



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
Health System



Date: May 8, 2014
Board Meeting Date: June 17, 2014
Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors

From: Jean S. Fraser, Chief, Health System
Brian Zamora, Director, Family Health Services

Subject: California Department of Public Health for Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a Resolution authorizing an agreement with the California Department of Public Health to provide funding for the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program for the term of July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2017, in an amount not to exceed \$866,546.

BACKGROUND:

Lead poisoning in children remains a major preventable public health problem. Some sources of childhood lead poisoning in the County include: lead paint in homes, ceramic pottery with lead glazes, lead in candies, home remedies that include lead, and lead dust that is brought home from industries where lead is present. There are also a number of children who arrive from other countries who display elevated blood lead levels (BLL).

Even slight elevations in BLL can result in disruptions of growth and development, cause behavioral problems and affect every organ of a young child. Children are particularly vulnerable because their small bodies absorb more lead, the lead is excreted slowly from their systems, there are no symptoms, and the only way to tell if a child is poisoned is through a blood lead test.

Since January 1992, the California Department of Public Health Child Health and Disability Prevention Program (CHDP) has required its providers to screen children aged six months to six years for the risk of lead poisoning. Per CDPH recommendations, children eligible for the blood test who receive Medi-Cal, CHDP services, Healthy Families, or Women, Infants and Children programs should have a blood test at age 12 months and again at 24 months of age.

DISCUSSION:

Since 1993, the State Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (CLPPP) has awarded funding to local health departments to support the cost of home investigations, case management, surveillance, tracking, and community outreach and education. The Health System's Family Health Services (FHS) Division has been awarded CLPPP funding for this purpose.

Specifically, when a case of lead poisoning is identified, home visits are made with a Registered Environmental Health Specialist, an FHS Public Health Nurse, and an FHS Community Worker. This team is essential to tracking the source of a child's lead poisoning and providing follow-up and resources.

The agreement and Resolution have been reviewed and approved by County Counsel as to form. This agreement is late due to delays at the State level in distributing contracts to local agencies.

Approval of this agreement contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of a Healthy Community by providing funding to support lead poisoning prevention activities in San Mateo County. It is anticipated that 95% of children receiving lead poisoning prevention services will benefit from a reduction in blood lead levels.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE(S):

Measure	FY 2013-14 Estimate	FY 2014-15 Projected
Percent of children with elevated blood lead levels where lead level decreased due to Lead Program activities.	95%	95%

FISCAL IMPACT:

The term of this agreement is July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2017. The amount of the agreement is not to exceed \$866,546 for a three-year term. Funds in the amount of \$294,982 are included in the FHS FY 2014-15 Recommended Budget. Similar arrangements will be made in future FHS budgets. Since the County is receiving this funding, there is no Net County Cost.