



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: Public Health
Department No.: 041
For Agenda Of: July 1, 2014
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Takashi Wada, MD, MPH, Director and Health Officer,
Director Public Health Department
Contact Info: Dan Reid, 681-5173
Deputy Director, Primary Care & Family Health
SUBJECT: California Department of Public Health AIDS Drug Assistance Program
Administration Agreement

County Counsel Concurrence:

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence:

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- A) Approve and authorize the Public Health Department Director to enter into an Agreement with the California Department of Public Health in order for the Department to enroll eligible individuals in Santa Barbara County for the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) for the period of July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2016.
- B) Determine that these activities are exempt from California Environmental Quality Act review per CEQA Guideline Section 15378(b)(4), since the recommended actions are government fiscal activities which do not involve 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 Public Health Department (PHD) Director to enter into an Agreement with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) in order to enroll eligible individuals diagnosed with HIV/AIDS in the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) for the period of July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2016. There is no direct compensation from CDPH for this Agreement.

Background:

ADAP is a federal program founded in 1987 to provide uninsured and under-insured individuals diagnosed with HIV to receive free or low cost HIV medications. Just over one hundred ADAP eligible individuals in Santa Barbara County receive over \$1.4 million dollars' worth of free or discounted medication annually. Many HIV medications are not included in the Medi-Cal formulary so even individuals with health care coverage may require ADAP to get access to their medications.

PHD has been a designated ADAP eligibility entity since early in the 1990s. The State Office of AIDS is concerned about security measures for local AIDS Drug Assistance Programs, consistency with the recent rollout for the Affordable Care Act programs such as Medi-Cal expansion, and demonstrating concurrence from the local Board of Supervisors. Prior to this agreement, the State was not requiring documentation of Board of Supervisors concurrence. Therefore CDPH Office of AIDS is imposing agreement modifications and requiring concurrence from the Board of Supervisors for existing agreements which began on July 1, 2013 and runs through June 30, 2016.

PHD has reviewed the changes in the Agreement conditions and believes the County is not at risk of non-compliance or disallowance of previous ADAP claims that may have occurred since July 1, 2013. The majority of the changes are in relation to the security of the patient protected health information for which PHD and the County in general is already in compliance and very diligent to prevent breaches and constantly working to improve this security.

Without this Agreement, individuals in Santa Barbara County would need to travel to areas outside of Santa Barbara County to access ADAP eligibility enrollment assistance. Without ADAP, medication costs for the PHD Ryan White Program would increase and resource constraints would likely prevent some HIV patients from receiving or experience delays in receiving their HIV medications. HIV/AIDS patients often have a severely compromised immune system and without consistent, ongoing access to medications are extremely vulnerable to life threatening diseases that do not pose these risks to those with healthy immune systems.

Performance Measure:

The Performance Objectives for this grant include ensuring access to ADAP eligible individuals within 24 hours of receiving their diagnosis and/or prescriptions. There are other performance measures to re-enroll ADAP clients.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

Authorizing the Public Health Director to enter into this Agreement will allow for the ongoing enrollment of ADAP eligible individuals. Specially trained PHD staff is designated as ADAP Eligibility Workers. Entering into this Agreement will continue the access of eligible individuals to ADAP medications and therefore reduce the County liability of providing HIV medications. As described above, this Agreement will allow eligible individuals to receive an average of \$1.4 million dollars' worth of HIV medications annually. ADAP Administrative services are currently provided by Health Care Center staff in the Santa Barbara and Santa Maria Health Care Centers.

This action will not result in the need for any additional facilities.

Special Instructions:

Please return a certified copy of the Minute Order to the PHD Contracts Unit at PHDRES.ContractsUnit@sbcphd.org.

Attachments:

CDPH ADAP Eligibility Administration Agreement

Authored by:

Dan Reid, Assistant Deputy Director, Public Health Department