the minute order attention: Hilary Yost.

Concurrence:

Auditor-Controller
County Counsel
Risk Management