



To: Board of Supervisors
From: Birgitta E. Corsello, County Administrator
Date: February 9, 2018
Subject: Significant Issues Update

1) County Administrator's update on contracts

- The Department of Health and Social Services, Administrative Services, a contract with Geiss Consulting, to develop a five-year fiscal plan for mental health services, \$49,000, from June 19, 2017 to June 30, 2018. The funding source is 1991 Realignment.
- The District Attorney's Office of Family Violence Prevention, a contract with Solano Advocates for Victims of Violence, to provide domestic violence intervention advocates to work directly with the Grants to Encourage Arrest and Enforcement of Protection (GTEAP) Orders program, \$49,108, from January 16, 2018 to September 30, 2018. The funding source is the United States Department of Justice (DOJ) GTEAP grant funds.
- The Department of Health and Social Services, Medical Services division, a contract with Children's Choice Pediatric Dental Care, to provide anesthesia services to eligible Solano County children for dental services, \$49,500, from October 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018. The funding source is the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) division of Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC).

2) 2017 United Way Giving Campaign a Big Success

Solano County has been participating in an annual charity campaign to raise funds in support of the United Way of the Bay Area and their mission to cut Bay Area poverty in half by the year 2020 for many years. At the close of the 2017 "Game Changers" campaign period, Solano County employees raised \$37,467.50 through direct gifts and payroll deductions, slightly more than last year, with online donations still being counted. Of the \$37,467.50, almost half (\$18,704) of the contributions have been designated to Solano non-profits and community based organizations, up significantly from \$11,660 in 2016.

An estimated one in four Bay Area residents struggles to meet basic needs based on the bay area self-sufficiency standard. The United Way of the Bay Area supports these individuals and families in Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo and Solano Counties. Services are aimed at ending the cycle of poverty through programs that provide education in financial stability, basic needs assistance, family support and job opportunities. While United Way's work is regional, United Way addresses the specific needs of each individual county.

Within the last year, the United Way tackled Solano County poverty through programs such as "Spark Point" one-stop financial help and education centers where low income residents can access a full range of services. Three Spark Point Centers in Solano County helped 345 low-income adults with financial

education and career coaching. The 'Earn It! Keep It! Save It!' program provides free tax preparation for low to moderate income bay area households and assisted with 4,300 free tax filings, resulting in \$4.4 million returned back to Solano County residents. Lastly, 6,700 calls from Solano County residents were answered thanks to 211, a 24/7 helpline, resulting in 5,600 individuals and families connected to housing/shelter, utility and food assistance and other vital services in their community.

The Solano County "Game Changers" campaign ran from November 1, 2017 to December 1, 2017, and was coordinated by Michele Harris and Juanita Morales of First 5 Solano. County-wide efforts resulted in an average donation of \$12.50 per employee. A very special thanks to the department team leaders listed below:

- Sharon Garrett, Department of Agriculture
- Kathy Dossa, Assessor/Recorder
- Cindy Loya, Auditor/Controller
- Juanita Morales, Board of Supervisors/CAO/First 5 Solano
- Dennis Bunting, County Counsel
- Jeniece Dozier, Department of Child Support Services
- Beth Lancaster, Department of Information Technology
- Elaine Pulido, District Attorney/Office of Family Violence Protection
- Andrea Boyce-Harmuth, General Services
- Cheri Carelock, Sandra Sinz, Shelly Howisey, Health and Social Services
- Jose Penalosa, Human Resources
- Tamie Tvrdik and Cathy Perez, Library Services
- Maggie Luna and Eva Ruvalcaba, Probation
- Crystal Coleman, Public Defender & Alternate Public Defender
- Eva Rivera, Resource Management
- Catherine Senior, Sheriff/Coroner
- Elizabeth Sumner, Treasurer/Tax collector/County Clerk
- Ted Puntillo, Veterans Services

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3) Update on Solano County's Whole Person Care (WPC) Pilot Program

On October 25, 2016, the Board accepted the State Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) approval of the Whole Person Care (WPC) Pilot program which awarded grant funds totaling up to \$4,667,010 over five years. Nearing the end of its second program year (December 2017), Solano's WPC pilot continues to make strides in achieving the Triple Aim of Health Care: better quality services at lower costs and high patient satisfaction.

WPC efforts include: increase integration among county agencies, health plans, providers and other community organizations; increase coordination and appropriate access to care, improving data collection and information sharing, reducing inappropriate emergency and inpatient utilization, and improving health outcomes for the WPC population. This population is identified as individuals of multiple health systems that continue to have poor outcomes in which emergency department visits serve as the default care rather than utilizing preventative services such as being seen in a primary care environment. Solano's specific target population includes residents with two or more chronic and serious health conditions, at least one of which are mental health and/or substance use disorders.

The Health and Social Services (H&SS) Divisions of Public Health, Behavioral Health, Medical Services, and Administration has partnered with the Solano Coalition for Better Health (SCBH) in overseeing

various aspects of the pilot such as assertive outreach and engagement, care coordination, privacy and security guidance, data analysis, and developing policies and procedures. Emphasis during the initial eighteen months will be performing assertive outreach and engagement to obtain a target enrollment goal of 50 individuals by the end of program year two. The pilot expects to enroll 250 clients during the five-year period.

Through much planning, coordinating, and training, the pilot successfully enrolled 74 individuals in 2017. WPC participants could connect with a primary care physician, receive transportation and social service assistance, and have been housed at varying levels to become stabilized and receive care. Another notable success includes forming data sharing agreements between major hospital providers: NorthBay Medical Center, Kaiser Permanente, La Clinica de la Raza and more recently Community Medical Centers.

As the pilot progresses, areas of focus will be to improve the lower than anticipated engagement rate (estimated at 50 percent), developing the appropriate technical infrastructure to share and monitor client information, and the ongoing refinement of policies and procedures, particularly the referral process to mental health and substance use treatment. This is accomplished through continuous quality improvement cycles and overcoming legacy obstacles by communicating and reframing the person-centered model of health care.

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4) Increased Influenza Activity

In the United States and in California, influenza (flu) activity due to influenza A(H3N2) has increased significantly over the last several weeks. Just like in years past, A(H3N2) virus-predominant influenza seasons typically hit young children and individuals 65 years and older the hardest, including more flu related hospitalizations and deaths than any other age groups. Additionally, flu vaccine effectiveness has generally been lower against influenza A(H3N2) viruses.

For this reason, in addition to flu vaccinations, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is highly recommending the use of antiviral medications for treatment of influenza. CDC and the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) recommend antiviral treatment as soon as possible in patients with compatible clinical symptoms who are hospitalized and those who are at high risk of developing flu-related complications, regardless of flu vaccination history and while awaiting laboratory confirmation of influenza.

The composition of flu vaccines is reviewed annually and updated to match circulating strains of the flu viruses. Vaccine effectiveness for the current season is not yet known; preliminary estimates are expected later this month (February). There are no current national shortages of flu vaccines or antiviral medications, although spot shortages of the antiviral medications have been reported in some areas. Supplies of both in Solano County are adequate at present.

Solano Public Health is monitoring the flu situation and has sent information and guidance to the medical community. Solano Public Health is also providing daily reminders to the public highlighting flu prevention and recovery strategies through social media. Solano Public Health is ready to assist and offer guidance to Solano residents as needed.

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