



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
Health System



Date: March 18, 2014
Board Meeting Date: April 8, 2014
Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors

From: Jean S. Fraser, Chief, Health System
Susan Ehrlich, MD, MPP, Chief Executive Officer, San Mateo Medical Center

Subject: Acceptance of a grant from Mills-Peninsula Health Services

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the acceptance of a grant from Mills-Peninsula Health Services for the term of January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2016, in the amount of \$600,000.

BACKGROUND:

San Mateo Medical Center (SMMC) has successfully reduced the number of new patients awaiting access to primary care by 67% over the last 10 months. Despite these successes and SMMC's implementation of open access scheduling in many of its clinics, significant numbers of established primary care patients still go to our Emergency Department for conditions that could be addressed in primary care. This is a trend that may continue as more patients receive access to health care benefits that include payment for visits to Emergency Departments.

DISCUSSION:

Mills-Peninsula Health Services has generously agreed to provide a grant of \$200,000 per year for up to three years to allow SMMC to expand urgent care services at its Daly City Clinic (DCC) by establishing a dedicated urgent care team (Team) onsite. DCC currently serves approximately 7,200 adult and pediatric medical home patients, with over 40,000 visits per year. Using a mid-level practitioner (Nurse Practitioner or Physician's Assistant) as the primary provider, the Team will work with DCC's established primary care team to provide urgent care access when the primary care team is unable to do so, either because of full schedules or absences.

Utilizing this model, SMMC expects to reduce Time to Third Next Available Appointment (TTNAA) at DCC from the current 14 day average to less than 7 days. SMMC also

expects to reduce the number of established DCC medical home patients seeking care at the SMMC Emergency Department for ambulatory sensitive conditions. Having the dedicated funding to implement urgent care access in the Daly City location for three years will allow DCC to optimize patient flow and improve Medi-Cal reimbursement at this site, thus sustaining urgent care access for the longer term.

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

Acceptance of this grant contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of a Healthy Community by expanding patient access to urgent care at DCC and reducing the number of ambulatory sensitive conditions being seen in SMMC's Emergency Department. It is anticipated that the TTNAA at DCC will be reduced to less than 7 days.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE:

Measure	FY 2013-14 Actual	FY 2014-15 Projected
Reduction in TTNAA at DCC	N/A*	< 7 days

*New Measure

FISCAL IMPACT:

The term of the grant is January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2016, in the amount of \$600,000. Funds in the amount of \$100,000 will be included in the SMMC FY 2013-14 Adopted Budget. Funds in the amount of \$200,000 will be included in the SMMC FY 2014-15 Recommended Budget. Similar arrangements will be made for future budget years.

Expenses at SMMC are covered by fees for services or third-party payors whenever possible. The portion of expenses for services provided to the medically indigent or to those covered by programs that do not meet the full costs of care are covered by contributions such as this and the County's General Fund contribution to SMMC.