



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: CEO
Department No.: 012
For Agenda Of: 6/23/2015
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme:
Continued Item: NA
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Director(s): Mona Miyasato, County Executive Officer, 568-3400
Contact Info: Terri Nisich, Assistant CEO, 568-3400

SUBJECT: Children's Health Initiative – FY 2015-16 Service Contracts

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: YES

Other Concurrence: NA

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: YES

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve an Agreement between the County of Santa Barbara County Executive Office and the Foundation of Santa Barbara Regional Health Authority, Inc. (dba *Doorway to Health*) for Fiscal Year 2015-16 to provide health (medical, dental, vision) insurance to children residing in Santa Barbara County with family incomes under 300% of the Federal Poverty level, who do not have access to affordable healthcare nor qualify for Medi-Cal, Covered California or other publicly-subsidized health insurance programs, and determine that this program serves a public purpose. (Attachment A). Contract amount shall not exceed \$1,000,000.
2. Approve an Agreement between the County of Santa Barbara (Public Health Department (PHD)) and Foundation of Santa Barbara Regional Health Authority, Inc. (dba *Doorway to Health*) for Fiscal Year 2015-16 to provide health (medical, dental, vision) insurance to children residing in Santa Barbara County with family incomes under 300% of the Federal Poverty level, who do not have access to affordable healthcare nor qualify for Medi-Cal, Covered California or other publicly-subsidized health insurance programs, and determine that this program serves a public purpose. (Attachment B). Contract amount shall not exceed \$180,465
3. Determine that the above actions do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment, and are therefore not a

project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to section 15378(b)(4) of the CEQA guidelines.(Attachment C)

Summary Text:

The Children's Health Initiative is supported by the County of Santa Barbara General Fund, the Public Health Department (through the Tobacco Settlement Funds) and First 5, with the County Education Office staffing the program. The partnering agencies are requesting approval for the expenditure of \$1,180,465 (FY 2015-16) for the purchase of health, vision and dental insurance premiums (9067 member months of coverage) for approximately 756 children (ages 6-13) with family incomes under 300% of the Federal Poverty Level. These County of Santa Barbara families do not have access to affordable healthcare nor do they qualify for Medi-Cal, Covered California or other publicly-subsidized health insurance programs. Of the \$1,180,465, \$180,465 is from the Public Health Department's Tobacco Settlement funds and \$1,000,000 is from the County General Fund (County Executive Office).

Background:

This is on the agenda for the Board to review and approve the Agreements between the County of Santa Barbara County Executive Office and the Foundation of Santa Barbara Regional Health Authority, Inc., (dba Doorway to Health) and the County of Santa Barbara Public Health Department and the Foundation of Santa Barbara Regional Health Authority, Inc.

The Children's Health Initiative has been in existence since 2001. The Initiative's primary mission is to provide income-eligible children with access and utilization support for publicly funded or subsidized health insurance products, Medi-Cal, Healthy Kids and Covered California health insurance plans. The Board of Supervisors has approved funding of \$1 million annually since FY 2007-08 to the present. Healthy Kids Santa Barbara is a local health insurance product for children who do not qualify for Medi-Cal or Covered California. At its inception in November 2005, there were over 16,000 uninsured children in Santa Barbara County. At its peak when additional funding sources were available from California Endowment and First 5 California, Healthy Kids Santa Barbara enrolled approximately 1200 children. Enrollment has decreased as funding has decreased. Currently there are 772 children enrolled in Healthy Kids. However, due to insufficient funding there is a waiting list of 1,046 children. To eliminate the waiting list would cost slightly over an additional \$1.4 million.

In 2001, Santa Barbara County had the highest percentages of uninsured children in California. According to UCLA's California Health Interview Survey (CHIS), after outreach, enrollment, retention and utilization activities by the Children's Health Initiative partnership, Santa Barbara County now has one of the lowest percentages of uninsured children in California. Since the program's inception, the percentage of uninsured children in Santa Barbara County decreased by 96%, from an estimated 14% in 2005 to approximately .5% in 2011-12. (CHIS NE, UCLA, 2015).

