

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
TUESDAY, MAY 23, 2023**

MINUTE ORDER NO. 5

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZE ACCEPTANCE OF INTEGRATED HIV SURVEILLANCE AND PREVENTION FUNDING FROM THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH (DISTRICTS: ALL)

OVERVIEW

For over 25 years, the San Diego County Board of Supervisors (Board) has authorized grants and agreements with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), Office of AIDS to provide a variety of HIV prevention services to reduce the transmission of HIV in San Diego County. As of December 31, 2022, there were approximately 15,000 people living with HIV in the county and an estimated 1,300 persons living with HIV who are unaware of their HIV status. In 2022, there were 469 new HIV diagnoses indicating that HIV continues to be a major public health concern in San Diego County.

Today's action requests the Board to waive Board Policy B-29, approve the acceptance of \$1,685,980 in *Integrated HIV Surveillance and Prevention funding for Health Departments* from the CDPH, Office of AIDS for the period of January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023. Authorization is further requested to apply for additional funding opportunities that would support testing, prevention, and care and treatment needs of individuals and families in San Diego County who are impacted by HIV.

This item supports the County of San Diego's (County) vision of a just, sustainable, and resilient future for all, specifically those communities and populations in San Diego County that have been historically left behind, as well as the ongoing commitment to the regional *Live Well San Diego* vision of healthy, safe, and thriving communities. This will be accomplished through education, prevention, and intervention to interrupt transmission of disease in the region. This item also supports the County's Getting to Zero initiative by planning and allocating resources dedicated to services for residents who are living with or vulnerable to HIV.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

1. Waive Board Policy B-29, Fees, Grants, Revenue Contracts - Department Responsibility for Cost Recovery, which requires prior approval of revenue agreement applications and full-cost recovery of grants.
2. Authorize the acceptance of \$1,685,980 in *Integrated HIV Surveillance and Prevention funding for Health Departments* grant funds from the California Department of Public Health, Office of AIDS for the period of January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023, for HIV services related to prevention, and authorize the Clerk of the Board to execute all required grant documents, upon receipt, including any annual extensions, amendments or revisions that do not materially impact or alter the services or funding level.
3. Authorize the Agency Director, Health and Human Services Agency to apply for any additional funding opportunity announcements, if available, to address the prevention, testing, care and treatment needs of those impacted by HIV.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Since the beginning of the epidemic, HIV has disproportionately impacted the most vulnerable residents. Gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men, for instance, are currently estimated to comprise less than 2% (LGBTQ+ Identification Rises to 5.6% in Latest U.S. Estimate, gallup.com) of the adult population, and yet they comprise 62% of recent HIV diagnoses and 71% of persons living with HIV. Moreover, in San Diego County, like much of the rest of the United States, HIV has disproportionately impacted Black and Hispanic communities. Blacks comprise less than 5% of the county's population but comprise 12% of recent HIV diagnoses. Hispanics comprise 34% of the population of the county yet comprise 48% of recent HIV diagnoses.

Since HIV prevention services funding began in the mid-1990s, efforts have largely been focused on what are now the main strategies of the County of San Diego's Getting to Zero initiative: test, treat, prevent, engage, and improve. In Fiscal Year 2021-22, 487 people enrolled in pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) navigation, 398 completed a visit with a PrEP prescriber within 30 days, and 33 newly diagnosed and five previously diagnosed persons living with HIV were linked to or re-engaged in HIV medical care. Additionally, approximately 20,000 people are tested for HIV through these resources. Efforts are directed at populations disproportionately impacted by HIV, including Black and Hispanic gay and bisexual men and other men who have sex with men. Data of new diagnoses during the years 2017-2021 demonstrated that Blacks were diagnosed at a rate of 34.9 per 100,000 and Hispanics were diagnosed at a rate of 19.9 per 100,000. Comparatively, Whites had a rate of 8.2 per 100,000 and Asian/Pacific Islanders had a rate of 5.3 per 100,000.

The success in reaching residents and communities most disproportionately impacted by HIV is due in large part to the HIV Planning Group, an official advisory board to the San Diego County Board of Supervisors that also has the legislative authority to allocate Ryan White Part A funding to respond to local needs as determined by review of epidemiologic data and extensive engagement to communities.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The proposed actions align with the County of San Diego's Sustainability Goal #2 to provide just and equitable access and Sustainability Goal #4 to protect health and wellbeing. This will be done by increasing capacity and services aimed to prevent, identify, and treat HIV. Testing, identification, and treatment of HIV will improve the overall health of communities, reduce the demand of associated care services, while increasing effectiveness of care providers and lowering operating costs.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds for this request are included in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2022-24 Operational Plan and in the FY 2023-24 CAO Recommended Operational Plan Change Letter in the Health and Human Services Agency. If approved, this request will result in estimated costs of \$876,094 and revenue of \$842,990 in FY 2022-23 and estimated costs of \$876,094 and revenue of \$842,990 in FY 2023-24. The funding source is the California Department of Public Health, Office of AIDS *Integrated HIV Surveillance and Prevention funding for Health Departments* and Health Realignment. A waiver of Board Policy B-29 is requested because the funding does not offset all costs. These costs are estimated at \$66,208 for the term of this grant. The funding source for these costs will be existing Health Realignment allocated for this program. The public benefit for providing these services far outweighs these costs. There will be no change in net General Fund costs and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

ACTION:

ON MOTION of Supervisor Desmond, seconded by Supervisor Lawson-Remer, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended, on Consent.

AYES: Vargas, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Desmond

ABSENT: (District 4 Seat Vacant)

State of California)

County of San Diego) §

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the Original entered in the Minutes of the Board of Supervisors.

ANDREW POTTER

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors



Signed

by Andrew Potter