

Agenda Report

TO: CITY COUNCIL **DATE:** FEBRUARY 8, 1999

FROM: CYNTHIA J. KURTZ, CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR (FFY) 1999 WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PROGRAM AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council take the following actions:

1. Authorize the City Manager to execute an FFY 1998-99 Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program Agreement with the State Department of Health Services (SDHS) in the amount of \$734,978 for the period of October 1, 1998 through September 30, 1999; and
2. Approve a journal voucher increasing the estimated FY 1999 revenues and appropriations in the WIC operating budget account # 564200 by \$29,878 from \$776,429 to \$806,307.

BACKGROUND:

The Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program is a federally funded, state-administered public health services program which provide nutritional counseling, education, and supplemental food vouchers for pregnant women and lactating women, and infants and children up to five years old. The program is medically supervised, and its services are provided within strict medical and nutritional guidelines. One of the major goals of this effort is to ensure that program participants receive high quality counseling and information which may contribute to their maintaining good physical health and/or alter detrimental nutritional patterns.

The FY 1999 Agreement between the City of Pasadena and SDHS in the amount of \$734,978 supports a monthly caseload of 6,500 WIC nutrition participants, and serves an average of 20 smoking cessation clients weekly.

The WIC Program of the City of Pasadena Public Health Department will provide WIC program vouchers and nutrition and breast-feeding education to WIC-eligible residents of Pasadena,

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Altadena, Sierra Madre and South Pasadena. WIC participants will be properly oriented to WIC program services, referred to other health and social service providers, and encouraged to receive ongoing care.

The WIC program also conducts retail grocery store site visits at the direction of the State Department of Health Services to verify the availability and price of WIC-authorized foods. The WIC Program provides retailer education as needed.

Nationally, WIC is recognized as one of the most effective and successful preventive programs funded by the Federal government. Research has shown that every dollar spent on WIC saves three dollars in health care costs that may result from an inadequate diet. Continued funding for WIC is advocated due to its proven effectiveness.

Since the WIC Program is Federally funded, the term of this Agreement is consistent with the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) calendar which runs from October 1, 1998 through September 30, 1999 (FFY 1999), overlapping two City fiscal calendars, FY 1999 and FY 2000. The estimated revenues and appropriations from WIC funding in the FY 1999 adopted budget were computed based on combined proportions from this current award and the WIC award for the prior FFY.

The Program Agreement of \$734,978 includes the core WIC nutrition allocation of \$705,000 and a \$29,878 augmentation to the WIC Smoking Cessation program. The balance of program funding is comprised of the FY 1999 portion of the original Smoking Cessation allocation equaling \$49,900 and \$21,429 which was allocated to WIC for infrastructure improvements. The total budget is therefore \$806,307.

As with last year's appropriations, Congress did not allocate FY 1999 funding increases for the Women, Infants and Children program across the board. California is no longer considered a "growth State" for WIC, but a "stable State." Subsequently, there is no increase in the award for the WIC nutrition program. However, there is an increase in the Smoking Cessation program award, which was not anticipated, and which will enhance the WIC Smoking Cessation program activities. The original allocation under the Smoking Cessation Agreement was approved by City Council on February 23, 1998, under Resolution #7594. The grant was awarded for 18 months for the period of December 1, 1997 through May 31, 1999. The State has taken the opportunity in the issuance of the FFY 1999 WIC Agreement to increase the smoking cessation award by \$29,878.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION:

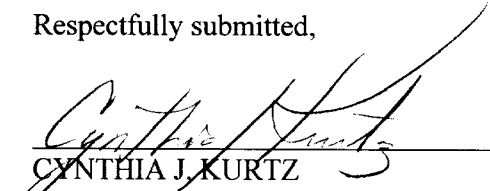
This contract is exempt from the Affirmative Action in Contracting Ordinance pursuant to Section 4.09.060 (A) which exempts contracts with other governmental entities for labor, material, supplies or services.

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FISCAL IMPACT:


As a result of this action by City Council, the estimated appropriations and revenues in the Public Health Department FY 1999 WIC program adopted budget account # 564200 will increase by \$29,878 from \$776,429 to \$806,307.

Respectfully submitted,



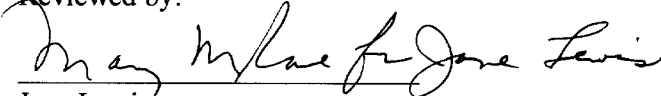
CYNTHIA J. KURTZ
City Manager

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Wilma J. Allen
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