

February 27, 2024

Board of Supervisors
County of Ventura
800 S. Victoria Ave.
Ventura, CA 93009

Subject:

Ratification of the Health Care Agency's (HCA) Submission of Applications Between October 1, 2023 and February 26, 2024, to the Ventura County Medi-Cal Managed Care Commission, Doing Business As Gold Coast Health Plan (GCHP) for Grants to Support Provider Recruitment; Approval of, and Authorization for the HCA Director or Designee to Execute, Grant Agreements with GCHP for Providers Approved by GCHP on or Before February 26, 2024 to Receive Recruitment Grants; Authorization for HCA to Accept \$5,415,000 from GCHP for Recruitment Grants Approved by GCHP On or Before February 26, 2024; Authorization for HCA to Update Previously Submitted Grant Applications and Submit Future Grant Applications to GCHP, Execute Grant Agreements with GCHP, and Accept Grant Funds from GCHP for the Recruitment Grant Program; Authorization for the HCA Director or Designee to Execute Sub-Grantee Agreements with Individuals and Physician Groups Approved to Receive Recruitment Grants; Authorization for the HCA Director or Designee to Make Non-Material Changes in These Documents Subject to County Counsel Approval; Authorization for the Auditor-Controller to Process Necessary Budgetary Transactions. (Recommendation #7 Requires 4/5ths Vote).

Recommendations:

1. Ratification of the Health Care Agency's (HCA) submission of provider recruitment grant applications to the Ventura County Medi-Cal Managed Care Commission, doing business as Gold Coast Health Plan (GCHP) between October 1, 2023 and February 26, 2024.
2. Approval of, and authorization for the HCA Director or designee to sign, grant agreements, similar in form to Exhibit 1, with GCHP for providers approved by GCHP between October 1, 2023 and February 26, 2024 to receive recruitment grants.

3. Authorization for HCA to accept \$5,415,000 from GCHP for recruitment grants applied for and approved between October 1, 2023 and February 26, 2024.
4. Authorization for HCA to update previously submitted grant applications and submit new grant applications to GCHP, execute grant agreements similar in form to Exhibit 1 with GCHP, and accept funds from GCHP for the recruitment grant program.
5. Approval of, and authorization for the HCA Director or designee to sign, sub-grantee (Exhibit 2) and grantee (Exhibit 3) agreements similar in form to Exhibits 2 and 3 with individuals and physician groups approved to receive recruitment grants.
6. That your Board authorize the HCA Director or designee to make non-material changes to these documents, subject to approval by County Counsel.
7. Authorization for the Auditor-Controller to process the budgetary transactions necessary to revise appropriations and revenue as follows (Requires 4/5ths vote):

VCMC, Fund E500, Budget Unit 3300-3301:

INCREASE 3300-3301 Intergovernmental Revenues	\$5,415,000
INCREASE 3300-3301 Services & Supplies	\$5,415,000

Reason for Ratification:

Between October 1, 2023 and February 26, 2024 HCA submitted grant applications to GCHP for the recruitment grant program. This is a new program for GCHP to assist providers with recruitment and retention challenges for certain types of medical providers. GCPH recently finalized the program policy, procedures, and related documents, making it now feasible for HCA to obtain your Board's approval.

Fiscal Impact:

Mandatory:	No
Source of Funding:	GCHP
Funding Match Required:	None
Impact on Other Departments:	N/A

Summary of Annual Revenues and Costs under these agreements.

	<u>Year 1</u>	<u>Year 2</u>
REVENUE:	\$2,707,500	\$2,707,500
DIRECT COSTS:	\$2,707,500	\$2,707,500
INDIRECT COSTS:	Minor	Minor
Net revenue <cost>	\$0	\$0

Current Fiscal Year Budget:

Current FY 2023-24 Budget Projections for Ventura County Medical Center #3300				
	Adopted Budget	Adjusted Budget	Projected Actual	Estimated Savings/(Deficit)
Expenditures	\$673,790,899	\$673,790,899	\$673,790,899	\$0
Revenue	\$665,452,626	\$665,452,626	\$665,452,626	\$0
Operational Income/(Loss)	(\$8,338,273)	(\$8,338,273)	(\$8,338,273)	\$0

Strategic Plan Priority:

This request aligns with Ventura County's strategic priority of Healthy, Safe and Resilient Communities, and the strategic goal to provide equitable and timely access to quality healthcare, mental health, and public healthcare services.

Discussion:

The recruitment grant program (Grant Program) strives to support eligible entities in GCHP's network to attract and recruit prospective physicians (e.g., specialists and primary care physicians) and other advance practice providers in an appropriate and sustainable capacity to improve access to care.

The purpose of the Grant Program is to enhance access to quality health care services for GCHP members in Ventura County. Through this program, GCHP aims to attract and recruit prospective specialists, primary care physicians, and advance practice providers to meet the growing demand. By supporting new and prospective providers, the grant program aims to build a sustainable and effective health care delivery system that addresses the needs of GCHP members and expands access to vulnerable populations in Ventura County.


To be eligible for Grant Program funding, applicants must objectively demonstrate a shortage of the type of provider for which they are recruiting, and/or demonstrate a lack of capacity which impacts GCHP members' access to health care services.


To date, HCA has applied for and been awarded \$5,415,000 through the Grant Program, supporting the recruitment and retention of 33 providers in areas such as urology, gastroenterology, obstetrics/gynecology, ophthalmology, dermatology, rheumatology, pediatrics, geriatrics, and family medicine. The addition of these providers in our hospitals and ambulatory care clinics will improve access to health care for these key services. We are requesting your Board's ratification of the applications for these grants, and

authorization for the HCA Director to execute grant agreements, similar in form to Exhibit 1, for each grant. In addition, we are requesting authorization to submit future Grant Program applications and execute agreements for those grants.

To implement the Grant Program, HCA must also enter into sub-grantee agreements with the individual professionals and physician groups designated to receive the grants. We are requesting your Board's authorization for the HCA Director to execute agreements similar in form to Exhibit 2 (physician groups) and Exhibit 3 (individual professionals).

This letter has been reviewed by the County Executive Office, County Counsel, Auditor-Controller's Office, and General Services Agency Procurement Services. If you have any questions regarding this item, please call John Fankhauser, M.D., Chief Executive Officer, County Hospitals, at 805-652-6058, or Theresa Cho, M.D., Chief Executive Officer, Ambulatory Care, at 805-677-5223.



John Fankhauser, M.D.
Chief Executive Officer, County Hospitals

Theresa Cho, M.D.
Chief Executive Officer, Ambulatory Care

Barry L. Zimmerman
Health Care Agency Director

Attachment:

- Exhibit 1 – Ventura County Medi-Cal Managed Care Commission, dba Gold Coast Health Plan – Recruitment Grant Program - Grant Agreement Template
- Exhibit 2 – Recruitment Grant Program – Sub-Grantee Agreement
- Exhibit 3 – Recruitment Grant Program – Grantee Agreement