

March 28, 2023

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

SUBJECT:

Ratification of the Health Care Agency's Application for a California Department of Public Health (CDPH) COVID-19 Test to Treat Equity Grant to Provide Assistance in COVID-19 Testing and Treatment; Authorization for the Health Care Agency (HCA) Director or Designee to Accept the CDPH Grant Award in the Amount of \$559,091 with an End Date of June 30, 2023; Authorization for the Auditor-Controller to Process the Necessary Accounting Transactions (Recommendation No. 3 Requires 4/5ths Vote).

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That your Board ratify the Health Care Agency's (HCA) submission of the attached application for a California Department of Public Health (CDPH) COVID-19 Test to Treat Grant to purchase equipment and facilitate the COVID-19 test to treat program.
2. That your Board authorize the HCA Director or designee to accept the CDPH, administered by Physicians for a Healthy California (PHC), COVID-19 Test to Treat Equity grant funding in the amount of \$559,091 with an end date of June 30, 2023, pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth in the attached Notice of Award.
3. That your Board authorize the Auditor-Controller to process the necessary accounting transactions to revise appropriations and unanticipated revenue as follows **(Requires 4/5th vote)**.

VCMC Fund E500, budget Unit 3300-3301

Increase 3300-3301- Service and Supplies

Increase 3300-3301-Intergovernmental Revenue

FY 2022-23

\$ 559,091

\$ 559,091

FISCAL IMPACT:

Mandatory: No
Source of Funding: California Department of Public Health
Funding Match Required: No
Impact on Other Departments: Minimal
Summary of Annual Revenues and Costs Under this grant:

	<u>FY 2022-23</u>
Revenue:	\$ 559,091
Direct Costs:	\$ 559,091
Indirect Costs:	-
Net Revenue <cost>	-

The project year runs through June 30, 2023. The costs shown above represent Fiscal Year 2022-23.

Current Year Fiscal Budget Projections

Current FY 2022-23 Budget Projections for Ventura County Medical Center Hospital #3301				
	Adopted Budget	Adjusted Budget	Projected Actual	Estimated (Savings/Deficit)
Expenditures	527,161,445.00	555,219,641.00	543,802,565.00	11,417,076.00
Revenue	545,623,292.00	552,098,004.00	561,970,252.00	9,872,248.00
Operational Income/Loss	18,461,847.00	(3,121,637.00)	18,167,687	21,289,324.00

REASON FOR RATIFICATION:

The Notice of Funding for the grant was sent on November 10, 2022 with a submission of supplemental information due by November 29, 2022. Due to the short timeframe of the initial submittal, HCA was unable to seek your Board's approval prior to submission.

DISCUSSION:

The Ventura County Health Care Agency (VCHCA) has been committed to providing access to COVID-19 testing, vaccines, and treatment for all patients, including the most vulnerable, since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. Amid the omicron surge, VCHCA developed a test-to-treat initiative to provide testing and anti-viral medications directly to patients at all primary care clinic sites. With the Test-to-Treat Equity Grant, VCHCA can eliminate barriers to receiving care in communities facing greater impacts of COVID-19.

VCHCA will leverage existing efforts while building community awareness of treatment options with funding available through the grant. VCHCA has identified the need for multiple mobile outreach stations and educational materials in English, Spanish, and Mixteco for county residents. Along with distributing materials, VCHCA will curate social media posts in multiple languages to advertise the importance and availability of COVID-19 therapeutics.

VCHCA will also increase education and services for those experiencing homelessness. Additionally, the grant funding will allow VCHCA to use existing staffing agency contracts for four full-time nurses for six months to staff mobile outreach stations, complete workflow development, and train other staff for smooth and continuous operations after the grant period ends.

The initial funding provided to VCHCA from CDPH and PHC was \$461,000. In partnership with community organizations, VCHCA will connect with the agricultural community, helping farmworkers navigate their access to care. VCHCA has specifically partnered with MICOP, Mixteco Indigena Community Organizing Project, through a CDPH supplemental grant – COVID-19 Treatments Community-Clinical Linkages Grant where CDPH has provided VCHCA with an additional \$98,091 to collaborate with MICOP by providing culturally appropriate outreach to the farmworker community, including community education and advertisements through social media and radio.

The HCA received their notice of award from CDPH in November 2022, but the grant period is back dated from August 1, 2022. The total amount of funding from CDPH and PHC was \$559,091 over the course of eleven (11) months.

This Board letter has been reviewed by County Executive Office, Auditor-Controller's Office, and County Counsel. If you have any questions regarding this item, please contact Theresa Cho, MD, Chief Executive Officer of Ambulatory Care, at (805) 677-5290.



Theresa Cho, MD
CEO Ambulatory Care



Barry Zimmerman
Health Care Agency Director

- Exhibit 1 – CDPH Notice of Award
- Exhibit 2 – Budget Narrative
- Exhibit 3 – CDPH T2T Clinical Linkages Grant Program Award
- Exhibit 4 – CDPH COVID-19 Test to Treat Grant