

June 27, 2023

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

Subject:

Approval of, and Authorization for the Health Care Agency (HCA) Director or Designee to Sign, Amendment No. 2 to the Provider Services Agreement for Enhanced Care Management (ECM) Services with the Ventura County Medi-Cal Managed Care Commission, a Public Entity Doing Business as Gold Coast Health Plan (GCHP), Effective July 1, 2023; Approval of, and Authorization for the HCA Director or Designee to Sign, Amendment No. 1 to the Provider Services Agreement for Community Supports with GCHP, Effective July 1, 2023

Recommendations:

1. That your Board approve, and authorize, the Health Care Agency (HCA) Director or designee to sign, amendment No. 2 to the provider services agreement with the Ventura County Medi-Cal Managed Care Commission, a public entity doing business as Gold Coast Health Plan (GCHP), for enhanced care management (ECM) under the California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) program (Exhibit 1), effective July 1, 2023, expanding ECM services to new child/youth populations of focus.
2. That your Board approve, and authorize the HCA Director or designee to sign, amendment No. 1 to the provider services agreement with GCHP for CalAIM community supports (Exhibit 2), effective July 1, 2023, providing new asthma remediation services.

Fiscal Impact:

Mandatory:	No
Source of Funding:	Gold Coast Health Plan
Funding Match Required:	No
Impact on Other Departments	None

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Summary of VCPH Annual Revenues and Costs Under these Agreements:

	<u>FY 2022-2023</u>	<u>FY 2023-2024</u>
Revenue – ECM	\$0	\$392,878
Revenue – CS	\$0	\$375,000
Revenue – PATH CITED	\$0	\$382,490
Direct Cost:	\$0	\$1,112,868
Other Cost:	\$0	\$37,500
Net County Cost	\$0	\$0

Summary of HCA Annual Revenues and Costs Under these Agreements:

	<u>FY 2022-2023</u>	<u>FY 2023-2024</u>
Revenue:	\$0	\$392,879
Direct Cost:	\$0	\$392,879
Indirect Cost:	\$0	\$0
Net County Cost	\$0	\$0

Summary of VCBH Annual Revenues and Costs Under these Agreements:

	<u>FY 2022-2023</u>	<u>FY 2023-2024</u>
Revenue - ECM	\$0	\$20,621
Revenue – MHSA (PEI):	\$0	\$102,167
Direct Cost:	\$0	\$122,728
Indirect Cost:	\$0	\$0
Net County Cost	\$0	\$0

Discussion:

Launched in January 2022, CalAIM serves the needs of Medi-Cal's most at-risk beneficiaries through intensive care management and services in the community to address social needs such as medically supportive foods, personal care or respite services, environmental home modifications, or housing supports. HCA's Ambulatory Care Division serves as the implementation hub for the development, launch, and administration of these services contracted with GCHP and in coordination with and across several County agencies and HCA departments.

Recommendation 1:

Your Board approved a provider services agreement (PSA) with GCHP on December 14, 2021 to support the implementation of ECM services for the CalAIM program, which

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launched in January 2022 for persons experiencing homelessness, frequent utilizers of emergency room and hospital services (subsequently renamed as individuals at-risk for avoidable hospital or emergency department (ED) utilization), persons in need of specialty mental health services and substance use disorders treatment and clinically appropriate services for the recently incarcerated. In December, 2022, your Board approved an amendment to the PSA authorizing provision of ECM services by Area Agency on Aging (AAA) for two new populations of focus: adults living in the community who are at-risk for long-term care institutionalization and nursing facility residents transitioning to the community.

The proposed amendment before your Board today authorizes the provision of services to six new child and youth ECM populations of focus identified by the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to be served beginning July 1, 2023. These populations include:

- homeless families or unaccompanied children/youth experiencing homelessness;
- children and youth at risk for avoidable hospital or emergency department utilization;
- children and youth with serious mental health and/or substance use disorder needs;
- children and youth enrolled in California Children's Services (CCS) with additional needs beyond the CCS condition;
- children and youth involved in child welfare
- children and youth with intellectual/developmental disabilities

HCA convened a working group of County agencies and HCA departments to identify how services will be provided for each of the new CalAIM child and youth populations of focus.

These populations of focus will be served by the Ambulatory Care Division, VCPH and VCBH through referrals identified internally or received through the Ambulatory Care CalAIM hub. Ambulatory Care, VCPH, and VCBH will serve these populations with existing staffing previously approved by your Board.

