



HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY  
ADMINISTRATION

# COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

## HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

P.O. BOX 962, 1080 EMELINE AVENUE  
SANTA CRUZ, CA 95061  
(408) 454-4066 FAX: (408) 454-4770  
TDD: (408) 454-4123

March 9, 1999

AGENDA: March 23, 1999

### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Santa Cruz County  
701 Ocean Street  
Santa Cruz, CA 95061

RE: APPROVE CHANGE IN AUTHORIZED POSITIONS IN THE HOMELESS PERSONS  
HEALTH PROJECT

Dear Board Members:

The Health Services Agency is requesting the addition of a 1.00 FTE Mental Health Client Specialist position and the deletion of a vacant 0.75 FTE Public Health Nurse II position in the Homeless Persons Health Project. This 0.25 FTE increase in authorized positions can be accommodated within the existing budget for this program. There is no increase in net County cost as a result of this change.

HSA's Homeless Persons Health Project (HPHP) assists homeless individuals and families in the County in accessing health care, mental health services, alcohol and drug treatment programs, and a broad range of other related social services. Currently authorized positions in the client services team consist of 2.50 FTE Public Health Nurse II's, 2.00 FTE Health Program Specialists, a 0.75 FTE Senior Mental Health Specialist, and a 1.00 FTE Supervising Public Health Nurse III. A 0.75 FTE Public Health Nurse II position is presently vacant.

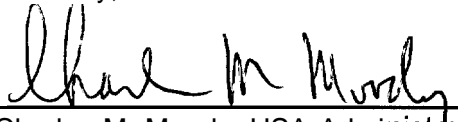
The HPHP is seeing an increased number of homeless individuals and families with complex, multiple problems, including untreated mental illness, emotional disturbances, traumatic brain injury, and histories of abuse and violence, frequently accompanied by chronic alcohol and drug dependence. Although Public Health Nurses are able to serve such clients, it is helpful to have a multidisciplinary team approach to most efficiently handle these complex cases. A full-time Mental Health Client Specialist will provide increased social worker services with a mental health focus, skills that are particularly useful and appropriate as part of the HPHP client services team. The annual cost of the position being deleted and the position being added are approximately the same. No new County funds are needed nor requested, as the position is and will continue to be supported by federal McKinney Homeless Assistance grant funds.

It is therefore RECOMMENDED that your Board:

272

1. Authorize the deletion of a vacant 0.75 FTE Public Health Nurse II position (position code: PH5-039LA) and the addition of a 1.00 FTE Mental Health Client Specialist in the Homeless Persons Health Project, and refer to County Personnel for classification.

Sincerely,

  
Charles M. Moody, HSA Administrator

RECOMMENDED:

  
for Susan A. Mauriello  
County Administrative Officer

cc: County Administrative Office  
Auditor-Controller  
County Counsel  
HSA Administration  
HSA Personnel  
County Personnel  
SEIU