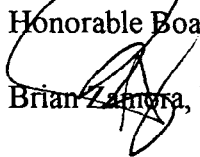


COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Departmental Correspondence

Date: February 11, 2002
Hearing Date: February 26, 2002

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM:  Brian Zamora, Director, Public Health and Environmental Protection

SUBJECT: Agreement with State Department of Health Services for development of the Regional Immunization Registry

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a resolution authorizing the President of the Board to execute an agreement with the State of California Department of Health Services to receive \$16,000 for development of San Mateo County's portion of the Bay Area Regional Immunization Registry (BARR).

Background

An immunization registry is a confidential, comprehensive automated system for maintaining and updating immunization records of individuals in a given population. Research and years of experience in many states with diverse populations and providers have shown that registries are effective in increasing immunization rates and that, over time, they lead to cost savings.

In California, the State Immunization Branch has chosen to fund immunization registries on a regional basis, with the intent of consolidating the regional registries into one comprehensive state registry at a future date. San Mateo County is in the Bay Region, which includes eight counties and the city of Berkeley. In FY 2001-02, the state awarded the jurisdictions involved in the BARR a total of \$475,000. In deciding how to divide the funds among the nine jurisdictions, BARR agreed that because Santa Clara County remained the lead county, their need would be determined first, and the remaining balance would be divided among the other jurisdictions.

In this second year of funding, Santa Clara County supported several jurisdictions in converting immunization records to the California Automated Immunization Registry (CAIR) software. Additionally, a Technical Committee developed guidelines for system confidentiality and security.

On February 5, 2002, your board entered into a Joint Powers Agreement with Santa Clara County for participation in the BARR.

Discussion

The funding from the state will cover staff time and technical consulting to support San Mateo County's participation in the BARR. The work includes:

- Preparing a feasibility report to assess the ability of the Health Services Core system to connect to the BARR software and determine the required resources (both financial and personnel) for implementation.
- Assessing the interest and ability of public and private providers to participate in BARR, including an inventory of hardware, software, available personnel, training needs, and an analysis of associated costs.
- Convening a broadly-representative Registry Advisory Board charged with advising the Project staff on the overall direction of the registry, advocating to constituent groups for support of the registry, and assisting in identifying sources of funding.
- Processing the Charter and Joint Powers Agreement through the required County channels and obtaining the necessary signature on the Joint Powers Agreement, which has already been accomplished.
- Training staff and support personnel on CAIR software and using said staff to train local providers.

Vision Alignment

The agreement with the State Department of Health Services keeps the commitment of ensuring basic health and safety for all and goal number 5: Residents have access to health care and preventive care. It also keeps the commitment that leaders work together across boundaries to preserve and enhance our quality of life and goal number 23: Leaders throughout the County provide the impetus for broader regional solutions in land use, housing, childcare, education, health and transportation. The agreement contributes to these commitments and goals since a regional immunization registry is the best way to help assure that all children are up-to-date with their immunizations.

Term and Fiscal Impact

The term of this agreement is July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2002. Delay in processing this agreement is due to vacancies in Public Health Administration. The total amount of this agreement is \$16,000. The revenues and expenses for this project are included in the Public Health FY 2001-02 approved budget. There is no net county cost associated with this agreement.

RECOMMENDED


HEALTH SERVICES DEPARTMENT