

**COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
CALIFORNIA**

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For the Agenda of:
June 15, 2009

To: Board of Supervisors
From: Countywide Services Agency
Subject: Report Back: Framework for Developing A New Healthcare System
Contact: James W. Hunt, Acting Administrator, 874-5886

Background

At the June 11, 2009 budget hearing for the Department of Health and Human Services, Supervisor Don Nottoli asked for a framework for how the County would demonstrate leadership and initiative in revamping the healthcare system for the medically indigent and Medi-Cal population.

Discussion

To meet this challenge, the Countywide Services Agency and Department of Health and Human Services have had discussions with community partners and the Sacramento Healthcare Improvement Project (SHIP). The Agency Administrator and DHHS Director are personally committed to the success of this project and have already begun attending meetings of SHIP and will continue as active participants and supporters.

We are fortunate to have Lynn Frank available to devote nearly full time to this project beginning July 1, 2009. She will serve as the Agency's lead and co-chair of the community team to develop an action plan. Lynn has been a member of SHIP and can easily move into this leadership role, in collaboration with our healthcare partners. With the dedication of an experienced, knowledgeable executive to this effort, the County will exert new leadership in healthcare planning which was previously not available.

A subcommittee of SHIP was recently created with the specific purpose of developing a plan to revamp healthcare for the medically indigent and Medi-Cal population in Sacramento County. This subcommittee includes healthcare providers, the County and the Medical Society. We will use this as a base for gaining community input and buyin. Additional healthcare partners, including hospitals and others will be included in the plan development. We have already received strong statements of support from the Effort, MAAP, UCD Health System, the Sierra Sacramento Valley Medical Society and others.

It is our intent to bring a fully developed proposal to the Board of Supervisors by the end of October 2009. The elements of that plan will include, at a minimum:

1. Proposed structure for primary, secondary and tertiary care
2. Integration of public health services
3. Expanding the number of federally qualified health centers
4. Ensuring healthcare access for both Medi-Cal and indigent populations
5. Proposed state legislation to change Medi-Cal Geographic Managed Care

There will obviously be many more facets to this plan as it is developed. With the energy of our community partners and County leadership, we have the opportunity now to make long overdue improvements in our healthcare delivery system.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED :

JAMES W. HUNT, Acting Administrator
Countywide Services Agency

By: _____
TERRY SCHUTTEN
Chief Executive Officer