



HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY
ADMINISTRATION

County of Santa Cruz⁰⁰⁷³

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

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March 28, 2000

AGENDA: April 11, 2000

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
County of Santa Cruz
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZE NEW POSITION IN THE HOMELESS PERSONS HEALTH PROJECT

Dear Board Members:

The Health Services Agency is requesting authorization of a full-time Mental Health Client Specialist position in the Homeless Persons Health Project (HPHP). This position is fully State funded and will be assigned to the HIV Drop-in Center project in Watsonville.

On March 21, 2000, your Board accepted a multi-year State funding award for an HIV prevention project to develop and implement a drop-in center in Watsonville. The project focuses on at-risk youth and will provide various counseling, harm reduction, and outreach services. The project is carried out through service contracts with the Santa Cruz AIDS Project and the HIV Education and Prevention Project, plus existing staff in HSA's AIDS program. The project also supports a new 1.00 FTE Mental Health Client Specialist position to provide youth oriented linkages to treatment and social services. This position will provide direct counseling, education, and case coordination services to drop-in center clients, with a particular emphasis on assisting young people to identify alcohol and drug treatment goals and to access available treatment programs. In addition, this position will be responsible for data collection, tracking services and outcomes, and preparing the required State reports. Funds for this position were appropriated when your Board accepted the funding award in March. The related authorization to create this new position was inadvertently omitted in the previous letter.

The initial funding period runs through June 2001. HSA expects the funding to be continued after that date as part of the AIDS Master Agreement, the mechanism by which the State funds the drop-in center project as well as other on-going HIV education, prevention, outreach, and testing activities.

It is, therefore, RECOMMENDED that your Board:


1. Authorize the creation of a 1 .00 FTE Mental Health Client Specialist position in Department 3620 and refer to Personnel for classification.

Sincerely,



Rama Khalsa, Ph.D.
Agency Administrator

RECOMMENDED:



Susan A. Mauriello
County Administrative Officer

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