DHCS PATH-CITED funds support providers of CalAIM ECM and Community Supports to build, scale, and maintain the capacity necessary to implement these programs. HCA was successful in securing \$5.8 million in PATH CITED funds to help support the launch of the ECM and community supports for the aging/in need of long-term care, for children and youth, as well as IT and other infrastructure costs to help stand up CalAIM services. Your board approved the receipt of the PATH-CITED funds award in February, 2023. Specifically, VCPH secured PATH-CITED up-front funding to cover salary and operating costs for staff implementing ECM for CCS children and youth and to provide the asthma remediation community support. As appropriations were obtained with the PATH-CITED award, no new VCPH appropriations are needed at this time. The summary of revenue

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and costs reflects combined revenues of PATH-CITED and ECM revenues to cover total VCPH salary costs.

Recommendation 2:

CalAIM community supports are cost-effective alternatives to Medi-Cal plan services that can be offered alongside or independently of ECM. Your Board approved provider services agreements with GCHP on February 8, 2022 for five CalAIM community supports, including medically tailored meals (subsequently renamed as medically supportive foods), housing transition navigation services, housing deposits, housing tenancy, and sustaining services. Community supports for recuperative care and short-term post-hospitalization housing were added by an amendment approved by your Board on June 21, 2022. In December, 2022, your Board approved a new series of CalAIM community supports closely aligned to the needs of individuals who are aging and/or in need of long-term care provided by AAA, including respite services, nursing facility transition/diversion to assisted living, community transition services/nursing facility transition to home, personal care and homemaker services, and environmental accessibility adaptations. Working collaboratively, GCHP and County agencies have launched 11 of 14 allowable CalAIM community supports to date. With your Board's approval of the proposed amendment, VCPH will begin providing the twelfth community support, asthma remediation services, on July 1, 2023.

The asthma remediation service provides supplies and/or environmental modifications to a home to reduce the likelihood of acute asthma episodes that could result in the need for emergency services and hospitalization. The program is intended to serve individuals with poorly controlled asthma (as determined by an emergency department visit or two sick or urgent care visits in the past 12 months for asthma or a score of 19 or lower on the Asthma Control Test). A licensed health care provider makes the referral and documents that the service is medically necessary. Up to \$7,500 per eligible patient is available once in a lifetime for interventions such as allergen-impermeable bedding, HEPA filtered vacuums, pest management, de-humidifiers, air filters, and other moisture-controlling interventions, minor mold removal and remediation, ventilation improvements, asthma friendly cleaning products, and other interventions which are medically appropriate and cost-effective. Permanent home modifications must meet applicable building codes and be performed by a licensed contractor.

This service is facilitated by a trained community services coordinator (CSC) who completes a home assessment using an asthma trigger checklist and provides ongoing education. The PATH-CITED grant, approved by your Board in April, 2023 covers the salary of this position for 18 months. Ongoing, it is expected this position will be funded using the new Medi-Cal Community Health Worker or CalAIM ECM benefit as applicable to the needs of the member. These community supports will be primarily implemented through vendor contracts with some funds from the rates reserved to support program management staff time to oversee these services.

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The contract amendment also includes minor changes to the rate structure for recuperative care and short-term post-hospitalization housing, moving from a blended capitated and fee-for-service rate structure to all fee-for service with nominal overall reimbursement impact and a rate increase for respite and personal care/homemaker services in alignment with overall market rates for these services.

As appropriations were approved for ECM and CS services in December, 2022 and PATH-CITED funds which cover a portion of the salaries providing these new services in February, 2022, no new appropriations for the original services under this agreement are being sought.

This letter has been reviewed by the County Executive Office, CEO-HR, County Counsel, and Auditor-Controller's Office. If you have any questions regarding this item, please call Barry Zimmerman, HCA Director at (805) 677-5272.



Rigoberto Vargas
Public Health Director



Theresa Cho, MD
CEO, Ambulatory Care



Scott Gilman, MSA
Behavioral Health Director



Barry L. Zimmerman
Health Care Agency Director

Attachments:

Exhibit 1: Amendment No. 2 to the Professional Services Agreement for CalAIM Enhanced Care Management between County of Ventura and Gold Coast Health Plan

Exhibit 2: Amendment No. 1 to the Provider Services Agreement -- Community Supports between County of Ventura and Gold Coast Health Plan