

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
TUESDAY, AUGUST 16, 2022**

MINUTE ORDER NO. 4

**SUBJECT: AUTHORIZE ACCEPTANCE OF HIV/AIDS SERVICES GRANT FUNDING
 AND AUTHORIZE HIV/AIDS SERVICES PROCUREMENTS
 (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

OVERVIEW

For 31 years the San Diego County Board of Supervisors (Board) has authorized grants and agreements with the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to provide care and treatment services to persons living with HIV. These funding sources include the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Extension Act of 2009 (RWTEA) Part A and the RWTEA Part A Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI). The RWTEA Part A and RWTEA Part A MAI comprise the single largest federal funding source for HIV services received by the County of San Diego (County). The County received notification of a grant award on May 27, 2022. The RWTEA Part A funding is \$11,183,176, and the RWTEA Part A MAI funding is \$793,221, for a total of \$11,976,397 for the period of March 1, 2022 through February 28, 2023.

HIV/AIDS services are delivered via competitively procured contracts with community-based providers, and include outpatient ambulatory health, oral health, psychiatry, medical and non-medical case management, mental health, early intervention, outpatient substance use treatment, focused services for persons of color, food and transportation, rental subsidy assistance and emergency housing assistance, and emergency financial assistance. These contracted services are funded by RWTEA Part A and RWTEA Part A MAI, as well as RWTEA Part B which is funded by HRSA and administered through California Department of Public Health.

Today's action seeks the Board to approve acceptance of the RWTEA Part A and RWTEA Part A MAI funding. Additionally, today's action also requests the Board to authorize the Director, Department of Purchasing and Contracting to issue Competitive Solicitations for HIV/AIDS services. Lastly, today's action would authorize the application for any additional funds to be used to address testing, prevention and care, and treatment needs of individuals and families in San Diego County who are impacted by HIV, sexually transmitted diseases, and viral hepatitis.

This item supports the County's Getting to Zero initiative by funding services that help people living with HIV remain in care and achieve viral suppression. Research has demonstrated that persons who have achieved viral suppression are not able to transmit HIV to others sexually. In addition, this item supports the County's 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 our ongoing commitment to the regional *Live Well San Diego* vision of healthy, safe, and thriving communities. This will be accomplished by building better health through providing access to high quality care and treatment services for HIV, sexually transmitted disease, and viral hepatitis, leading to improved physical and behavioral health which promotes a healthy, safe, and thriving region.

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 \$11,183,176 and \$793,221 in grant funds from the Health Resources and Services Administration for the period of March 1, 2022 through February 28, 2023, for Ryan White Part A and Part A Minority AIDS Initiative respectively, and authorize the Clerk of the Board to execute all required grant documents, upon receipt, including any annual extensions, amendments and/or revisions thereto that do not materially impact or alter the services or funding level.
3. In accordance with Section 401, Article XXIII of the County Administrative Code, authorize the Director, Department of Purchasing and Contracting, to issue Competitive Solicitations for the service categories listed below, and upon successful negotiations and determination of a fair and reasonable price, award contracts for a term of one year and four option years, and up to an additional six months if needed, pending availability of funds, and to amend the contracts as needed to reflect changes to services and funding, subject to the approval of the Agency Director, Health and Human Services Agency.
 - a. Medical Case Management
 - b. Non-Medical Case Management
 - c. Non-Medical Case Management for Housing
 - d. Mental Health
 - e. Early Intervention Services
 - f. Substance Use Treatment: Outpatient
 - g. Focused Services for Persons of Color, including multi-disciplinary terms and targeted client advocacy
 - h. Food Services: Food Bank/Home-Delivered Meals/Medical Nutrition Therapy
 - i. Transportation
 - j. Housing: Partial Assistance Rental Subsidy
 - k. Housing: Emergency Housing Assistance
 - l. Emergency Financial Assistance
4. 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/AIDS, other sexually transmitted diseases, and viral hepatitis.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Since the beginning of the epidemic, HIV has disproportionately impacted our most vulnerable residents. Gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men, for instance, are currently estimated to comprise less than 2% 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 its inception in 1990, the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Extension Act (formerly the Ryan White CARE Act) has focused on ensuring access to treatment and support services for the most vulnerable residents. Thus far during the last grant period (March 1, 2021- February 28, 2022), a total of 3,313 clients received services funded by Ryan White Part A in San Diego County. Of those clients, 54% (1,786) were Hispanic and 13% (423) were Black.

The success in reaching our 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 of our communities. In partnership with the HIV Planning Group, the County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) conducts needs assessments every three years among persons living with or those vulnerable to HIV, assessments of system capacity and capabilities every three years, and focus groups with different communities annually. During Fiscal Years 2019-20 and 2020-21, the HIV Planning Group engaged a consultant to conduct a community engagement process to identify how policy, planning, and funding changes could further close the disproportionalities we see among Black, Hispanic, and Transgender communities. The HIV Planning Group and HHSA are currently implementing the recommendations from the final report.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds for this request are included in the Fiscal Year 2022-24 Operational Plan in the Health and Human Services Agency. If approved, this request will result in estimated costs of \$12,116,451 and revenue of \$11,976,397 in Fiscal Year 2022-23 for the term of these grants. The funding sources are Ryan White Part A and Part A Minority AIDS Initiative from the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration. A waiver of Board Policy B-29 is requested because the funding does not offset all costs. These costs are estimated at \$140,054 for the term of this grant. The funding source for these costs will be existing Health Realignment allocated for these programs. 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 Vargas, seconded by Supervisor Fletcher, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended, on Consent.

AYES: Vargas, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Fletcher, Desmond

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