

**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:** 9/7/05  
**Department Name:** Public Health Department  
**Department No.:** 041  
**Agenda Date:** 9-20-05  
**Placement:** Departmental  
**Estimate Time:** 30 minutes  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:**

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Elliot Schulman, MD, MPH, Director and Health Officer  
Public Health Department

**STAFF CONTACT:** Dan Reid, HIV/AIDS Program Administrator ext. 5421

**SUBJECT:** Enhancements for HIV/AIDS Education and Prevention including SB 1159  
(Vasconcellos) Disease Prevention and Demonstration Project

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**Recommendation(s):**

That the Board of Supervisors:

- A) Authorize the PHD Director to execute an amendment to the AIDS Master Service Grant Agreement 04-35380 with California Department of Health Services, Office of AIDS approving a one-time funding increase in the amount of \$85,520 for AIDS Education and Prevention revenue for FY 05-06, for a total in the amount of \$2,039,888 and authorize the Director to approve amendments to the contract, provided that any such amendments do not exceed ten percent (10%) of the Master Service Agreement's dollar amount;
- B) Authorize the implementation of a local Disease Prevention Demonstration Project (DPDP) in accordance with Senate Bill 1159 (Vasconcellos) and direct the Public Health Department staff to work with local pharmacies and the Solid Waste Division to explore syringe disposal expansion options in Santa Barbara County.
- C) Approve and execute Amendment A01 to the Agreement with the Pacific Pride Foundation, Inc. that changes the scope of work to improve program evaluation and reporting for the Needle Exchange and Education Program and authorize the Public Health Department Director to execute any future amendments for this agreement.

**Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:**

The recommendation is primarily aligned with:

Goal No. II. A Safe and Healthy Community in Which to Live, Work, and Visit.

Goal No. VII. A Community that Fosters the Safety and Well-Being of Families and Children.

**Executive Summary and Discussion:**

[Recommendation A](#) The HIV/AIDS Services Program is funded through a variety of Federal, State and local funding sources. State funding for HIV/AIDS Education and Prevention programs has been declining since fiscal year 2001-2002. Assembly member John Laird (27<sup>th</sup> District) was instrumental in adding \$5.6M in State general funds to support existing Education and Prevention programs for

Fiscal Year 05-06. For Santa Barbara County this translates into \$85,520 one-time funding that can be used to enhance existing programs or develop new programs with other sources of long-term support.

If approved by the Board, the additional one-time Education and Prevention funding will be used to:

1. Implement a local Disease Prevention Demonstration Project;
2. Provide funding to enhance existing Education and Prevention efforts; and
3. Increase staffing for the mandatory HIV Counseling and Testing Program.

Recommendations A&B are interrelated and are requested as a package. As such, if any of the two are not approved, the Public Health Department will not be able to implement any and will need to return to the ~~your~~ Board with alternative recommendations.

### 1. Disease Prevention Demonstration Project

Upon the Board's authorization, the following will occur in Santa Barbara County during the Project demonstration period from the current date through December 31, 2010.

- State licensed pharmacies that may wish to participate must register with the Public Health Department (PHD) to furnish (distribute or sell) up to 10 syringes (needles) without a prescription and to provide information on blood borne diseases spread through the use of contaminated needles and information on the safe disposal of used syringes.
- An individual may possess up to 10 syringes with proof of acquisition from an approved provider (pharmacist or physician).
- Santa Barbara County will participate in the Department of Health Services' evaluation of the Project's efficacy. The Department of Health Services must further submit a report of this evaluation to the Governor and Legislature by January 15, 2010.
- Makes it unlawful and subject to fines and/or imprisonment (up to 6 months) to dispose of syringes in certain specified locations (i.e. playgrounds, beaches, parks or any school with the exception of higher learning institutes).

### 2. Education and Prevention Program Enhancements

All of the recommendations include education and prevention activities. The specific elements associated with the Education and Prevention Program are:

- ~~In accordance with recommendations from the Centers of for Disease Control and Prevention,~~ increase HIV testing for high-risk clients through a targeted ~~social marketing education~~ campaign.
- ~~Expand capacity of the local community planning advisory body (the HIV Prevention and Care Council-HPCC) through membership recruitment and leadership development.~~
- Ensure funding for existing education and prevention programs targeting populations at risk for acquisition or transmission of HIV.

