

# Agenda Report

**THROUGH:** PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

**TO:** CITY COUNCIL

**DATE:** April 15, 2002

**FROM:** CYNTHIA J. KURTZ, CITY MANAGER

**SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, HEALTH RESOURCES SERVICES ADMINISTRATION, FOR A COMMUNITY ACCESS PROGRAM GRANT**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Adopt a resolution authorizing submittal of a Community Access Program grant application to the Health Resources and Services Administration; and,
2. Authorize the City Manager to execute a grant agreement, amendments, and any other documents necessary to secure and implement such grant.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Community Access Program (CAP) is a Federal program implemented in FY 2000 as part of an initiative to expand access to the uninsured. The CAP program was designed to complement federal initiatives that increase insurance coverage options through the Medicaid program and the State Child Health Insurance Program. The CAP program goal is to create more efficient and higher quality care and help individuals gain entry into a more comprehensive system of care through increasing the effectiveness and capacity of community-based health care delivery systems. CAP is managed by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) in the nation's Department of Health and Human Services. In FFY (Federal Fiscal Year) 2001, \$54 million in original and supplemental grants was awarded under the CAP initiative to 60 communities and consortia of health care providers to develop and strengthen integrated health care delivery systems for the underinsured and uninsured. In FFY 2002, up to another \$20 million will be available as one-year grants to fund new communities' development of integrated delivery systems.

Last year, the Pasadena Public Health Department applied for CAP funding. Although the eligibility review committee categorized the application as "fully acceptable", Pasadena was not among the 60 communities selected for funding. The Pasadena Public Health Department is re-applying for funds for this fiscal year. This new application will respond to the Health Resources and Services Administration critique of last year's proposal. The application will also address recent environmental changes, such as the closure of St. Luke's Hospital, which have further contributed to the need for a CAP program in this community.

In March, staff convened a local planning group to assess the interest and benefit of applying this year for CAP funding. The planning group is collaborating on a resubmittal of last year's application for a CAP grant to implement the Pasadena Health Access Program. The three major goals of the Pasadena Health Access Program are: 1) to enroll all eligible underinsured and uninsured families and individuals into available insurance coverage; 2) to link underinsured and uninsured families and individuals with a medical home for primary and preventive care, and, eventually, to a continuum of comprehensive health and social services; and 3) to improve integration/coordination of local service delivery system. A community call center will be the conduit for these linkages and system changes.

With the Public Health Department as the lead agency, a grant will be submitted to develop a community call center in Pasadena that will serve the Pasadena Unified School District area. The proposed call center will involve trained personnel who will screen for eligibility for various health insurance programs, facilitate enrollment appointments for the callers, and provide or link callers with a range of health care interventions and/or social support services. The overall goal will be to help the underinsured and uninsured utilize the health care system appropriately and to establish coverage for eligible adults and children, so that they can gain entry to comprehensive, quality care and medical homes. The Public Health Department will hire and administer a project management team and will subcontract for services. The major objectives include designing and implementing the call center, developing and implementing an MIS support system, creating and conducting a media campaign about the call center, establishing customer-friendly, caller-centered protocols that give callers entry into various health insurance programs and healthcare coverage, and developing a strategic plan for project sustainability and evaluation.

Several community-based organizations and coalitions are collaborating with the City of Pasadena's Public Health Department in submittal of this grant application and in the system design, implementation and sustainability if the grant is awarded. Key collaborators in the project include Community Health Alliance of Pasadena, Huntington Memorial Hospital, Pasadena Unified School District, Pacific Clinics, Young and Healthy, Planned Parenthood of Pasadena, D'Veal

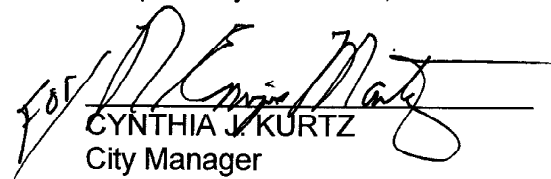
Family and Youth Services, Pasadena Foundation, and Los Angeles County Department of Health Services.

The deadline for the proposal is May 7, 2002. The City is requesting a total of \$1 million, which does not require matching funds. Grant awards will be announced in September 2002.

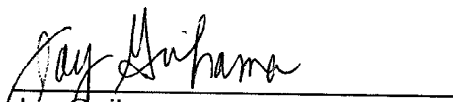
**FISCAL IMPACT**

If funded, the CAP grant will bring in \$1 million in revenues for the twelve months beginning in September 2002.

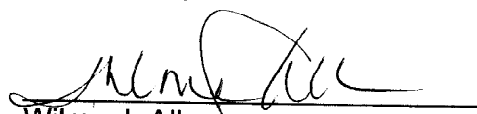
Respectfully submitted,

  
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