

Setting the Standard in Health Care Excellence

July 23, 2024

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

Subject: Approval of, and Authorization for the Purchasing Agent or Designee to Sign, an Agreement with Conejo Health for the Provision of Services in Support of the Ventura County Public Health Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) Prevention and Collaboration Grant in an Amount Not to Exceed \$400,708 Effective July 23, 2024 through June 30, 2028.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that your Board:

1. Authorize the Purchasing Agent or designee to sign an agreement with Conejo Health in an amount not to exceed \$400,708, for the provision of services in support of the Ventura County Public Health Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) Prevention and Collaboration Grant for the period July 23, 2024 through June 30, 2028.

Fiscal/Mandates Impact:**Mandatory:** No**Source of Funding:** Federal**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:	\$100,177	\$100,177
Costs:		
Direct	\$100,177	\$100,177
Indirect-Dept.	\$ -0-	\$ -0-
Indirect-County CAP	\$ -0-	\$ -0-
Net Costs	\$ -0-	\$ -0-
Recovered Indirect Costs	\$ -0-	\$ -0-

FY 2024-25 Budget Projections:

FY 2024-2025 Budget Projection for Ventura County Public Health, 3109				
	Adopted Budget	Adjusted Budget	Projected Budget	Estimated Savings (Deficit)
Appropriations	\$9,818,910	\$9,818,910	\$9,818,910	-0-
Revenue	\$8,741,532	\$8,741,532	\$8,741,532	-0-
Net Cost	\$1,077,738	\$1,077,738	\$1,077,738	-0-

Note: Sufficient revenue and appropriations exist in the FY25 Budget

Strategic Plan Priority:

The item presented in this Board letter aligns with 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 public health services.

Discussion:

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH), Sexually Transmitted Disease Control Branch (STD CB) awarded Ventura County Public Health an annual allocation of \$200,354 from FY 24-25 through FY 27-28 (a total of \$801,416 over four years) to support hepatitis C (HCV) prevention and control activities. The grant was included as part of the FY 24-25 adopted budget approved by your Board on June 17, 2024. These funds must be used for the implementation of public health activities related to monitoring, prevention, testing, and linkage to and retention in care activities for the most vulnerable and underserved individuals living with or at high risk for HCV, in collaboration with community-based organizations (CBOs) serving the local health jurisdiction. No less than 50% (\$400,708) of the funds shall be provided to at least one CBO with a focus on an identified target population. With the approval of the grant package by CDPH, Ventura County Public Health will complete the approved scope of work in collaboration with Conejo Health with a focus on the unhoused population.

Conejo Health is a community-based 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization that works in collaboration with emergency departments and street medicine. Conejo Health advocates for high-risk patients to receive HCV testing and follow-up for those who test positive. Conejo Health staff ensure timely interventions, ongoing care, and support to reduce the spread of infectious diseases and enhance patient outcomes. Conejo Health's established record with Ventura County Medical Center and its ability to serve in different cities in Ventura County make them the ideal partner to meet the scope of work laid out in the grant.

This letter has been reviewed by County Counsel, the Auditor-Controller's Office, County Executive Office, and the General Services Agency-Procurement. 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

Attachments:

- Exhibit 1 – Acceptance of Award
- Exhibit 2 – 3/18/24 LHJ Memo for HCV Funding
- Exhibit 3 – Contract 9362