

September 10, 2024

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

**Subject:** Approval of, and Authorization for the Human Services Agency Director and Health Care Agency Director to Sign, a Memorandum of Understanding with City of Oxnard and Public Works Alliance for an Emergency Medical Services Corps Program.

**Recommendation:**

Approve, and authorize the Human Services Agency (HSA) Director and Health Care Agency (HCA) Director and their designees to sign, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with City of Oxnard and Public Works Alliance for an Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Corps Program that will provide EMS training to participants throughout Ventura County who are aged 18-26 (Exhibit 1).

**Fiscal/Mandates Impact:**

There are no fiscal mandates associated with this action.

**Strategic Plan Priority:**

The Emergency Medical Services Corps Program contributes to the Board of Supervisors' 2024-2027 Strategic Plan priorities to provide 'Healthy, Safe, and Resilient Communities', goal (1) Provide equitable and timely access to quality healthcare, mental health, and public health services; and 'Fiscal Responsibility and Economic Vitality', goal (2) Foster a thriving business ecosystem to create jobs, increase wages, and strengthen the local economy.

**Discussion:**

Public Works Alliance (PWA) received a grant from the California Employment Development Department to facilitate the development, implementation, and operations of EMS recruitment and training programs across the State of California. These programs aim to recruit disconnected young adults from marginalized and underrepresented communities who have historically faced significant barriers to employment and community services. Ventura County is one of three counties in California that has been chosen by PWA to have the EMS Corps Program, with City of Oxnard being the "Lead" agency, and County of

Ventura providing support through the HCA Emergency Medical Services Agency and HSA Workforce Development Board.

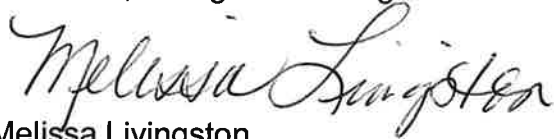
The EMS Corps Program will recruit and train individuals ages 18-26 from Ventura County to be Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) while providing robust wraparound support including mentorship, job placement and individual case management. The program will train up to 120 participants through five-month cohorts over a three-year period of 2025-2027, and offers participants an earned monthly stipend, community service opportunities, enhancements to physical fitness, and job readiness services. The program will provide essential training to equip these future first responders with the skills necessary to develop lasting careers, and at the same time will provide new pathways to economic opportunity for some of our area's most vulnerable populations, as well as address the growing workforce shortages throughout the state's health and human services system. Graduates of the program will be ready to take the National Registry EMT competency exam and once eligible, to apply for state EMT certification.

HCA's Emergency Medical Services Agency will serve as the Local EMS Agency, and will ensure the program's curriculum meets state and national standards, as mandated through its statutory responsibilities for Ventura County, and will aid with EMT certification and background checks.

HSA's Workforce Development Board will serve as the local workforce development partner, and will help to connect program participants to support services and provide assistance with career guidance, resume development, interview skills and job placement support following program completion.

We ask that your Board approve, and authorize the HSA and HCA Directors and their designees to sign, the MOU with City of Oxnard and Public Works Alliance for the Emergency Medical Services Corps Program.

This item has been reviewed by the County Executive Office, the Auditor-Controller's Office and County Counsel. If you have any questions, please contact Melissa Livingston at 805-477-5301, or Rigoberto Vargas at 805-981-5101.



Melissa Livingston  
Human Services Agency Director



Theresa Cho, MD, MHA  
Health Care Agency Director

Attachment:  
Exhibit 1 – EMS Corps MOU