



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: May 16, 2023
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: 4/5

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Mouhanad Hammami, Director
Director(s) Public Health Department
Contact Info: Dana Gamble, Deputy Director (805) 681-5171
Primary Care and Family Health
SUBJECT: Health Resources and Services Administration Grant for Expanding COVID-19
Vaccination FY 2022-23

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management
As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve, ratify, and authorize the Public Health Department Director to accept and receive supplemental funding for the County's Federally Qualified Health Centers and Community Health Division through the Health Resources and Services Administration Grant Award H8GCS47555-01-00 from the Affordable Care Act (ACA) Grants for New and Expanded Services Under the Health Center Program as funded through the Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act for the period of December 1, 2022 through May 31, 2023 in the amount of \$265,765 (Attachment A); and
- b) Approve and authorize Budget Revision BJE #0008797 in the amount of \$265,765 to establish appropriations for \$265,765 of unanticipated revenue from the Federal Government for Health Resources and Administration supplemental funding to increase Salaries and Benefits (\$84,059) Services and Supplies (\$178,616) and Other Costs (\$3,090) for FY 2022-23 in the County's financial system (Attachment B); and
- c) Determine that the recommended actions are not a "Project" with the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") and is exempt 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) to accept a grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) from the Affordable Care Act (ACA) Grants for New and Expanded Services Under the Health Center Program for activities that supplement and do not supplant planned activities that are using other funds to increase access to, confidence in, and demand for updated COVID-19 vaccines.

Background:

The fiscal year (FY) 2023 Expanding COVID-19 Vaccination (ECV) awards provide one-time funding to Health Center Program award recipients and look-alikes that received American Rescue Plan (L2C) awards to increase access to, confidence in, and demand for updated COVID-19 vaccines within their service areas. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through HRSA, has made these awards available to Health Centers as part of their ongoing support during the COVID-19 pandemic. The County's Federally Qualified Health Centers may use the awards for outreach and education, working with community partners, vaccine administration, enabling services (e.g. transportation and interpretation), personnel costs, extending hours or otherwise increasing availability, training, and supplies.

Since the Coronavirus crisis commenced, it was recognized that health centers around the country would need additional resources for assisting patients and communities in responding to the pandemic. It is now recognized that public response to intervention efforts, including vaccinations, has evolved with the duration of the pandemic. This funding supports enhancing confidence in vaccination activities and addressing barriers to access by covering costs associated with PHD Homeless program staff salaries and benefits and the costs related to COVID-19 education, outreach, and vaccination. While maintaining a focus on vaccination, PHD outreach to, and education of, persons experiencing homelessness includes expanding field-based team activities to promote an integrated, countywide approach consistent with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) efforts to operationalize timely access to clinically appropriate COVID-19 therapeutics, the "Test to Treat" program.

Performance Measure:

HRSA requires that PHD use the funds to assist patients in accessing vaccinations for COVID-19. PHD must budget and report on activities to HRSA on a periodic basis. Other than budget information and activities list, no specific performance measures are expected.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: No

Fiscal Analysis: Approving and authorizing the Public Health Director to accept the Expanded Covid-19 Vaccination Grant and Budget Revision Request #0008797 will allow the Public Health Department to increase confidence in, demand for and access to COVID-19 vaccinations at the County Health Care Centers and other sites where underserved populations can be reached. This funding provided by Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) was awarded for use from December, 1 2022 through May 31, 2023. Due to timing of the request for application and the award, it was not feasible to start before April 1, 2023. The attached Budget Revision Request of \$265,765 represents the appropriation needed to amend the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Adopted Budget for the program.

This program is supported by the Health and Human Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of a financial assistance award totaling \$265,765 with 100 percent funded by HRSA. The contents of this Board Letter are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by HRSA, HHS, or the U.S. Government. For more information, please visit [HRSA.gov](https://www.hrsa.gov).

This action is not anticipated to create a need for any additional facilities.

Key Contract Risks:

Multiple policies, procedures, and training are in place to minimize risks. Any risks identified with this grant are reduced by the length of the grant period, no required commitment to a specific project, and the shared purpose of increasing access to, confidence in, and demand for updated COVID-19 vaccines within the community.

Staffing Impacts:

Legal Positions:

0

FTEs:

0

Special Instructions:

Please return an electronic copy of the Minute Order to the PHD Contracts Unit at PHDGROUPEContractsUnit@sbcphd.org

Attachments: HRSA Notice of Grant Award 1 H8GCS47555-01-00

B. Budget Revision Request# 0008797

Authored by:

Paola Hurtado, Assistant Deputy Director, Public Health Department