



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
Health System



Date: April 19, 2012
Board Meeting Date: May 8, 2012
Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors
From: Jean S. Fraser, Health System Chief
Brian Zamora, Director, Family Health Services
Subject: California Department of Public Health for Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the:

- A)** President of the Board to execute 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, 2011 through June 30, 2014, in the amount of \$823,260; and
B) Chief of the Health System or designee to execute contract amendments which modify the funding amount by no more than \$25,000 (in aggregate), and/or modify the contract term and/or services so long as the modified term or services is/are within the current or revised fiscal provisions.

BACKGROUND:

Lead poisoning in children remains a major preventable public health problem. In San Mateo County, there were over 200,000 homes built prior to the 1978 ban on the use of lead in paint. 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).

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.

Local health departments receive funds to assure that children are screened for lead poisoning. Since January 1992 Child Health and Disability Prevention Program (CHDP) providers have been required to screen children aged six months to six years for the risk of lead poisoning. Children eligible for Medi-Cal, CHDP, Healthy Families, or Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program 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. CLPPP supports screening and testing by providing education and outreach to medical and service providers who target low income families with young children. Additionally, CLPPP provides case management and tracking of children with elevated blood levels, surveillance on sources, and information and referrals for all County residents.

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

County Counsel has reviewed and approved the Agreement and Resolution as to form. This contract is late due to delays at the State in distributing contracts to local agencies.

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 2010-11 Actual	FY 2011-12 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, 2011 to June 30, 2014. The Agreement maximum is \$823,260. The maximum for FY 2011-12 is \$274,420, which has been included in the Family Health FY 2011-12 Adopted Budget. For FY 2012-13 and FY 2013-2014 costs will be \$274,420 and \$274,420, and will be included in the future budget requests. There is no Net County Cost.