



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
Department of Hospital and Clinics

DATE: June 26, 2002

BOARD MEETING DATE: July 9, 2002

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: Nancy J. Steiger, Chief Executive Officer, Hospital and Clinics *(NJS)*

SUBJECT: Amendment to the Agreement with Health Staffing Solutions Inc.,
dba StarMed

Recommendation

Adopt a resolution authorizing the President of the Board to amend the Agreement with Health Staffing Solutions, Inc., dba StarMed.

Background

On July 24, 2001, your Board approved a Resolution authorizing the execution of eleven agreements, including an agreement with Health Staffing Solutions, Inc., dba StarMed, for temporary nursing services for various programs of the Health Services Agency.

On October 23, 2001, your Board approved a Resolution amending the Agreement with Health Staffing Solutions, Inc., dba StarMed to also provide temporary rehabilitation therapy services.

Registries provide the County access to available staff to fill in for nursing, imaging, and physical therapy vacancies when necessary. Agreements with several registries are maintained to have maximum access to the available work force.

Discussion

Due to the current shortage of licensed Ultrasound and Radiologic Technologists in all

hospitals throughout the Bay Area, it is necessary to expand existing contract coverage to include this technical staff. The local registries we currently contract with are unable to meet the staffing needs at SMCGH. The primary staffing coverage needed is for licensed Ultrasound technologists. The current backlog for scheduled, non-emergent ultrasound procedures is four (4) months, with more critical exams waiting up to six (6) weeks. This delay negatively affects the general care and outcome for patients. The medical staff concur this situation is unacceptable from both a medical and legal perspective.

The alternative to on-site procedures is to refer patients to outside facilities, at a higher cost-per-procedure, and often a delay in care. The revenue generated by completing these procedures on-site is substantial, the continuity of care greatly improved and the cost to the County less than referrals.

Vision Alignment

This agreement keeps the commitment to Ensure Basic Health and Safety for All and goal number 5: Provide residents access to healthcare and preventive care. The agreement contributes to this commitment and goal by providing the coverage necessary to ensure continuity of nursing, imaging, and physical therapy service to county patients.

Fiscal Impact

The term of the agreement remains the same from July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2004. The maximum is increased by \$62,000, from \$1,494,900 to \$1,556,900. Funds are included in Hospital and Clinics FY2002-03 Recommended Budget.

RECOMMENDED
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COUNTY MANAGER