Approval today would authorize the execution of two new FY 2015-16 agreements; 1) County of Santa Barbara Executive Office and the Foundation of Santa Barbara Regional Health Authority, Inc. (dba *Doorway to Health*) for \$1,000,000, and 2) with the County Public Health Department and the Foundation of Santa Barbara Regional Health Authority, Inc. (dba *Doorway to Health*) for \$180,465 to provide health (medical, dental, vision) insurance to qualifying children residing in Santa Barbara County. Funds will purchase health insurance (medical, vision and dental) premiums for approximately

756 children or 9,067 member months of health insurance coverage as well as cover program administrative costs, outreach, enrollment, retention and utilization activities for publicly subsidized health insurance products.

In addition to the enrollment, outreach, retention, and utilization efforts around Medi-Cal, Covered California and Healthy Kids, the Children's Health Initiative collaborates with a number of County agencies including the Departments of Social Services, Public Health, Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health, and with local hospitals and local community-based organizations. There is extensive collaboration with statewide efforts as well. These collaborations include the California Coverage and Health Initiatives, California Covering Kids and Families Coalition (National Health Foundation—Community Health Council), Communities for Healthy Kids (Institute for Local Government) and Teachers for Healthy Kids (California Teachers Association). These entities collaborate on state-wide advocacy, information and legislative efforts for children's health insurance. At the federal level, the Children's Health Initiative monitors the implementation of the Affordable Care Act, Children's Health Insurance Program Re-Authorization (CHIPRA) and Medi-Cal for the County.

Accomplishments:

The Children's Health Initiative presents the following evaluation and outcomes from the Children's Health Initiative Annual Evaluation Report "Fiscal and Systems Impact of the Children's Health Initiative of Santa Barbara County" (Attachment D):

- **Augmented state/federal revenue to Santa Barbara County medical/dental/vision providers due to the increased enrollment in public insurance products (Medi-Cal/Healthy Kids).**
 - A strategy of cross-sector collaboration over the past nine years has resulted in a dramatic decrease in the number and percentage of uninsured children in Santa Barbara County. Compared with the benchmark counties of Monterey and Tulare Counties as well as the State average, Santa Barbara is no longer one of the top counties with a high percentage of uninsured children but now one of the lowest. However, there remains over 1,000 children on the Healthy Kids Waiting List and 1,821 Santa Barbara County children remain on Restricted Medi-Cal.
 - There is augmented state/federal revenue to Santa Barbara County medical and dental providers due to the increased enrollment in public insurance products (Medi-Cal/Healthy Kids/Covered California. Previously uninsured Healthy Kids members accessed \$1,054,514 in medical, dental and vision services from local doctors and dentists in 2013-14. The 30% increase in MC enrolled children since 2006 resulted in an additional \$10,000,000 to local public health care centers, community clinics and private providers in 2014.

What has worked?

- **Increased accessibility of public health insurance enrollment assistance to families.**
 - Since 2006, over 100 Certified Application Assistors (CAA) in Santa Barbara County have been trained and supported by CHISB. These Assistors are primarily located in community-based organizations, often at school-linked sites easily available to families. With the implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and ongoing support of CHISB staff, these CAAs offer

information on Medi-Cal and Covered California to families, and refer uninsured families to enrollment assistance or assist in enrollment on site.

- Before the implementation of Covered California, CenCal Health developed a web-based enrollment portal so that families could enroll all their children at one time, in whatever public health insurance product for which they qualified.
- With the implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), information and training activities with public and private agencies, and the community, about Healthy Kids insurance as an option for uninsured children not eligible for Medi-Cal/Covered California has been crucial.
- Since 2006, CHISB has convened and staffed quarterly regional Children's Health Access Resource Teams as well as county-wide CHISB collaborative meetings to institutionalize the practice of identification and referral of uninsured children by public and private agencies to health insurance enrollment assistance and connection to a medical/dental primary provider.

Why does the Children's Health Initiative make a difference?

➤ Children having health insurance is critical to the operation and financial stability of County Public Health Centers, Community Clinics and hospitals.

