



Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AGENDA LETTER

Department Name:
County Health Department
Department Number:
041
Agenda Date:
July 7, 2026
Placement:
Administrative Agenda

Estimated Time:
N/A
Continued Item:
No
If Yes, date from:
N/A
Vote Required:
Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Director: Mouhanad Hammami, County Health

Signed by:
Mouhanad Hammami
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CONTACT: Paola Hurtado, Division Chief, Primary Care and Family Health

SUBJECT: Dual Special Needs Plan (D-SNP) Readiness Grant Funding

Concurrences:

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) Approve, ratify, and authorize the Director of the County Health Department to execute the Dual Special Needs Plan (D-SNP) Readiness Grant Funding Agreement for a period of twelve months, beginning January 1, 2026 and terminating on December 31, 2026, for a total amount

of \$90,000 for training and clinical support for the operational implementation of D-SNP (Attachment A);

- b) Determine that the recommended action does not constitute a "Project" within the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to Section 15378(b)(4) of the CEQA Guidelines, because the actions 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 physical impact on the environment.

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda to request the Board of Supervisors' approval for the Director of the County Health Department (CHD) to execute the Dual Special Needs Plan (D-SNP) Readiness Grant Funding Agreement between CenCal Health and CHD. Approving this agreement will allocate \$90,000 to CHD for the performance period of January 1, 2026, to December 31, 2026. The funding will be dedicated to training and clinical support for the operational implementation of D-SNP across the CHD Health Centers.

Discussion:

Approval of this item is essential for CHD to successfully acquire D-SNP Readiness Grant Funding. The funds will primarily be spent on practice support, including staff training on D-SNP requirements, billing and coding practices, care coordination expectations and quality improvement activities. The staff training component will cover direct staffing costs related to clinical providers and administrative staff attending the training required for implementation. CHD's implementation of the D-SNP focuses on ensuring that dual-eligible members receive coordinated, person-centered care that fully integrates Medicare and Medicaid services.

Additionally, the funds will cover staffing costs for time dedicated to practice redesign to develop the operational requirements to ensure compliance with all regulations, development of workflows, quality monitoring, and adequate billing and claiming infrastructure. These staff efforts will deploy compliance and regulatory tools to provide adherence to all Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services documentation standards.

Background:

On January 1, 2026, CenCal Health launched the CareConnect Dual Special Needs Plan (D-SNP). CareConnect is an HMO D-SNP offered by CenCal Health for people who qualify for both Medicare and Medicaid (dual-eligible individuals) in Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties. As a D-SNP, it is a specialized Medicare Advantage plan designed specifically for dual-eligible individuals. D-SNP will provide coordination of benefits for CareConnect members, claims and billing adjustment, care coordination and case management, and support for transition of care

The launch of CareConnect D-SNP requires substantial readiness investments in staff training, revised policies and workflows, and new technology. To support these needs, CenCal Health initiated D-SNP Readiness Grant Funding in January 2026.

CHD applied and was awarded funding to ensure training and clinical support for the operational implementation D-SNP across the CHD Health Centers.

Performance Measure:

The reporting requirements are detailed in Attachment A: Statement of Work of the Agreement and include the following:

- Member Access Impact: 60 CenCal CareConnect members served during grant period
- Staff Development: 100% of adult clinical providers and clinical support teams in all five health centers trained in care coordination
- Infrastructure Enhancement: Implemented workflows and policies and procedures for billing, EHR, and clinical quality improvement

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

The D-SNP Readiness Grant funding of \$90,000 will cover the costs of budgeted personnel associated with the implementation of the D-SNP program. It will cover approximately 3% of the administrative staff that normally have no other funding source.

Fiscal Analysis:

\$90,000 for personnel costs and indirect costs are included County Health Department’s FY 2026-27 Adopted Budget.

Funding Source	FY 2026-27	Total
State	\$90,000	\$90,000
Total	\$90,000	\$90,000

Special Instructions:

Please email the Minute Order to the County Health Contracts Unit phdcbu@sbcpd.org.

Attachments:

Attachment A – Dual Special Needs Plan (D-SNP) Readiness Grant Program Funding Agreement

Attachment B – Dual Special Needs Plan (D-SNP) Readiness Grant Funding Award Notice

Contact Information:

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