



**COUNTY OF SAN MATEO**  
Inter-Departmental Correspondence  
Health System



**Date:** July 5, 2016  
**Board Meeting Date:** September 6, 2016  
**Special Notice / Hearing:** None  
**Vote Required:** Majority

**To:** Honorable Board of Supervisors

**From:** Louise Rogers, Chief, Health System  
Srija Srinivasan, Director, Family Health Services and Health Coverage Unit

**Subject:** Amendment to the Agreement with California Department of Public Health  
for the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Adopt a resolution authorizing an amendment to the agreement with California Department of Public Health for the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program to expand monitoring, outreach and education, for the term of July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2017, and increasing the amount by \$93,572 to an amount not to exceed \$960,118.

**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, California's 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 California Department of Public Health (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.

FHS has been receiving funding for the State Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program since 1993. Most recently, your Board approved this agreement with the CDPH for the term of July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2017, in an amount of \$866,546.

**DISCUSSION:**

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.

In this amendment, CDPH has broadened eligibility for services including a decrease in the BLL required to denote blood poisoning. As a result of this change, CDPH anticipates an increase in caseload and an expansion of monitoring, outreach and education.

FHS requests that your Board authorize the Chief of the Health System or the Chief's designee to sign the attached amendment.

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

Approval of this amendment contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of a Healthy Community by providing funding to support lead poisoning prevention activities in San Mateo County. In FY 2016-17, it is anticipated that 171 children will require home visiting services for elevated BLLs and 53 additional clinic staff (total: 75) will be trained in the use of capillary sticks.

**PERFORMANCE MEASURE(S):**

Measure	FY 2015-16 Actual	FY 2016-17 Projected
Number of clients requiring home visiting services for elevated blood lead levels	149	171
Number of clinic staff trained in the use of capillary sticks	22	75

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The term of this agreement remains July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2017. The amount of the amended agreement is not to exceed \$960,118 for the three-year term. Funds in an amount of \$379,364 have been included in the FHS FY 2016-17 Approved Recommended Budget. Since the County is receiving this funding, there is no Net County Cost.