



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: 10/7/08
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Elliot Schulman, MD, MPH, Director and Health Officer
Director Public Health Department
Contact Info: Susan Klein-Rothschild, Assistant Deputy Director
681-5435
SUBJECT: Update on Multipurpose Senior Services Program (MSSP) Transition & Budget Revision

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Other Concurrence: N/A

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

Consider recommendations regarding the Multipurpose Senior Services Program, as follows:

- a) Receive an update on the Multipurpose Senior Services Program transition to a local community-based organization.
- b) Approve and authorize the Budget Revision Request reflecting a four month budget for the period July 1, 2008 to October 31, 2008 in the county's financial system.

Summary Text:

The Public Health Department (PHD) has provided Multipurpose Senior Services Program (MSSP) services in Santa Barbara County since 1984. This program provides social and health care management for frail elderly clients who are certifiable for placement in a nursing facility but who wish to remain in the community. In April of 2008, the PHD notified the California Department of Aging of its intention to terminate MSSP services, effective October 31, 2008, with the goal of transitioning this vital program to a community-based provider. On August 27, 2008, the California Department of Aging notified Santa Barbara County that CenCal Health was selected to provide ongoing MSSP services in our county, beginning October 1, 2008. This time frame will allow for a one month overlap between the PHD and CenCal Health to ensure a smooth transition.

Background:

The Public Health Department has managed the Multipurpose Senior Services Program (MSSP), for frail elderly clients who are certifiable for placement in a nursing facility but who wish to remain in the community. Approximately 200 clients have benefitted from these services on an ongoing basis in our

community. Earlier this year, the Public Health Department examined alternatives to continue the valuable services while realizing operational efficiencies and cost savings. The Public Health Department learned that community-based organizations in Santa Barbara County who serve MSSP clients were interested in becoming the primary provider of MSSP services. A community-based organization that already serves this population offers opportunities for cost savings, increased efficiencies, enhanced service coordination and avoiding duplication.

The transition of the MSSP program was raised in budget discussions last June. During the budget process, the continuity of services for current clients was recognized and assurances were made to have a sound transition that continues services to current MSSP clients.

The California Department of Aging completed a Request for Proposals process and announced that CenCal Health was selected as the new provider for MSSP services. CenCal Health is the local Medi-Cal managed care program that works with all Medi-Cal providers in the County. Since all MSSP clients are Medi-Cal certified, administration through CenCal Health offers potential for improved coordination of services. All MSSP clients served by the Public Health Department will continue to receive services and in many cases, they will continue to have the same direct service worker. This is because a number of Public Health Department MSSP program employees have been hired by CenCal Health and will continue to work in the MSSP program. The Public Health Department has shared procedures and documentation with CenCal Health and offered any assistance needed. The transition is an ongoing process, but the ongoing collaborative approach will ensure it remains a smooth one for our clients and community.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Narrative: The Public Health Departments revenue agreement MS-0809-15 with the California Department of Aging covers the four month period of time until the planned termination of services October 31, 2008. It incorporates 10% reimbursement reductions as mandated by the state budget and allows \$257,100 of cost reimbursement from the State of California. MSSP funding is subject to the adoption of the Governor’s budget for FY 2008-09. The total cost associated with providing these services until October 31, 2008 is \$324,613 which leaves \$67,513 of uncovered program costs. General Fund dollars are used to offset the unrecoverable portion of direct (\$58,331) and indirect costs (\$9,182) totaling \$67,513. Subject to your Board approval, the attached BRR will allow for the Chronic Disease and Aging cost center of the Community Health division to be shown on page D-204 of the budget.

Staffing Impacts:

<u>Positions:</u>	<u>FTEs:</u>
Accounting Assistant II	1.0
Office Assistant, Senior (vacant)	1.0
Public Health Nurse (vacant)	1.0
Senior Services Supervisor	1.0
Senior Services Practitioner	1.0
Health Service Aide, Senior	3.0

The program has 10 positions (8.0 FTE) in the MSSP program; 2 positions (2.0 FTE) are vacant. Three County MSSP staff have been hired by CenCal Health for the new MSSP program. Two additional County staff have identified new positions in the Public Health Department. The Public Health Department is seeking positions within the department that match the skills and abilities of the remaining three staff to assure those who are impacted by the transition of this program will be provided for in accordance with the agreement with SEIU 620 that was recently approved by the Board.

Multipurpose Senior Services Program Update

Agenda Date: October 7, 2008

Page 3 of 3

Special Instructions:

Please return an electronic copy of the Minute Order to the PHD Contracts Unit at

PHDRES.ContractsUnit@sbcphd.org

Authored by:

Susan Klein-Rothschild