



VENTURA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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July 23, 2019

Board of Supervisors
County of Ventura
800 So. Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

Subject: **Ratification of the Sheriff's Office Application for Grant Funding to Expand Access to Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) of Opioid Addiction in County Jails; Authorization for the Sheriff or his Designee to Enter Into and Sign a Memorandum of Understanding with Health Management Associates, Inc. for the Purpose of Expanding Access to MAT for Opioid Addiction in the County's Jails; Authorize the Sheriff or Designee to Accept the MAT Grant Award for the Total Amount of \$260,000 to Expand Access to MAT in County Jails; Authorization for the Auditor-Controller to Process the Necessary Budgetary Transactions to Expend Grant Funds (Recommendation #4 Requires 4/5ths Vote).**

Recommendations:

It is recommended that your Board:

1. Ratify the Sheriff's Office's application for a grant to expand access to medication assisted treatment (MAT) of opioid addiction in County jails.
2. Authorize the Sheriff or his designee to enter into and sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Health Management Associates, Inc. (HMA) for the purpose of expanding access to MAT of opioid addiction in the County's jails.
3. Authorize the Sheriff or designee to accept the MAT grant award for the total amount of \$260,000 to expand access to MAT in County jails.
4. Authorize the Auditor-Controller to process the necessary budgetary transactions to increase appropriations and unanticipated revenue as follows (requires 4/5ths vote):

INCREASE 2550-2561 INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUE \$260,000
 INCREASE 2550-2561 SERVICES AND SUPPLIES \$260,000

Fiscal/Mandates Impact:

Mandatory: No
 Source of Funding: California Department of Health Care Services
 Funding Match Required: None
 Impact on Other
 Departments: None

Summary of Revenues and Costs:	<u>FY 2019-2020</u>	<u>FY 2020-2021</u>
Revenue:	\$ 260,000	\$ 0
Costs:		
Direct	\$ 260,000	\$ 0
Indirect-Dept.	\$ 0	\$ 0
Indirect-County CAP	\$ 0	\$ 0
Net Costs	\$ 0	\$ 0
Recovered Indirect Costs	\$ 0	\$ 0

Current Fiscal Year Budget Projections:

FY 2019-20 Budget Projection for Sheriff's Todd Road Jail-Division 2550- Unit 2561				
	Adopted Budget	Adjusted Budget	Projected Budget	Estimated Savings/(Deficit)
Appropriations	\$33,114,157	\$33,114,157	\$33,114,157	\$-0-
Revenue	\$24,515,874	\$24,515,874	\$24,515,874	\$-0-
Net Cost	\$8,598,283	\$8,598,283	\$8,598,283	\$-0-

Reason for Ratification:

The Sheriff's Office learned of the grant opportunity on January 25, 2019. The application submission deadline was February 15, 2019. Due to the short time frame between coordinating information and preparing the final application, the Sheriff's Office was unable to come to your Board for approval prior to its submittal. We notified the County Executive Office and received approval on February 15, 2019, to submit the application. We are now returning to your Board for ratification and approval of the application as required pursuant to the County grants policy.

Discussion:

The 21st Century Cures Act (Public Law 114-255) (the "Act") was signed into federal law in December 2016, promoting and funding, among other things, attempts to address the opioid abuse crisis. The California State Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) received funding under the Act and set a priority on allocating its funding through grant opportunities to be used for counties to expand medication assisted treatment (MAT) in local criminal justice settings.

Federal, state, and local attention is focused on slowing the epidemic of opioid addiction and overdose deaths. Research shows that a significant percentage of overdose deaths occur after release of individuals from correctional facilities. Jails and prisons are increasingly participating in the arena of MAT, yet most do not have sufficient preparation, policies, or funds to adequately address needed changes. The DHCS project will provide technical assistance and resources for county-based teams, with the goal of building capacity for California jails to maintain MAT prescribed in the community for detainees who become incarcerated and ensure best practices and approaches to MAT are used throughout the corrections process.

Currently, the Sheriff's Office has been collaborating with the County Behavioral Health Department and the Probation Agency in a MAT program in the jail system. The program provides drug treatment for inmates suffering from addiction with opioids and/or alcohol. The current program centers on the use of Vivitrol injections for County jail inmates sentenced under AB109 who volunteer for the program and who are scheduled to be released from custody within a few weeks. Vivitrol is a drug treatment that blocks the ability of opioids and alcohol to reach brain receptor sites, therefore reducing craving and nearly eliminating the physiological effects the drugs can have on the body. The program currently only targets AB109 offenders due to the limited supply of the therapeutic drug treatment and the need to assist offenders in their goal of successful re-entry into the community.

The DHCS awarded funding through the State Targeted Response to the Opioid Crisis Grant to HMA, and counties had the opportunity to apply for funding from HMA for the development and implementation of MAT expansion in county jails. The Sheriff's Office submitted a grant application to HMA on February 15, 2019, with the intent of expanding the current MAT program to all jail inmates, and develop a safe and effective Suboxone pilot program, which will include a referral and discharge planning component. Suboxone is a partial agonist medication which contains a combination of buprenorphine and naloxone, and is used to treat opiate addiction. The naloxone contained in the medication blocks the effects of opioids when used. Currently Suboxone is offered in County jails to a very limited population of opioid dependent pregnant inmates. The goal is to expand the availability of this medication to all opioid dependent adults, and induct them on Suboxone while in custody. This, in conjunction with cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT), will support them in a drug free lifestyle upon release if they so choose. Our hope with the Suboxone pilot program is that it is more widely accepted by our patients and will increase their chances of successful recovery.

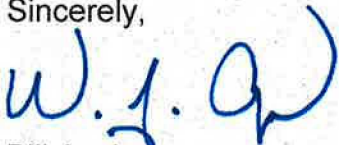
The Sheriff's Office and its County partners intend to use the funding to expand MAT protocols in the jail system, to provide the medication treatment and training as directed by the State DHCS, and any other ancillary expenses related to providing the drug treatment. No additional staffing or capital expenses will be added to accomplish the program. The grant program ends on January 31, 2020.

The project team will work with DHCS, stakeholders, and technical advisors at the State and County levels to reduce morbidity and mortality for persons with opioid addiction who are involved with the criminal justice system. DHCS also hopes to use County programs throughout California for the purposes of assuring approaches to MAT through drug courts and jails provide best practices and integrate closely with other county drug treatment priorities, programs, and practices.

We recommend your Board ratify the Sheriff's Office's application for grant funding for MAT, authorize the Sheriff or his designee to enter into and sign a MOU with HMA for the purpose of extending access to medication assisted treatment of opioid addiction in the County's jails, authorize the Sheriff's Office to accept a grant award in the amount of \$260,000 to expand MAT in County criminal justice settings, and authorize the Auditor-Controller to process the necessary accounting transactions to increase appropriations and unanticipated revenue.

The Offices of the County Executive, County Counsel and Auditor-Controller have reviewed this letter. Please contact Assistant Sheriff Eric Dowd at (805) 654-3926 if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,



Bill Ayub
Sheriff

Attachments:

- Exhibit 1 - Ventura County MAT Grant Application
- Exhibit 2 - Memorandum of Understanding 2019-022
- Exhibit 3 - Intent to Fund Letter 2019-022
- Exhibit 4 - SAMHSA to HMA Grant Award
- Exhibit 5 - SAMHSA to HMA Grant Amendment
- Exhibit 6 - DHCS and HMA MOU 18-95362