

*Setting the Standard in Health Care Excellence*

September 10, 2024

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

**Subject: Approval and Authorization for the Director of Public Health to Accept Additional Funding in the Amount of \$348,088 from the California Department of Health Care Services for the Health Care Program for Children in Foster Care (HCPFC), Effective July 1, 2024 Through June 30, 2025; Approval of, and Authorization for the Director of Public Health to Sign Related Documents (Recommendation No. 3 Requires 4/5ths Vote)**

**Recommendations:**

It is recommended that your Board:

1. Authorize the Director of Public Health to accept the additional funding allocation for the Health Care Program for Children in Foster Care (HCPFC) in the amount of \$348,088 from the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to develop and sustain the Health Care Program for Children in Foster Care as a standalone program.
2. Approve and authorize the Director of Public Health or designee to sign, the award agreement and related documents with DHCS, including any future amendments to the agreement making corrections, clarifications, technical changes, and other modifications, provided that the changes are consistent with the original purpose of the agreements, and do not result in additional costs to the County, subject to County Counsel review and approval.
3. Authorize the Auditor-Controller to process the necessary accounting transactions to Unit 3107 to adjust the appropriations and unanticipated revenue as follows for FY 2024-2025 (requires 4/5<sup>th</sup> vote):

**HCA - Public Health Field Nursing – RX for Kids & Families, Unit 3107**

INCREASE 3100-3107	Intergovernmental Revenue	\$ 348,088
INCREASE 3100-3107	Salaries and Benefits	\$ 348,088

**Fiscal/Mandates Impact:**

**Mandatory:** No

**Source of Funding:** Department of Health Care Services

**Funding Match Required:** None

**Impact on Other Departments:** None

Summary of Revenues and Costs:	<u>FY 2024-25</u>	<u>FY 2025-26</u>
Revenue:	\$ 348,088	\$ -0-
Costs:		
Direct	\$ 294,243	\$ -0-
Indirect-Dept.	\$ 34,631	\$ -0-
Indirect-County CAP	\$ 19,214	\$ -0-
Net Costs	\$ -0-	\$ -0-
Recovered Indirect Costs	\$ -0-	\$ -0-

**FY 2024-25 Budget Projections:**

FY 2024-2025 Budget Projection for HCA-PH – Field Nursing AFLP and Cal Learn Unit 3107				
	Adopted or Recommended Budget	Adjusted Budget	Projected Budget	Estimated Savings (Deficit)
Appropriations	\$12,371,233	\$12,371,233	\$12,371,233	-0-
Revenue	\$11,329,510	\$11,329,510	\$11,329,510	-0-
Net Cost	\$ 1,041,723	\$ 1,041,723	\$ 1,041,723	-0-

**Strategic Plan Priority:**

The additional funding for the Health Care Program for Children in Foster Care (HCPCFC) as a standalone program aligns with Goal #1 of 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 healthcare, mental health, and public health services.

**Discussion:**

Children and youth in foster care require an extraordinary level of coordination to ensure access to health care services and continuity of care due to the higher rates of complex medical, behavioral, emotional, and developmental issues experienced by this vulnerable population. To meet this need, the Public Health Nurses (PHNs) in the Health Care Program for Children in Foster Care (HCPCFC) work collaboratively with Children and

Board of Supervisors, Health Care Program for Children in Foster Care Standalone Program Award

September 10, 2024

Page 3 of 3

Family Services, health care providers, probation officers, and substitute care providers to coordinate comprehensive health care services for children and youth in foster care.

On June 30, 2022, Senate Bill (SB) 184 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review, Chapter 47, Statute of 2022) was enacted and authorized the DHCS to phase out the Child Health and Disability Program (CHDP) by July 1, 2024, which provided oversight, infrastructure, and administrative resources to HCPCFC. On March 27, 2024, in their final CHDP transition plan, DHCS proposed to reallocate a portion of the CHDP budget to fund HCPCFC as a standalone program.

DHCS guidance articulates that HCPCFC as a standalone program will have new required activities including, but not limited to, performance measures and data tracking reporting, enhanced PHN care management plans and psychotropic medication oversight beyond what has historically been provided by the program. The expansion of HCPCFC also requires the addition of administration staff to manage the HCPCFC program and ensure compliance with all state and federal requirements. This function was previously provided by CHDP and will now be fulfilled by the current Supervising Public Health Nurse and Office Assistant for the RX for Kids and Families Program. These funds will support the increased administrative responsibility the program now has. With the administrative costs covered by this new allocation, it is anticipated that existing funding can be reallocated to support additional direct services for this population.

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

  
THERESA CHO, MD, MHA

Health Care Agency Director

Attachment:

Exhibit 1 - HCPCFC Program Letter: 24-01