



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
Health System



Date: June 17, 2016
Board Meeting Date: August 9, 2016
Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors

From: Louise Rogers, Chief, Health System
Lisa Mancini, Director, Aging and Adult Services

Subject: Amendment to the Agreement with Benefit Service Center to Provide Dental and Vision Benefits for the Independent Providers of In-Home Supportive Services Program

RECOMMENDATION:

Acting as the Governing Board of the Public Authority, adopt a resolution authorizing an amendment to the agreement with Benefit Service Center to provide dental and vision benefits for the independent providers of in-home supportive services, to extend the term to December 31, 2017, and to add \$900,000 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$1,500,000.

BACKGROUND:

In 1993, your Board approved an Ordinance establishing a separate legal entity, the Public Authority of the County of San Mateo (PA), to administer the individual provider components for the In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) program. Your Board also designated the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors as the PA's Governing Board (Board). The IHSS program's mission is to assist eligible aged, blind, and disabled individuals with remaining in their own homes as long as safely possible. The program uses independent providers to assist residents with a wide variety of daily living activities such as bathing, feeding, meal preparation, and certain paramedical services authorized by a physician.

In 2000, 2013, and 2015, your Board adopted Memoranda of Understanding with Service Employees International Union, Local 521, under which the PA administers salaries and benefits, including dental and vision benefits, for IHSS providers.

In August 2014, your Board, acting as the PA Governing Board, authorized an agreement with Benefit Services Center (BSC) to provide dental and vision insurance to the IHSS independent providers for the term July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015. In

June 2015, your Board authorized a subsequent agreement for the term July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016, in an amount not to exceed \$600,000.

As part of the pilot Coordinated Care Initiative, the IHSS Statewide Authority officially assumed collective bargaining responsibility for San Mateo's IHSS providers on February 23, 2015. The IHSS Statewide Authority has requested that the PA extend its dental and vision benefits contract for an additional eighteen months in order to prevent a lapse in benefit coverage for IHSS providers.

DISCUSSION:

This amendment to the agreement adds \$900,000 to allow the PA to continue providing dental and vision insurance coverage to independent IHSS providers through BSC through December 31, 2017. The current IHSS premium is \$5.85 per member, per month for vision, and \$13.17 per member, per month for dental insurance.

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

The amendment and Resolution have been reviewed and approved by County Counsel as to form.

This amendment contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of a Healthy Community by allowing independent providers to stay healthy and continue their employment as caregivers to at-risk individuals. It is anticipated that 100% of eligible IHSS home care providers will be enrolled in dental and vision benefits.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE(S):

Measure	FY 2015-16	FY 2016-18
Percent of eligible IHSS home care providers who enroll in dental and vision benefits.	100% 1,558 eligible providers	100% 1,459 eligible providers (each fiscal year)

FISCAL IMPACT:

The term of the amended agreement is July 1, 2015 through December 30, 2017. The amount of the amended agreement is an increase of \$900,000 for the eighteen-month term for a new not to exceed amount of \$1,500,000. The County pays a fixed annual "Maintenance of Effort" amount for the provision of IHSS and Public Authority services, and the full amount of this agreement will be paid for through federal (50%) and state (50%) reimbursement. The payment provisions and levels of service in this contract are essentially the same as the prior contract. Funds for these services are included in the PA FY 2016-17 Recommended Budget and will be included in FY2017-18 Recommended Budget.