

# County of Santa Clara

## Santa Clara Valley Health & Hospital System

### Public Health



HHS02 092909


Prepared by: Colleen Martin  
Health Care Program Manager

Reviewed by: Dolores Alvarado  
Division Director

Submitted by: Dan Peddycord, RN, MPA/HA  
Public Health Administrator

DATE: September 29, 2009

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM:   
Kim Roberts  
SCVHHS - Chief Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Various Actions Related to Steps to a Healthier Santa Clara County Program

### **RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Consider recommendations relating to Steps to a Healthier Santa Clara County program.

Possible action:

- a. Approve delegation of authority to Public Health Administrator, or designee, to negotiate, execute, amend, terminate, and take any and all necessary or advisable actions relating to an extension agreement with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for Steps to a Healthier Santa Clara County program services in an amount not to exceed \$569,942 for period September 22, 2009 through September 21, 2010, following approval by County Counsel as to form and legality, and approval by the Office of the County Executive. Delegation of authority shall expire on September 21, 2010.

- b. Introduction and preliminary adoption of Salary Ordinance No. NS-5.10.20 amending Santa Clara County Salary Ordinance No. NS-5.10 relating to the compensation of employees deleting one half-time Health Planning Specialist III position, 1.0 Health Care Program Analyst II/I position, and 1.0 Administrative Assistant position in the Public Health Department. (Roll Call Vote to waive reading, Roll Call Vote to adopt)
- c. Approve Appropriation Modification No. 060 - (\$405,603) decreasing revenue and expenditures in the Public Health Department budget. (Roll Call Vote)

## **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

There is no impact on the General Fund as a result of this action. The Steps program is funded through a federal grant provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The extension agreement will rollover unexpended funds previously allocated to the County in prior fiscal years to provide the Public Health Department additional time to complete its role as lead of the community chronic disease prevention initiative, and allow utilization of funding to complete final reports and any unfulfilled items on the approved Year 5 scope of work/community action plan.

The Notice of Award indicates that \$569,942 will be rolled over from Years 1-4 of the grant. In County FY2010 (July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010), the Steps program anticipates spending \$832,438, which includes this roll over funding. The Appropriation Modification shows a reduction of \$405,603, which reduces the Steps funding in the County budget to the \$832,438 level.

The significant reduction in funding (approximately 50% of prior year funding levels), resulting from the expiration of the initial contract period will be addressed by deleting 0.5 (vacant) Health Planning Specialist III, 1.0 (vacant) Health Care Analyst II/I, and 1.0 (filled) Administrative Assistant for a total reduction of \$168,828 in FY10 and \$253,242 annually, and a reduction in various Object 2 (services and supplies) line items. No layoffs will result from this action. The Administrative Assistant will be administratively transferred to another position within the Santa Clara Valley Health and Hospital System.

The Public Health Department was aware that the original contract period for Steps was coming to an end; however, this item was not included in the FY10 budget process as the rollover criteria had not been established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in time to do so. The effective date of the salary ordinance amendment is October 19, 2009; therefore some salary costs, in an amount estimated at \$21,104, will not be covered by the grant and will be absorbed by the Department during this period.

## **CONTRACT HISTORY**

In 2004, in an effort to respond to high rates of chronic disease, childhood obesity and asthma in Santa Clara County, the Public Health Department submitted a proposal to CDC and was awarded a five-year “Steps to a Healthier US” grant. The Public Health Department was one of two funded programs in the State of California, and San Jose was one of 40 communities across the U.S., to receive this prestigious chronic disease prevention grant.

Steps to a Healthier US grant funds are aimed at preventing three major chronic diseases - diabetes, obesity, and asthma – by addressing key risk factors, physical inactivity, poor nutrition and tobacco use. The Steps grant is targeted to communities where health disparities exist and a large portion of the population is uninsured and at the poverty level. The Santa Clara County Steps program targets 360,000 residents of communities where the greatest health disparities exist focusing interventions in the downtown and eastern portions of San Jose, and high priority geographic areas identified in Gilroy and Mountain View.

