



County of San Mateo

Inter-Departmental Correspondence

Department: HEALTH

File #: 24-216

Board Meeting Date: 3/26/2024

Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors

From: Louise F. Rogers, Chief, San Mateo County Health
Lizelle Lirio de Luna, Director, Family Health Services

Subject: Amendment to the Agreement with the California Department of Public Health for the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a resolution authorizing an amendment to the agreement with the California Department of Public Health to increase funding for the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), increasing the amount by \$65,568 to an amount not to exceed \$9,406,572, with no change to the agreement term.

BACKGROUND:

The Women, Infants, and Children Program (WIC) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture 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 five in San Mateo County. WIC aims 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 approximately 20,000 low-income clients 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.

On September 13, 2022, this Board approved an agreement with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) in support of WIC for the term of October 1, 2022, through September 30, 2025, in an amount not to exceed \$9,089,748.

On May 9, 2023, this Board approved an amendment to the agreement with CDPH in support of

WIC, increasing the amount by \$201,006 to an amount not to exceed \$9,290,754, with no change in the agreement term.

On October 17, 2023, this Board approved an amendment to the agreement with CDPH in support of WIC, increasing the amount by \$50,250 to an amount not to exceed \$9,341,004, with no change in the agreement term.

DISCUSSION:

This amendment is adding \$65,568 from CDPH to the WIC program to better support WIC needs and allow WIC to promote healthy eating, breastfeeding support, and access to nutritious foods. Additionally, this amendment is shifting funds in Fiscal Years 2023-24 and 2024-25 to accommodate anticipated expenses.

This amendment has been created with the FHS director as the signatory. In order to minimize funding delays, FHS seeks this Board's authorization for the FHS director or their designee to sign the amendment in lieu of the Board.

This Board is also being asked to authorize the FHS director or their designee to execute subsequent amendments, which do not exceed an aggregate of \$25,000.

The amendment and resolution have been reviewed and approved by the County Attorney as to form.

It is anticipated that an average of 8,900 individuals will receive WIC benefits monthly, and 53% of babies in WIC will be breastfed at any time, by six months of age.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE:

Measure	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Estimated
Average number of individuals who receive WIC benefits monthly	8,750 individuals	8,900 individuals
Percentage of babies in WIC breastfed at any time, by six months of age	52% 218 of 420 babies in a given month	53% 223 of 420 babies in a given month

FISCAL IMPACT:

The term of the amended agreement is October 1, 2022, through September 30, 2025. This amendment increases the total federal funds by \$65,568 to an amount not to exceed \$ 9,406,572 for the three-year term. Funds in the amount of \$3,113,668 are included in the FHS FY 2023-24 Adopted Budget. Similar arrangements will be made for future years. Since the County is receiving this funding, there is no Net County Cost associated with this amendment.