### 3. Counseling and Testing Program Staffing Increase

The Counseling and Testing Program is a mandatory program in Santa Barbara County. HIV Counseling and Testing through the Alternative Testing Site program has been decreasing since 1999 while the number of HIV positive test results have jumped from 10 or 11 new HIV cases per year to 33 cases in calendar year 2004. Due to staffing shortages and turnover, outreach testing for high-risk

clients has been inconsistent or nonexistent. The one-time Education and Prevention funding will allow for the filling of an unfunded Health Service Aide Sr. position in order to perform outreach HIV testing and specifically HIV rapid testing. This position, which requires State certification, has been difficult to recruit for and to sustain. As Extra Help, the staff position has experienced a 200% turnover in the last year. The learning curve is tremendous and efficiency suffers due to the constant turnover and vacancy rate.

This strategy is in alignment with the current Public Health Department Recurring Performance Measures<sup>1</sup> and with the expansion of HIV rapid testing. HIV rapid testing allows for almost 100% of test results disclosure at the time of testing in comparison to traditional HIV testing that has a current disclosure rate of only 75%. The lower percentage of disclosures in traditional HIV testing is a result of the testing client having to return one week or later to receive their HIV test results.

*Recommendation C: Needle Exchange and Education Program Agreement Amendment*

In a separate but related issue, the Board is requested to approve an agreement amendment for the Needle Exchange and Education Program. As requested by the Board in March 2005, the PHD has reviewed and revised the existing Needle Exchange and Education Program contract with the Pacific Pride Foundation, Inc. (subject to Board approval) as detailed in Amendment A01 in order to ensure better program evaluations and more consistent program outcome reporting. The proposed Disease Prevention Demonstration Project will provide an enhancement to the Needle Exchange and Education Program as it will provide additional access to clean needles, information on blood borne disease and prevention, and information and resources to properly dispose of contaminated needles.

**Mandates and Service Levels:**

HIV/AIDS Education and Prevention is a non-mandated program. The Disease Prevention Demonstration Project is a non-mandated project. If authorized by the County Board of Supervisors, a local Disease Prevention Demonstration Project would be implemented. Participation by pharmacies would be encouraged, but would remain is-voluntary. The Alternative Test Site program is a mandated – practical program that provides for anonymous and confidential HIV testing, counseling, and referrals as specified in Health & Safety Codes 120885 and 120975. The Pacific Pride Foundation Needle Exchange and Education program is non-mandated. The Pacific Pride Foundation, Inc. with the ongoing declaration of a local emergency by your Board, will provide needle exchange and education services commensurate with private support.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

A. Authorization of the one-time \$85,520 Education and Prevention funding will not increase the General Fund contribution to the HIV/AIDS cost center. The HIV/AIDS cost center currently has 12 programs that are funded separately. General Fund provides approximately \$75,000 of direct costs for Education and

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<sup>1</sup> Recurring Performance Measure #0164 Increase the percentage of high-risk HIV clients counseled and tested in outreach settings (detention facilities, needle exchange programs, street outreach) to 30% of all HIV testing (estimated total of HIV testing is 3,000 clients/year).

New measure for FY 05/06. RPM #0212 Increase the percentage of clients receiving their HIV test results from an average of 75% (across all testing locations) to an average of 80% through the increasing usage of the HIV rapid testing methodology.

Prevention programs and for the mandated Alternative Test Site program. For FY 2005-2006 only, the one-time \$85,520 is recommended to be used for:

- Implementation of a local Disease Prevention Demonstration Project = \$13,870 (see B below)
- Enhance existing Education and Prevention Efforts = \$71,651 (see below)
- Enhance the existing mandatory HIV Counseling and Testing Program

B. Authorizing the implementation of a local Disease Prevention Demonstration Project will not increase the General Fund contribution to the HIV/AIDS cost center. The first year of one-time and ongoing costs are estimated at \$13,870, including the Public Health Department's indirect costs. There are three cost components to implementation.

1. **Program Design and Planning.** This one-time component is estimated at 100 staff hours at an estimated cost of \$5,690.
2. **Program Start-Up and Implementation.** This one-time component is estimated at 80 staff hours at an estimated cost of \$4,475.
3. **Ongoing Staff and Supplies.** This annual component is estimated at 54 staff hours and \$900 for supplies and educational materials for an annual ongoing estimated cost of \$3,705.

