



HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY
ADMINISTRATION

County of Santa Cruz

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

P.O. BOX 962, 1080 EMELINE AVENUE
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September 5, 2001

AGENDA: September 11, 2001

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

RE: DEFER REPORT BACK ON ACCESS TO CARE AGREEMENTS

Dear Members of the Board:

Background:

As part of the last day reports to your Board, HSA provided information on a range of activities to implement Board policies from the February 2001 Report and Presentation on the Uninsured. One of the analyses, which required more time to complete, was the update on the three hospitals. This report was to review their participation in the Charity Care/Access to care Contract. The reports from hospitals are due at the end of their fiscal years. For Watsonville and Sutter Hospitals the reports were due on June 30th, 2001. For Dominican Hospital the report is due on January 1st of each year. The County has received and accepted the Dominican Report from January of 2001. The County has also received the report from Sutter Hospital and is reviewing the report and discussing associated issues with the hospital staff. Watsonville Hospital reports that they will submit their report by September 21, 2001. They had questions about Medicare HMO costs and staff turnover which delayed their report. HSA has formally requested it be submitted as soon as possible for review.

Given the status of the hospital reports and the required time needed to do a thorough review of access issues, it is recommended the your Board approve a deferral of the report on 2000 hospital reports and the Access to Care Agreement until October 23rd.

It is therefore RECOMMENDED that your Board:


1. Direct HSA to return to the Board on October 23, 2001 with 2000 hospital data on the Access to Care Agreement; and
2. Schedule the annual report to your Board on all issues related to health insurance access within the County to February 5', 2002.

Respectfully submitted,



Rama Khalsa, Ph.D.
Health Services Administrator

RECOMMENDED:



Susan A. Mauriello
County Administrative Officer

cc: County Administrative Office
County Counsel
HSA Administration
Public Health Commission
Central Coast Alliance for Health
Local Hospitals