

County of Santa Clara Board of Supervisors Supervisorial District Five



BOSD5-011309-03

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Chief of Staff

DATE: January 13, 2009

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: *Liz Kniss*
Liz Kniss
Supervisor, District 5

SUBJECT: Health & Hospital Committee

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Accept report on Health and Hospital Committee meeting of December 10, 2008. (Kniss)

Possible Action:

- a. Accept meeting agenda items 4 -11 and 13 -21 as information only.
- b. Accept report from Public Health Department on the Santa Clara County Stroke Care System and related Emergency Medical Services Policies. (Referral from October 14, 2008 Board of Supervisors' Meeting, Item No. 8)

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

The Committee accepted a report from the medical staff and approved credentials as presented by Dr. Wang, Medical Staff President. Dr. Wang expressed his view that the medical staff of Valley Medical Center is grateful to the public and the Board of Supervisors for the recently approved Bonds that will be used for seismic upgrades and modernization at Valley Medical Center.

A review of the general fund and enterprise fund financial reports indicates the general fund shows a year-to-date negative variance from budget totaling \$3.2 million. The Public Health Department Travel Clinic and the Mental Health Department Acute Services are the two highest dollar areas for the variance.

The Committee accepted a report on patient revenue associated with the Satellite for Transition Age Youth (STAY) Program that works in concert with the Bill Wilson Center. This program is providing a drop-in medical clinic one day per week, social worker and psychologist services. Both Supervisor Kniss and Supervisor Alvarado commented on their support of outreach and services to youth in need.

The Committee heard a status report from the EMS Director and the EMS Medical Director regarding implementation of the stroke care system and primary stroke care centers. The report presented shows that only 50 percent of stroke patients arrived to a hospital via EMS transport. Time is of the essence in diagnosing and treating stroke due to the narrow window of opportunity with treatment choices. The need for continuous public message campaigns to remind and educate the public was stressed by the Committee.

After consideration and review of the recommended actions from Valley Medical Center administration, the Committee recommends Board approval of the provision of legal services by the Law Foundation of Silicon Valley for Medical Legal Partnership Clinics at Santa Clara Valley Medical Center. Funding for this partnership will be provided by the VMC Foundation, which has been awarded grants in the amount of \$82,500 from First 5 Santa Clara County and \$50,000 in private donations. Funding has also been awarded by Equal Justice Works, and the partnership is also financially supported by the Law Foundation of Silicon Valley.

After consideration and review of recommendations from Santa Clara Valley Health and Hospital System on creation of an Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee for the Hospital Seismic Safety and Medical Facilities General Obligation Bond (Measure A), the Committee recommended Board approval and the Board approved this action on December 16, 2008.

Considering a request from the Mental Health Department regarding development of a Joint Powers Agreement, the Committee directed the Mental Health Department to return to the HHC upon draft agreement and bylaws completion, before forwarding the draft to the full Board of Supervisors.

Finally, the Committee accepted reports from the Mental Health Department on the Mental Health Services Act and the Status of the 24 -hour Care System. Acceptance of the quarterly report on Valley Care also occurred, with a note on the success of this program both financially and in providing health care and a medical home to so many in our community.

ATTACHMENTS

- December 10, 2008 Agenda
- Legal Services
- Stroke Report Attachment
- Stroke Care Report