

County of Santa Clara
Santa Clara Valley Health & Hospital System
Valley Medical Center
Hospital Administration




HHS08 022409

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Ancillary Services

DATE: February 24, 2009

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: 
Kim Roberts
SCVHHS - Chief Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Delegation of Authority to Execute Community Organization Contract Forms with Bilingual Stanford University Premedical Students Participating in the Community Service Work-Study Program

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approve delegation of authority to the Executive Director, Santa Clara Valley Medical Center - Hospital and Ancillary Services, or designee to execute Community Organization Contract Forms with bilingual Stanford University premedical students participating in the Community Service Work-Study Program relating to providing medical translation services as needed for period March 1, 2009 through February 28, 2014, following approval by County Counsel as to form and legality, and approval of the form by the Office of the County Executive. Delegation of authority shall expire on February 28, 2014.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

There is no impact on the County General Fund as a result of this action. Organizations, like Santa Clara Valley Medical Center (SCVMC), that participate in the Community Service Work-Study Program pay 10% of the work-study program costs to students. SCVMC has identified outside, philanthropic funding sources to pay the ongoing costs of the program estimated to be about \$14,080 per year.

CONTRACT HISTORY

On November 5, 2002, the Board delegated contracting authority regarding the Community Organization Contract Form with bilingual Stanford University premedical students participating in the Community Service Work-Study Program for period October 14, 2002 through October 13, 2005. SCVMC executed the Community Organization Contract Form quarterly with Stanford students providing medical interpretations.

On June 22, 2004, the department received approval for an updated delegation of authority to execute the Community Organization Contract Forms because Stanford revised the contract forms to add language regarding interest rate charges for non-payment within 30 days and reimbursement for incurred attorney's fees to collect for non-payment. The delegation of authority expired on June 21, 2007.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

SCVMC has a long-standing relationship with Stanford University involving its residents and premedical students. This program is beneficial for both Stanford University premedical students and the patients at Santa Clara Valley Medical Center. SCVMC is interested in building a multicultural work force which mirrors the current patient population. By creating a diverse workforce, the needs of the patient population can be addressed more efficiently, resulting in improved healthcare outcomes. For the patients, the program provides more face-to-face medical interpretations than normally is available.

Stanford University requires the use of its standard Community Organization Contract Form for sponsoring organizations to execute with Community Service Work-Study Program students.

BACKGROUND

Stanford University work-study premedical students have worked in the Santa Clara Valley Medical Center's Emergency Department for several years in a program called SCOPE (Shadowing for Clinical Opportunity and Premed Experience) coordinated by Dr. Michael McCullough. Dr. Michael McCullough is an Emergency Department physician and serves as a premed advisor at Stanford for these students. The program's goal is to provide students with exposure to practicing physicians and mentor the students in their pursuit of medicine.

After noticing an increased need for more medical interpretations for limited English proficiency patients, Dr. McCullough advocated for using bilingual SCOPE students' skills for medical interpretation in the Emergency Department. This program supplements, but does not supplant, SCVMC's language interpreter department and staff.

The SCOPE Medical Interpretation Program (MIP) was established in November 2002 after the receipt of Board approval. This program inspires the culturally and linguistically diverse premed students to pursue both an education and career in which they serve populations in need. An added bonus is the possibility that some of these students may eventually join the SCVMC workforce as a result of their positive experience working in our facility. Finally, the program provides an invaluable learning experience for students pursuing careers as physicians.

CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION

Failure to approve the recommended action will impact SCVMC's ability to participate in this innovative Community Service Work-Study Program.