

MEMORANDUM
PLACER COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Community Health, Clinics, and Animal Services Division

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: Richard J. Burton, M.D., M.P.H.
Placer County Health Officer and Director of Health & Human Services
Mark Starr, D.V.M., M.P.V.M., Director of Community Health, Clinics, and Animal Services

DATE: January 10, 2012

SUBJECT: Planning Grant from Blue Shield of California Foundation

ACTION REQUESTED:

Approve a grant from the Blue Shield of California Foundation in the amount of \$100,000 for the period January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012 to support County coverage planning efforts for the Placer Medicaid Coverage Expansion proposal, and authorize the Director of Health & Human Services to sign the grant agreement and any subsequent amendments.

BACKGROUND:

Placer County is mandated by the State to provide health care to income eligible single adults. To meet this mandate, the Placer County Community Clinic provides primary healthcare to over 3,000 County residents annually through the County-funded Medical Care Services Program. On average, 1,350 visits are provided to eligible patients each month, which is more than a 50 percent increase from early 2008 as a result of the economic recession. County costs have increased proportionately.

Last summer the California Department of Health Care Services was granted a waiver by the federal government that permits counties to draw down federal funds to match 2009-2010 County expenditures for our Medical Care Services Program with federal funds.

The Blue Shield of California Foundation last year awarded Placer County grant funding to allow Health and Human Services (HHS) to determine how coverage might be modified to maximize leverage of federal funding and build on community networks. Placer County HHS has been awarded a second grant to continue the planning process. Funding will be used to support staff work in the efforts to obtain federal funding to serve Placer County's uninsured population.

This grant-funded project provides a unique opportunity to determine if Federal funds can be used to create fiscally sustainable health care services for eligible individuals currently without health insurance. Placer County residents in need of health care, and the County as a whole, stand to benefit from the healthier and more productive community that could result from this effort.

FISCAL IMPACT:

These funds are not included in the Department's FY 2011-12 Budget, but will be included in a mid-year budget revision in the amount of \$100,000. No County General Fund match is required.

This grant is on file with the Clerk of the Board for review.