There is no funding for Senate Bill 1159 (Vasconcellos). Therefore, the first year of funding is recommended to be reimbursed from the one-time Education and Prevention grant, which allows for new program development. For subsequent years, the ongoing cost of approximately \$3,705 can be funded by a shift in General Fund contribution from the HIV/AIDS counseling and testing program, explained later in the fiscal impact section.

The current Needle Exchange and Education Program, which collects contaminated needles at Pacific Pride Foundation and through the Home Generated Sharps Program containers, is administered by the Public Health Department's Clinical Laboratory as part of its medical waste disposal. The estimated cost for this current program is \$10,250. Because it is unknown what the increase in syringe sales will be if the Disease Prevention Demonstration Project is implemented, it is difficult to plan for the increased demand for proper syringe disposal. At this time, an increase of 10%, or \$1,025, is estimated. This estimated increase will remain with the Clinical Laboratory as part on their ongoing waste disposal costs.

The remainder of the one-time Education and Prevention funding (\$71,651) will be used to enhance the existing program efforts.

- Approximately \$5,001 for existing staff to oversee the current Education and Prevention grant and the one-time allocation.
- \$40,000 for existing Community Based Organization (CBO) Education and Prevention service contracts that is in alignment with Board strategies to reduce reliance on local tax revenues, and use other available funding sources to ensure vital services can be maintained.
- \$10,000 to make the existing CBO Education and Prevention contracts 'whole', as discussed by the Board during budget hearings.
- \$16,650 for a ~~social marketing~~ **targeted education** campaign to: 1. Increase access to anonymous and confidential testing sites through advertisements and outreach for high risk clients while ensuring that virtually all testing clients (100%) receive their test results at the same time (currently only 75% of clients return for their HIV test results). 2. Recruit membership for the HIV/AIDS Local

Implementation Group (LIG) known as the HIV Prevention and Care Council (HPCC), which is a Brown Act advisory board.

Recruiting for and filling a currently unfunded Health Services Aide, Sr. position will increase the HIV/AIDS cost center by approximately \$31,700. This position is proposed to be funded as follows:

\$ 13,325	Increase Counseling & Testing revenue estimate by providing more outreach tests to high-risk clients in jail, juvenile facilities, shelters, etc., and implement the rapid testing method in more locations and outreach sites to ensure close to 100% clients receive their test results
3,400	Reduce the current additional extra help counselors by 10% (from 23% to 13%)
11,275	DPDP portion of direct salary costs out of the one-time funding
3,700	Education & Prevention direct salary for staff oversight out of the one-time funding

The one-time funding will be used to pay for the shift of existing staff to implement DPDP and carryout the oversight of Education and Prevention program while the new position works in the mandated Counseling and Testing program. In year two, and subsequent years, the position will be sustained by increased Counseling and Testing revenue, leveraged Federal dollars, reduced laboratory testing costs (since the count of tests performed by the rapid testing methodology will increase while the count of traditional blood drawn tests will decrease), and reduced services and supply costs as COLAs are approved.

C. Approving and executing Amendment A01 to the Agreement with the Pacific Pride Foundation, Inc. for the Needle Exchange and Education Program will remain cost neutral. There is no public funding for the continuance of the Needle Exchange and Education Program.

If recommendation A&B are approved, the Public Health Department will return with a Budget Revision Request for the authorized amount. The HIV/AIDS cost center is found on page D-194 in the budget book. Approval of these recommendations will have a net impact of approximately \$40,000.

**Special Instructions:**

Please send a copy the executed contract and a copy of the minute order to PHD Contracts Unit, 300 North San Antonio Road, Building 8, Santa Barbara, CA 93110. **Attention: Margaret Granger (805) 681-5367.**

**Concurrence:** Not applicable

**Endorsement for a local Disease Prevention Demonstration Project from Other Groups:**

- Rite Aid Pharmacies in Santa Barbara County
- Longs Drug Store Pharmacies in Santa Barbara County
- Walgreens Drug Store Pharmacies in California
- Santa Barbara Medical Association

**National Groups that support pharmacy sales without a prescription:**

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|-------------------------------------|---|
| American Public Health Association  | American Bar Association AIDS Coordinating Alliance of State AIDS Directors |
| American Medical Association        | National Associations of State Controlled Substance Authorities             |
| American Pharmaceutical Association | National Association of County & City Health Officials                      |
| U.S. Conference of Mayors           | National Association of Board Pharmacies                                    |

Figure 2 Alternative Test Site HIV Positive Tests (1999-2004)

