

*Setting the Standard in Health Care Excellence*

October 29, 2024

Board of Supervisors  
County of Ventura  
800 South Victoria Avenue  
Ventura, CA 9309

**Subject:**

**Authorization for the Health Care Agency (HCA) Director to Accept the Gold Coast Health Plan Grant in the Amount of \$530,742; Authorization for the Auditor-Controller to Process the Necessary Budgetary Transactions. (Recommendation #2 Requires 4/5ths Vote).**

**Recommendations:**

1. That your Board authorize the HCA Director or designee to accept the Gold Coast Health Plan (GCHP) grant award for the total amount of \$530,742 for two (2) years to provide equipment at nineteen (19) FQHC clinics.
  
2. That your Board authorize the Auditor-Controller to process the budgetary transactions necessary to revise appropriations and revenue as follows (**Requires 4/5ths vote**):

**VCMS Fund E500, Budget Unit 3300**

INCREASE 3300	Intergovernmental Revenues	\$ 530,742
INCREASE 3300	Equipment (4601)	\$ 132,089
INCREASE 3300	Services & Supplies	\$ 398,653

**Fiscal Impact:**

Mandatory: No  
 Source of Funding: GCHP  
 Funding Match Required: No  
 Impact on Other Departments: Minimal  
 Summary of Annual Revenues and Costs Under this agreement:

	<u>FY 2024-25</u>	<u>FY 2025-26</u>
Revenue:	\$ 530,742	\$0
Direct Costs:	\$ 530,742	\$0
Indirect Costs:	Minimal	Minimal
Net Revenue <cost>	\$0	\$0

**Current Year Fiscal Budget:**

<b>Current FY 2024-25 Budget Projections for Ventura County Medical Center #3300</b>				
	<b>Adopted Budget</b>	<b>Adjusted Budget</b>	<b>Projected Actual</b>	<b>Estimated (Savings/Deficit)</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>	720,985,484	720,985,484	720,985,424	\$0
<b>Revenue</b>	721,404,225	721,404,225	721,404,225	\$0
<b>Operational Income/(Loss)</b>	418,471	418,741	418,741	\$0

The operational income includes "Operating Transfers In" that are primarily attributed to County contribution.

**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 Ventura County Health Care Agency (VCHCA) has received a grant award from GCHP in the amount of \$530,742 to purchase equipment for VCHCA’s clinics that will improve the health of its members.

VCHCA’s designation as a Health Resources Services Agency (HRSA) Community Health Center (CHC) (section 330(e) grantee) is critical to its work as a progressive and modern healthcare agency. Nineteen (19) Ambulatory Care clinics are Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs). The FQHCs currently provide care for over 95,000 unique patients, including the approximately 5,300 patients who participate in the Health Care for the Homeless (HCH) Program. Since the County’s FQHCs are considered “safety net” providers, they are compensated at higher reimbursement rates from Medi-Cal and Medicare than the County’s non-FQHC clinics. The goals of the Ventura County CHC system is to improve access to quality health care for the community with a focus on the underserved people.

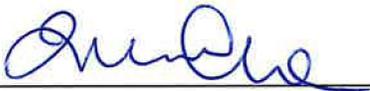
GCHP is an independent public entity to serve Medi-Cal beneficiaries. Through GCHP’s Equipment Grant Program, VCHCA has requested funding to purchase, sixteen (16) HbA1c POC machines, thirty-three (33) HemoCue machines, fourteen (14) POC lead machines, eighteen (18) Urine Analyzers, eight (8) NST machines, fifty-seven (57) monitor and stands for blood pressure and SpO2 machines, an ultrasound system, two dental portable vacuum compressors, a handheld dental x-ray machine, and a retinal camera. These purchases will be distributed throughout the eighteen (18) FQHC clinics.

The equipment being purchased with this grant funding will measure blood pressure and glucose levels, provide fetal non-stress tests and ultrasounds for pregnant women, assist in dental care, and assist in identifying eye diseases that aren’t visibly noticeable. As described in our GCHP grant application, we are requesting items that will help us with

our Gold Coast quality of care measures. All items will help decrease barriers for patients by providing testing at the time of the patient care visit. Eliminating a return to the clinic or travel to another location will improve care and decrease the burden for the patient with loss of work and need for additional care or transportation.

Point-of-care equipment allows for testing when patients present for clinic visits. Results from such testing can be addressed at the time of the visit, facilitating real-time clinical assessment and communication with patients. Through the use of POC lead screening devices, our screening has increased by 15%. We have HbA1c analyzers in a limited number of locations, but screening performed with these POC machines account for over 13% of our testing activities. Our request for POC devices, in-clinic analyzers, and vital signs machines will help us maximize our diagnostic and therapeutic capabilities during our patient visits.

This Board letter has been reviewed by County Executive Office, Auditor-Controller's Office, and County Counsel. If you have any questions regarding this item, please contact Theresa Cho, MD, Health Care Agency Director, at (805) 677-5272.



---

Theresa Cho, MD, MHA  
Health Care Agency Director

Exhibit 1 – GCHP Grant Agreement  
Exhibit 2 – Budget Narrative