Initially approved by the Board of Supervisors on February 8, 2005, the specific annual funding breakdown was as follows:

Year 1 (9/22/04 – 9/21/05) - \$1.0 M

Year 2 (9/22/05 – 9/21/06) - \$1.5 M

Year 3 (9/22/06 – 9/21/07) - \$1.46 M

Year 4 (9/22/07 – 9/21/08) - \$1.46 M

Year 5 (9/22/08 – 9/21/09) - \$1.24 M

## **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

In June 2009, the Public Health Department submitted a formal request to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for a 12 month no-cost extension and carryover dollars in the amount of \$569,942 for the purpose of continuing the Steps to a Healthier Santa Clara County program. Through the utilization of unspent funds previously allocated to the community for the purpose of promoting healthy eating, regular physical activity and tobacco cessation as a way to reduce certain debilitating diseases, funding can continue for an additional year ending September 21, 2010, in order to complete outstanding activities previously approved in the Year 5 scope of work as well as required grant close-out reports.

The CDC approved scope of work for the extension period will include completion of data analysis associated with Steps implementation and its long-term indicators, completion of publications of outcomes and lessons learned, Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention Policy Summit to take place in January or February 2010, completion of Sugar Savvy Initiative in Santa Clara County, and completion of the childhood feeding collaborative training and evaluation of systems change model and outcomes.

The salary ordinance amendment and appropriation modification address the reduction in funding as a result of the expiration of the official contract term by deleting two vacant positions (half-time Health Planning Specialist III and 1.0 Health Care Program Analyst II/I) and one filled position (1.0 Administrative Assistant III). No layoffs will result from this action. The Administrative Assistant will be administratively transferred to another position within the Santa Clara

Valley Health and Hospital System.

The job duties previously assigned to the positions recommended for deletion are no longer required or appropriate to meet the deliverables of the scope of work for the grant roll-over/extension period.

SEIU Local 521 and CEMA have been notified regarding these recommendations. CEMA does not object to this recommended action. Local 521 requested that the proposed deleted codes be delayed and synchronized with layoffs relating to State budget reductions.

Because current grant funding will not be sufficient to cover the postponement of deleting the indicated codes, if the Board agrees to the request by Local 521, County general fund monies will be required to bridge funding through the extended layoff period.

The Employee Services Agency supports this recommendation.

## **BACKGROUND**

Through a Request For Proposal (RFP) issued in 2007, nine subcontractors were selected to assist with accomplishing the deliverables of the scopes of work for years four and five of the original grant period. These subcontractors, five school districts and four community based organization, include: Alum Rock Union School District, East Side Union High School District, Franklin McKinley School District, Mt. Pleasant Elementary School District, San Jose Unified School District, Breathe California, the Diabetes Society, Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County, and Somos Mayfair. Subcontractors were notified at the beginning of Year 5 that funding would end on September 21, 2009 and that all scope of work activities were to be completed.

Beginning in Year 4 of the original contract period, in order to have greater impact in reducing chronic disease within the Steps area, the Community Action Team (a community based group invested in the goals and outcomes of the Steps program) agreed to focus more on “organizational and policy changes” rather than on direct one-on-one and/or group interventions, using the Spectrum of Prevention model. Although Steps has always focused on fostering systems changes, organizational policies and practices, and community improvements, efforts been concentrated on the upper level of the Spectrum of Prevention (organizational change and policy development) and less on the lower end of the Spectrum (which includes individual and/or group education as well as provider trainings). This change in focus ensures that Steps efforts will be sustained beyond the extended grant term and will have a lasting impact on the health of local residents.

## **CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION**

Failure to approve the recommended actions may impact the department's ability to utilize carryover funds authorized by the CDC for the purpose of completing Steps program activities.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

- CDC Notice of Award for Steps \_Year 6

- Steps Appropriation Modification
- Salary Ordinance No. NS-5.10.20