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*Setting the Standard in Health Care Excellence*

December 19, 2023

Board of Supervisors  
County of Ventura  
800 South Victoria Avenue  
Ventura, CA 93009

**Subject: Approval of, and Authorization for the Director of Public Health to Accept the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), Ventura County Allocations up to the Amount of \$6,142,319, for California Children's Services (CCS) Fiscal Year 2023-2024, and Sign Related Documents. (Recommendation No. 2 Requires 4/5ths Vote)**

**Recommendations:**

It is recommended that your Board:

1. Authorize the Director of Public Health, or designee, to accept the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) County Allocations up to the amount of \$6,142,319 for California Children's Services (CCS) Fiscal Year 2023-2024, and sign related documents.
2. Authorize the Auditor-Controller to process the necessary budgetary transactions to Health Care Agency-Public Health (HCA-PH) Unit 3141 California Children's Services to revise the appropriations and revenues (requires 4/5ths vote) as follows:

**HCA - Public Health – California Children's Services (Unit 3141):**

INCREASE 3140-3141	Intergovernmental Revenue	\$ 1,589,828
INCREASE 3140-3141	Salaries and Benefits	\$ 317,458
INCREASE 3140-3141	Services and Supplies	\$ 1,272,370

Public Health - California Children's Services has existing appropriations of \$5,376,408 and revenue of \$4,552,491 in the County's current FY 2023-24 adjusted budget.

**Fiscal/Mandates Impact:**

**Mandatory:** Yes

**Source of Funding:** Federal, State, and County

**Funding Match Required:** Yes

**Impact on Other Departments:** None

Summary of Revenues and Costs:	<u>FY 2023-24</u>	<u>FY 2024-25</u>
Revenue:	\$ 6,142,319	\$ 6,142,319
Costs:		
Direct	\$ 4,775,258	\$ 4,775,258
Indirect-Dept.	\$ 1,809,021	\$ 1,809,021
Indirect-County CAP	\$ -0-	\$ -0-
Net Costs	\$ 441,960	\$ 441,960
Recovered Indirect Costs	\$ -0-	\$ -0-

**Current FY 2023-24 Budget Projections:**

FY 2023-2024 Budget Projection for Public Health – California Children's Services, Unit 3141				
	Adopted Budget	Adjusted Budget	Projected Budget	Estimated Savings (Deficit)
Appropriations	\$10,800,400	\$10,908,796	\$10,908,796	-0-
Revenue	\$8,825,848	\$8,825,848	\$8,825,848	-0-
Net Cost	\$1,974,552	\$2,082,948	\$2,082,948	-0-

**Strategic Plan Priority:**

The item presented in this board letter aligns with the Healthy, Safe, and Resilient Communities strategic priority of the County Strategic Plan as it is designed to meet the goal of providing equitable and timely access to quality public health services.

**Discussion:**

California Children's Services (CCS) provides diagnostic and treatment services, medical case management, and physical and occupational therapy services to clients birth to age 21 with CCS-eligible medical conditions. Ventura County Public Health's California Children's Services (CCS) and Medical Therapy Program (MTP) collectively provide medically necessary services to over 4,500 clients with life-long, chronic, disabling, and complex medical conditions.

The CCS program is a longstanding program mandated by the Welfare and Institutions Code and the California Code of Regulations (Title 22, Section 51013) to act as an "agent of Medi-Cal" for Medi-Cal beneficiaries with a CCS eligible condition(s). In accordance with Health and Safety Code Section 123940, counties are required to annually appropriate a sum of money for its share of CCS diagnostic, treatment, and vendored therapy; Optional Targeted Low Income Children's Program (OTLICP), dental; and the MTP. Funding for a county CCS program is a combination of county appropriated monies, State General Funds, and federal dollars. The amount of State money allocated to the CCS program is determined annually through the Budget Act.

With the approval of the State CCS allocations dependent on the annual Budget Act, the Ventura County CCS and MTP budget is developed based on prior fiscal year County appropriations and State allocations.

On October 26, 2023, the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) released CCS Information Notice 23-05 to provide county CCS Programs with their approved CCS Program County Administrative and MTP budget allocations for FY 23-24. The County of Ventura has been allocated up to \$6,142,319 for the Program County Administrative portion, which is more than previously budgeted. As such, we are requesting additional appropriations and revenue in the amount of \$1,589,828 to reflect the actual allocation. The MTP allocation of \$2,416,380 was previously included as part of the adopted FY 23-24 County budget as approved by your Board on June 6, 2023; as such, budget modifications and approval for the MTP allocation are not required at this time.

Additionally, Assembly Bill (AB) 133, Article 5.51 established the California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) Act, where section 14184.600 (b) requires DHCS to develop and implement initiatives to enhance oversight and monitoring of the administration of county CCS programs. Oversight and monitoring activities include; establishing statewide performance, reporting, and budgetary standards, periodic CCS quality assurance reviews and audits, establishment of a statewide enforcement framework, programmatic assessments to ensure appropriate allocation of resources, implementation of a Memorandum of Understanding between each county and DHCS, and the development and implementation of a grievance process.

Based on the actual State allocations, increasing caseload, and additional program requirements, it is being requested that the Auditor-Controller process the budgetary

transactions outlined above to maximize program allocations and support the implementation of the CCS program. The increase in funding from DHCS positions the County to allocate additional staff resources to serve the increasing caseload and effectively implement new programmatic requirements.

This letter has been reviewed by County Counsel, the Auditor-Controller's Office, and the County Executive Office.

If you have any questions regarding this item, please call Rigoberto Vargas at (805) 981-5101.

  
RIGOBERTO VARGAS  
Public Health Director  
BARRY ZIMMERMAN  
Health Care Agency Director

Attachments:

Exhibit 1: CCS Information Notice 23-05  
Exhibit 2: Certification Statement