



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA LETTER**

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

**Agenda Number:**

**Submitted on:  
(COB Stamp)**

**Department Name:** County Health Department  
**Department No.:** 041  
**Agenda Date:** April 21, 2026  
**Placement:** Administrative Agenda  
**Estimated Time:**  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:**  
**Vote Required:** 4/5

**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Department Director: Mouhanad Hammami, County Health  
Contact: Paola Hurtado, Division Chief, Primary Care & Family Health  
**SUBJECT:** **Fifth Amendment Medical Doctors Associates DBA Cross Country Locums**

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

As to form: Yes

**Other Concurrence:** CEO Budget

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve and authorize the Chair to execute the Fifth Amendment to the Agreement with Medical Doctors Associates DBA Cross Country Locums for professional services to increase the amount by \$600,000 for a revised total Agreement amount not to exceed \$4,288,900, without a change to the period of performance of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026;
- b) Approve Budget Revision Request BJE-0010994 (Attachment G) in the amount of \$600,000 to transfer appropriations in the County Health Department from Salaries and Benefits to Services and Supplies in Fiscal Year 2025-2026; 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 the Fifth Amendment to the Agreement (Attachment F) with Medical Doctors Associates DBA Cross Country Locums (MDA) to increase the Agreement amount by \$600,000 for a revised Agreement total of \$4,288,900. The request to increase the contract amount for FY 2025-26 is due to the need to extend the assignments of two providers to ensure adequate coverage while we work to fill existing vacancies.

Approval of this amendment will allow the County Health Department (CHD) to maintain provider capacity levels and cover expenses for current locum providers on a temporary basis to ensure continuity of patient services.

**Discussion:**

CHD operates five (5) health care centers and two (2) shelter-based clinics throughout Santa Barbara County to provide medical services to the uninsured and underinsured members of our communities. CHD's physicians, health care practitioners, behavioral health specialists, and nurses who are regular County employees provide the greater part of the patient services. To continue to provide continuity in patient services, CHD has contracted with firms that recruit and place healthcare professionals on a temporary basis to fill in for another provider. These healthcare professionals are known as "Locum Tenens."

The contracted services do not replace regular employee positions but serve as fill-ins on a temporary basis. This Board item requests an increase in the Agreement amount with MDA without altering the performance period, to sustain provider capacity levels. Support from locum providers is particularly useful during transition periods, recruitments, or other unanticipated vacancies in budgeted positions. The "Locums Tenens" in this item are currently providing necessary, mandated primary care services while CHD recruits to fill existing provider vacancies, which are not part of the proposed reduction.

**Background:**

The State of California mandates the County to provide access to necessary medical care under Section 17000 of the Welfare and Institutions Code. CHD is mandated to provide access to medical care under Sections 330(e) and 330(h) of the Public Health Service Act, which also establishes its Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) status. These provider assignments are essential for the CHD to effectively deliver the services required by the Health Resources and Services Administration, including primary care services.

Approval of this Fifth Amendment will ensure CHD temporarily pays for expenses for existing Locums providers, covering vacancies on a temporary basis to ensure continuity of patient services. The County has a longstanding partnership with MDA, with the first contract dating back to 2003. The original executed Agreement was signed on June 27, 2023, for the period of July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024, with a total amount of up to \$535,000, to provide physicians, health care practitioners, and behavioral health specialists among other vital positions to meet the operational needs of various programs.

Approved on 3/19/24, the First Amendment to the Agreement with MDA increased the Agreement by \$500,000 for Locum Tenens and temporary healthcare professional services and \$75,000 for direct hire services for a revised total of \$1,110,000.

Approved on 6/18/24, the Second Amendment to the Agreement with MDA extended the Agreement for two years, through June 30, 2026, and added \$428,000 per each additional Fiscal Year, totaling \$856,000 for a revised Agreement amount of \$1,966,000. The Second Amendment also removed temporary healthcare professionals and direct hire services.

Approved on 4/1/25, the Third Amendment to the Agreement with MDA added \$864,900, resulted in a revised total Agreement amount of \$2,830,900. The performance period remained unchanged.

Approved on 10/14/25, the Fourth Amendment to the Agreement with MDA added \$858,000 for a revised total agreement of up to \$3,688,900. Again, the performance period remained unchanged. This Fifth Amendment adds \$600,000 for a revised total agreement of \$4,288,900 and maintains the existing performance period.

**Performance Measure:**

CHD has had previous agreements and a current agreement with MDA and has provided excellent professional healthcare services throughout. The qualified professionals who provide services comply with CHD’s policies and procedures and are provided with appropriate supervision to ensure compliance.

During the current fiscal year, MDA has provided CHD with six (6) Locums Tenens, including four (4) Physicians and two (2) Health Care Practitioners. Locum Tenens deliver essential primary care services, specializing in both adult medicine and pediatrics. CHD typically has a number of open vacancies under recruitment; locums ensure continuity of care while CHD recruits for vacant provider positions.

**Fiscal Analysis:**

The services of the locum tenens physicians generate patient service revenues from Medi-Cal, Medicare, and other public programs which pays for the cost of the agreement. To fund the executed fifth amendment increase of \$600,000 in FY 2025-26, the department will be using salary savings in Salaries and Employee Benefits. A budget revision is necessary to transfer appropriations from Salaries and Employee Benefits to Services and Supplies. Approving BJE #0010994 will allow CHD Health Care Centers to continue covering vacancies with qualified providers for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2025-26.

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>FY 2025-26</b>	<b>Total</b>
Patient Service Revenues	\$600,000	<b>\$600,000</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$600,000</b>	<b>\$600,000</b>

**Staffing Impacts:**

None

**Special Instructions:**

Please execute two original Fifth Amendment with Medical Doctors Associates DBA Cross Country Locums and retain one original Fifth Amendment and one Minute Order for pick up by the

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department. Please email the CHD at PHDGROUPContractsUnit@sbcphd.org when available for pick up.

**Attachments:**

**Attachment A** - Medical Doctors Associates DBA Cross Country Locums Agreement

**Attachment B** - First Amendment Medical Doctors Associates DBA Cross Country Locums Agreement

**Attachment C** - Second Amendment Medical Doctors Associates DBA Cross Country Locums Agreement

**Attachment D** - Third Amendment Medical Doctors Associates DBA Cross Country Locums Agreement

**Attachment E** - Fourth Amendment Medical Doctors Associates DBA Cross Country Locums Agreement

**Attachment F** - Fifth Amendment Medical Doctors Associates DBA Cross Country Locums Agreement

**Attachment G** - Budget Revision Request BJE-0010994

**Contact Information:**

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