



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
Department No.: 041
For Agenda Of: April 16, 2013
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 & Health Officer
Director(s) Public Health Department
Contact Info: Elizabeth Snyder, 681-5252
Deputy Director, Primary Care & Family Health Division
SUBJECT: Blue Shield of California Foundation Grant Agreement

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: N/A

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors consider recommendations as follows:

- a) Approve and authorize the Public Health Department Director to execute a grant agreement in the amount of \$106,000 from the Blue Shield of California Foundation for the period of April 1, 2013 through March 31, 2014. The grant provides for the support of transitioning current patients enrolled in the Medically Indigent Adults (MIA) Program, who are self-pay, and other community members, to Medi-Cal expansion under the Affordable Care Act (ACA).
- b) Determine that these activities are exempt from California Environmental Quality Act review per CEQA Guideline Section 15061(b)(3), since it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activities may have a significant effect on the environment.

Summary Text:

This one-time grant from the Blue Shield of California Foundation ("Foundation") has been awarded to the Public Health Department to support the transitioning of key populations to Medi-Cal for the period of April 1, 2013 through March 31, 2014.

Funds provided under this grant will be used to:

- Research other County programs, policies and protocols, for assistance with the transitioning of MIA patients; and

- Develop a local algorithm and protocol for enrolling MIA and eligible self-pay patients for the Medi-Cal expansion; and
- Develop an integrated, comprehensive, countywide outreach and marketing plan to inform and assist eligible residents to apply for, and enroll in, these local programs.

The key objectives, as set forth by the Foundation are:

1. By May 31, 2013, consult with peer counties on lessons learned for successful enrollment of medically indigent adults in coverage and communicate lessons learned with leaders of county agencies and community stakeholders.
2. By June 30, 2013, develop an algorithm and protocol for enrolling medically indigent individuals in Medi-Cal and the California Health Benefits Exchange.
3. By June 30, 2013, develop training curriculum for county staff in the Department of Social Services (DSS), Public Health Department (PHD), and Alcohol, Drug & Mental Health Services (ADMHS) to assist medically indigent adults enroll in Medi-Cal through the Covered California.
4. By December 31, 2013, deliver training to at least 40 county staff to assist medically indigent adults to enroll in Medi-Cal..
5. By January 31, 2014, contact approximately 6,000 individuals (includes 1,200 existing patients in the MIA Program and 4,600 existing sliding fee scale patients currently receiving services in the County Health Care Centers) to assist them with enrollment in Medi-Cal.

Background:

The State of California has been developing legislation and systems to adopt “early health care reform”. The State has expressed a desire to enroll patients eligible for Medi-Cal expansion in 2014 as soon as feasible. Online enrollments are projected to begin on October 1, 2013. PHD has administered the MIA Program since 1983. All patients currently enrolled in the MIA Program will be eligible for enrollment in Medi-Cal starting on January 1, 2014.

As this is a countywide initiative, the County Departments (PHD, DSS, ADMHS) will work closely with its community health care partners, including: Santa Barbara Neighborhood Clinics, Community Health Centers of the Central Coast, Marian Medical Clinics, American Indian Health Services, Santa Ynez Tribal Health and CenCal Health.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: No

Fiscal Analysis:

Approving and authorizing the Public Health Director to execute acceptance of this Grant will provide the funding for the Department’s planning, education, and training efforts in the transition of County patients into health care coverage under the ACA. The grant amount of \$106,000 will provide for engagement of the consultants (\$100,000) to assist with education and training of outreach staff and for the travel of key planning personnel to three other counties that are already engaged in their own LIHPs and outreach efforts to learn best practices (\$6,000). A Budget Revision Request to amend the FY 2012-13 Adopted Budget will follow this request.

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

Special Instructions:

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

Attachments:

Blue Shield of California Foundation Agreement #7935713

Authored by:

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