



County of Santa Cruz ⁰²⁴³

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

P.O. BOX 962, 1080 EMELINE AVENUE
SANTA CRUZ, CA 95061
(831) 454-4066 FAX: (831) 454-4770

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY
ADMINISTRATION

January 10, 2001

AGENDA: February 6, 2001

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

Subject: APPROVAL TO SUBMIT GRANTS FOR HEALTH IN RESPONSE TO PROPOSITION 10 STRATEGIC PLAN

Dear Board Members:

Background:

On November 21, 2000 your Board reviewed the Strategic Plan for the Children and Families Commission which will be administering funds from Proposition 10. As your Board is aware, Proposition 10 established a funding stream for a variety of services to young children and their families. Your Board, in accordance with State law, established the Children and Families Commission to implement the mandates of the proposition and establish funding priorities.

The Commission has been engaged in a community assessment process to determine how local citizens feel children from birth to 5 years old and their families can best be served by the new funding. The law requires that the strategic plan evaluate health, family support, and children's readiness to learn on entering kindergarten. On January 8, 2001 the Commission released Requests for Proposals (RFP) related to the strategic plan. Several divisions within the Health Services Agency would like the support of the Board to submit proposals in response to these RFPs.

Description of Proposals:

The RFPs do not require County matching funds, but do encourage leveraging of funding from available sources to maximize the impact of the grant proposals. The following program proposals are in response to identified needs within the strategic plan:

1. Drug and Alcohol Services for Parents with Young Children: The Alcohol and Drug program in collaboration with local providers and Child Protective Services is designing a proposal to insure access to drug and alcohol services for parents who are at risk of losing their children as a result of drug and alcohol addiction. There was \$200,000 identified for these services, and the proposal will be approximately that amount.
2. Immunization Registry: The Public Health Division proposes to submit a grant to establish an immunization registry which will allow children's immunizations to be tracked no matter where they are administered throughout the County. This will help schools, local pediatricians, and the public health staff identify and track children who are getting immunizations and have reminder systems to parents and providers to get children in for needed immunizations. This registry will be on the **internet** and linked to physician offices, schools, and clinics. The State Department of Health has recommended this strategy to improve immunizations throughout the State. Several counties have this in place already. HSA will be applying for the \$70,000 plus the \$200,000 in one time funds for implementation of the registry.
3. High Risk Infant Nursing Program: This program currently exists within Public Health but has been able to accept only a small portion of the cases in need. These in-home nursing services are for babies with complex medical issues and their families. In addition, some of the parents have limited capacity to care for their newborn due to their own health, drug, or mental health issues. These nurses help insure proper care of the infant and assistance to the parents. The proposal will be to expand this program to be able to serve all referrals coming from the hospital and community. The Health Department will be applying for \$150,000 in grant funds for this project.
4. Benefits Advocacy: The Medical Outreach Coalition is planning to submit a proposal to do county-wide benefits advocacy for Medical, Healthy Families, and other insurances for families with children under 5. This would include outreach and coordination with private physicians, clinics, and schools. HSA would be the fiscal intermediary in this grant proposal and help with leveraging Medical Administrative Claim funds. The Health Care Outreach Coalition will be applying for \$80,000 in funding for this project.
5. Support & Treatment for Parents with Disabled Children: In conjunction with other agencies, mental health is participating with a variety of community based agencies in development of a proposal for parent support of families with disabled children. Mental Health may be applying for \$30,000 for this advocacy effort in conjunction with the Volunteer Center.

Each of these proposals is in response to a documented community need. These new funds provide a wonderful opportunity to expand the safety net for high risk families and improved public health.

Recommendations:

It is therefore RECOMMENDED that your Board take the following actions:

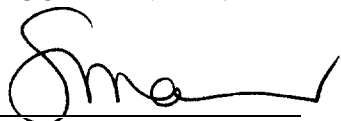
Approve the submission of Proposition 10 health grants by the Health Services Agency.

Sincerely,



Rama Khalsa, Ph.D.
HSA Administrator

RECOMMENDED:



Susan A. Mauriello
County Administrative Officer

cc: CAO
HSA Administrator
HRA Administration
County Counsel
Auditor-Controller
Health Services Divisions