- Health insurance reimbursement is crucial for the financial stability of our clinics and hospitals. There is not capacity in these institutions to furnish a large percentage of their services as non-compensated. With State realignment in 13-14, funding has been greatly reduced by the amount of \$8 million yearly that pays for uncompensated care at the County Public Health Care Centers. This shortfall in reimbursement has been met through increased enrollment of patients into the health insurance products for which they qualify. It is essential to retain these patients in health insurance enrollment.
- After health insurance enrollment, families access health and dental services for their children at a significantly higher rate. This pays for additional medical services reimbursement for previously uninsured children that will be earned by health care centers, community clinics, hospitals and private providers.
- As parents delay seeking any type of medical care for their uninsured child as they cannot afford self-pay medical services (21%, CHISB Parent Survey, 2013-14), uninsured children develop more severe symptoms and are more likely to miss school and utilize hospital emergency department or public health care center services for treatment.
- Health insurance results in a decreased percentage of uncompensated costs of the emergency department at local hospitals. With health insurance and a primary care provider, parents are less likely to utilize a hospital Emergency Department. After a year of Healthy Kids insurance, only 5% of parents reported that they had taken their child to the Emergency Department. Prior to health insurance enrollment, 22% of parents reported that they utilized the Emergency Department for their children's care. (CHISB Evaluation, 13-14, Parent Survey)
- Insured children are now accessing medical and dental services at significantly increased rates (CHISB Evaluation, 13-14, Parent Survey)
 - Child has visited a doctor in the past year
 - 78% at enrollment

- 98% at 12 month re-enrollment
- Child has visited a dentist
 - 34% at enrollment
 - 95% at 12 month re-enrollment
- When children access well-child visits, the state Healthy Kids evaluation showed that they have ½ the sick child visits resulting in better school attendance and less time taken off work by a parent.

Future Considerations:

- Although CHISB has significantly decreased the number of uninsured children county-wide according to data from the County, UCLA’s California Health Interview Survey (CHIS) and the Healthy Kids Waiting List, there remain at least two thousand children in Santa Barbara County who are uninsured and ineligible for Medi-Cal/Covered California health insurance.
- To eliminate the Healthy Kids Waiting List and enroll remaining uninsured children in Santa Barbara County who do not qualify for Medi-Cal/Covered California would cost just over \$1.4 million.
- Uninsured children eligible for Healthy Kids do not qualify for Medi-Cal or Covered California under the Affordable Care Act in its present form. This restriction could potentially change with the passage of immigration reform in the future or with the passage of State legislation expanding the enrollment of this population into Medi-Cal.

Performance Measure:

Funds are provided on a reimbursement basis after contract requirements are achieved. Each contract is assigned a County contract manager who will manage and monitor the contracts according to set performance measures. Performance assessments can also include site visits and a thorough review of Contractor’s records. The contract manager shall maintain electronic files including mid-year and year-end performance assessments.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: YES **Fiscal Analysis:**

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Current FY Cost:</u>	<u>Annualized On-going Cost:</u>	<u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u>
General Fund		\$0.00	\$ 1,000,000.00
State			
Federal			
Fees			
Other:TSAC			\$ 180,465.00
Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,180,465.00

Key Contract Risks (if applicable):

The County will only reimburse Contractors for costs that are eligible under the contracts and documented in a manner that is acceptable to the County. The County will provide payment after demonstration that reimbursable services were provided.

Staffing Impacts:

Legal Positions: 0

FTEs: 0

Special Instructions:

Please email an electronic copy of the Minute Order to Susan Foley at foley@countyofsb.org . Please execute two (2) copies of the attached Agreements and send copy to Susan Foley, foley@countyofsb.org.

Attachments:

Attachment A: Contract between the County of Santa Barbara County Executive Office and Foundation of Santa Barbara Regional Health Authority, Inc. (dba *Doorway to Health*)

Attachment B: Contract between the County of Santa Barbara Public Health Department and Foundation of Santa Barbara Regional Health Authority, Inc. (dba *Doorway to Health*)

Attachment C: Children's Health Initiative Annual Evaluation Report "Fiscal and Systems Impact of the Children's Health Initiative of Santa Barbara County"

Authored by: Terri Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer

CC: Takashi Wada, MD, Director, Public Health Department

Ben Romo, Executive Director, First 5 of Santa Barbara County