



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
Health System



Date: June 15, 2015
Board Meeting Date: September 1, 2015
Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors

From: Louise Rogers, Chief, Health System
Srija Srinivasan, Director, Family Health Services

Subject: Agreement with California Department of Public Health for the Women Infants and Children (WIC) Nutrition Program

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a resolution authorizing an agreement with the California Department of Public Health to provide funding for the Women Infants and Children Nutrition Program for the term of October 1, 2015 through September 30, 2019, in an amount not to exceed \$11,695,236.

BACKGROUND:

The Women, Infants and Children Program (WIC) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) initiative provides federal funds to promote healthy eating, breastfeeding support, and access to nutritious foods through direct food benefits to low income pregnant women, mothers and children up to the age of 5 in San Mateo County. WIC's goal is to reduce the incidence of low birth weights and improve the nutritional status of at risk low-income mothers and their children.

In San Mateo County, WIC serves 22,000 low income women and their children by providing nutrition education, breastfeeding support, food benefits and active referrals to County health and community services. WIC is often the first point of contact for many families seeking health and social service referrals. WIC formally partners with home visiting programs in Family Health Services (FHS) to identify individuals who would benefit from additional services.

FHS has been receiving funding for the WIC Program since 1976.

DISCUSSION:

New contracting processes at the California Department of Public Health now require four-year subvention local assistance contracts, rather than annual funding agreements.

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The resolution contains the County's standard provisions allowing amendment of the County's fiscal obligations by a maximum of \$25,000 (in aggregate).

The agreement and resolution have been reviewed and approved by County Counsel as to form.

The County's Contract Compliance Committee has approved a waiver for a four-year agreement.

Approval of this agreement contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of a Healthy Community by providing funds to improve the nutritional status of low income pregnant women and children and reduce the complications and incidence of low birth weights and chronic disease in San Mateo County. It is anticipated that over 83% of babies in WIC will be breastfed at 4 weeks of age.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE(S):

Measure	FY 2015-16 Estimated	FY 2016-17 Projected
Percent and number of babies breastfed at 4 weeks of age	83% 1,440 babies	85% 1,560 babies

FISCAL IMPACT:

The term of this agreement is October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2019. The amount of the agreement is not to exceed \$11,695,236 for a four-year term. Funds in an amount of \$2,192,857 are included in the FHS FY 2015-16 Recommended Budget. Similar arrangements will be made in future FHS budgets. The WIC program's net county cost is \$911,745, which represents the costs of the program that are not covered by USDA.