

**County of Santa Clara**  
**Santa Clara Valley Health & Hospital System**  
Valley Medical Center  
Ambulatory and Managed Care



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HHS06 091509


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DATE: September 15, 2009

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM:   
Kim Roberts  
SCVHHS - Chief Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Valley Homeless Healthcare Program - Grant Award for Capital Improvement Program

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Consider recommendations relating to grant award for the Valley Homeless Healthcare Program.

Possible action:

- a. Accept non-competitive grant award from Health Resources and Services Administration for American Recovery and Reinvestment Act - Capital Improvement Program in the amount of \$419,505 for period June 29, 2009 through June 28, 2011.
- b. Approve Appropriation Modification No. 052 - \$419,505 increasing revenue and expenditures in Santa Clara Valley Medical Center Capital budget. (4/5 Roll Call Vote)

## **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

This is a non-competitive grant award from Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) for American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) projects. There is no General Fund match requirement for this project. Half of the funds from the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) grant will be used to renovate Pediatrics clinical suites and the other half will be used to renovate the Ob/Gyn clinical suites.

## **CONTRACT HISTORY**

On November 18, 2003, the Board of Supervisors approved a federal grant award from the Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), "New Access Points: Health Care for the Homeless," to expand health care services to homeless County residents. The grant award to the Valley Homeless Healthcare Program (VHHP) was for an initial three-year project term, starting in late FY03 and ending in FY06. Award amounts for Year 1 was \$515,171, Year 2 amount was \$648,722 and Year 3 amount was \$556,269 with the option to compete for future funding after successful completion of a project assessment. The project assessment was successfully completed in April 2006. In FY06, the program was granted a second award for an addition five-year term though FY11. The current grant award totals 1.3 million as of June 30, 2009.

The non-competitive grant application for the Capital Improvement Program was submitted on June 1, 2009. Although the date on the grant award is listed as June 25, 2009, notification of the award from HRSA was not received until July 30, 2009. The transmittal was then listed as a Pending Board Item on the August 19, 2009 Health and Hospital Committee agenda, prior to bringing it forward to the Board for approval.

This new grant does not require a formal agreement between HRSA and the County. In the notification of grant award (NGA) attached, there are terms and conditions for the award and instructions on registering through the Electronic Handbook (EHB) in order to draw down funds and meet the extensive federal reporting requirements. The department is working with the County Executive's Office to ensure the reporting requirements and timelines are met. The first report to HRSA is due on October 10, 2009.

## **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

Capital Improvement Program (CIP) funds will support renovations to the Valley Health Center Bascom which serves the largest proportion of homeless patients. Renovation and refurbishment of a portion of the first floor of VHC Bascom clinical suites housing high risk obstetrics and pediatric specialty services will improve patient flow for these services for homeless women and children. VHC Bascom is the most convenient location for homeless families needing these services because of its proximity to shelters and other homeless services. The project will carry out repairs and upgrade materials to increase utilization of these spaces. The project will also create a more comfortable environment for patients and their families to improve patients' experiences and satisfaction with care. New furnishings and fixtures will serve practical and aesthetic purposes for patients needing high risk obstetrics and pediatric specialty care. Additionally, renovations and upgrades will provide for new ergonomic furniture, better lighting and lower noise levels.

## **BACKGROUND**

The Santa Clara Valley Health & Hospital System (SCVHHS) Valley Homeless Healthcare Program (VHHP) is the "safety net for the safety net", providing comprehensive services for homeless persons who cannot or will not seek care in conventional healthcare settings. By providing care that integrates primary medical, substance abuse, mental health, housing and support services, VHHP is increasing the number of homeless with "medical homes", decreasing unnecessary emergency room visits, and offering hope and options to the most marginalized members of our community.

In 2008, Valley Health Center Bascom delivered care for 1,457 VHHP patients or 30% of VHHP's 4,843 patients. VHC Bascom serves as the principal location for Ob/Gyn, pediatric and pediatric specialty care in the central San Jose area where Santa Clara County's homeless population is concentrated. VHHP provided prenatal care for 484 homeless women in 2008 primarily at VHC Bascom, including many with high risk pregnancies due to factors such as substance abuse, late prenatal care and homeless living conditions. The health center delivered care for 258 of VHHP's 584 pediatric patients (or 43% of all VHHP pediatric patients) in 2008, including children and adolescents who have lacked access to care and have previously un/under-treated special health needs.

Valley Health Center Bascom, constructed in 1984, is located adjacent to the VMC hospital campus. It was acquired by VMC about 25 years ago. Over that time, the premises have become worn. This Capital Improvement Program grant will renovate and refurbish adjoining clinical suites housing high risk obstetrics and pediatric specialty services. Renovations and repairs to the suites will improve patient flow and increase patient access to needed services, as well as creating comfortable environments for patients as well as providers and staff.

## **CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION**

Failure to approve the recommended action may result in the loss of ARRA grant funding.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

- Bascom CIP grant award
- F85 VHHP Bascom CIP