

January 9, 2024

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

SUBJECT:

Approval of, and Authorization for the Health Care Agency Director or Designee to Sign, a Four-Month Letter of Agreement Extension, from January 1, 2024 through April 30, 2024, Between Kaiser Foundation Hospitals and the County of Ventura, for Acute Care Pediatric Services, Pending Completion of a Comprehensive Services Agreement.

RECOMMENDATION:

That your Board approve, and authorize the Health Care Agency (HCA) Director or designee to sign, a four-month Letter of Agreement Extension (LOA Extension), from January 1, 2024 through April 30, 2024, between Kaiser Foundation Hospitals (KFH) and the County of Ventura, for acute care pediatric services, pending completion of a comprehensive services agreement.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no measurable fiscal impact at this time as this is a new business for Ventura County Medical Center (VCMC).

STRATEGIC PLAN PRIORITY:

The item presented in this Board letter supports the Healthy, Safe, and Resilient Communities strategic priority of the County Strategic Plan as it is designed to meet the goal of providing access to quality healthcare required for our community to thrive.

DISCUSSION:

KFH and the County of Ventura signed a temporary Pediatric Services Letter of Agreement, effective October 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023, in preparation for the October 1, 2023 transition of pediatric services from Community Memorial Hospital (CMH) to VCMC. Since VCMC already serves other non-pediatric Kaiser members that are admitted through the emergency room, KFH and VCMC agreed to negotiate a full-service hospital agreement. Negotiations have progressed but the parties require additional time

to finalize compensation rates and other contractual terms and conditions. Based on the progress made to date, the parties estimate that an additional 90-120 days will be needed to complete a full hospital services agreement.

This LOA Extension is entered into between KFH, a California nonprofit public benefit corporation, on behalf of its Southern California region, and the County as owner and operator of VCMC. The Letter of Agreement sets forth the parties' nonexclusive contractual arrangement for acute care pediatric services provided at VCMC to pediatric members of Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc. and pediatric members of fully insured plans of Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company.

The portions of the agreement concerning compensation paid to HCA are exempt from disclosure under the Public Records Act (Health and Safety Code Section 1457 (c) (1)). If the Board would like further information regarding the rates, the original agreements are retained by Mike Taylor, HCA Chief Financial Officer.

This letter has been reviewed by the County Executive Office, County Counsel, and Auditor-Controller's Office. If you have any questions regarding this item, please call Paul Jaconette, MPH, Director of Strategy and Business Development at 805-677-5105.



Barry L. Zimmerman
Health Care Agency Director

Exhibit 1: Letter of Agreement Extension