



**SAN BENITO COUNTY
AGENDA ITEM
TRANSMITTAL FORM**

Dom Zanger
District No. 1

Kollin Kosmicki
District No. 2

Mindy Sotelo
District No. 3
Chair

Angela Curro
District No. 4
Vice-Chair

Bea Gonzales
District No. 5

Item Number: 1.9

MEETING DATE: 05/23/2023

DEPARTMENT: HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

AGENDA ITEM PREPARER: Yolanda Beltran

DEPT HEAD/DIRECTOR: Tracey Belton

SUBJECT:

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY - T. BELTON

Adopt Resolution accepting the California Strengthening Public Health Initiative (CASPHI) funding for a full award amount of \$675,929.00 for five years for the period of December 1, 2022 through November 30, 2027 and authorizing Director, Tracey Belton, or Deputy Director, Nicholas Calvin to sign all documents and invoices necessary to secure the funding. Authorize the following full-time positions to be funded with CASPHI allocation: Add 1.0 FTE bilingual Health Assistant position for five years and fund current 1.0 FTE Health Educator Associate position for two years. Approve Budget Adjustment in the amount of \$675,929.00. (4/5 vote required)

SBC FILE NUMBER: 420

RESOLUTION NO.: 2023-55

AGENDA SECTION:

CONSENT AGENDA

BACKGROUND/SUMMARY:

The California Department of Public Health received a Notice of Award (NOA) from CDC on December 4, 2022 for funding the California Strengthening Public Health Initiative (CASPHI) from CDC's Strengthening U.S. Public Health Infrastructure, Workforce, and Data Systems Grant Award. CASPHI includes \$36,822,154 million for direct allocation to LHJs. CDPH has allocated \$675,929.00 for San Benito County, for the period of December 1, 2022 through November 30, 2027.

The main objectives of this CDC funding are to strengthen public health infrastructure and to advance capacity to address health equity and/or health disparities. There is flexibility in the use of this funding because San Benito County meets the minimum requirement of having a 1.0 FTE equity role: the 1.0 FTE equity role is already funded under a different grant which is permitted. San Benito County is also expanding equity capacity through the use of the CASPHI funds as described below.

The CASPHI funds will be used to expand equitable access to services provided at the Medical Therapy Unit (MTU) by hiring a bilingual Health Assistant. The MTU serves predominantly Spanish-speaking county residents and does not have a Health Assistant to help with care and resource navigation. Resource navigation is an important and effective tool to ensure equitable access to County resources for populations that may experience literacy or language barriers or are impacted by other social determinants of health.

The CASPHI funds will also be used to promote equitable and effective health promotion, outcomes, and communication by funding a Health Education Associate for a new centralized social media and health communication role. This role was previously funded under COVID funds which will expire in June 2024. CASPHI funds will be used to fund the position for FY 2024-25 and 2025-26. During the COVID-19 pandemic we developed and strengthened community partnerships, and by creating a new centralized communications role that is cross-program, we increase capacity to leverage these partnerships and our skilled workforce to support other areas of inequitable health outcomes.

This new centralized social media and health communications role will also support skilled workforce retention, as this new role provides a focused opportunity for a Health Educator to gain broad expertise in social media, health communication, and health and digital literacy. Finding innovative ways to support retention is important for San Benito County given the highly competitive local workforce market.

Finally, these funds will also be used to purchase electronic software and filing equipment that will improve workflow efficiency for administrative staff and thus improving service delivery to county residents. As the grant is over a five-year period, needs for the department may need to be adapted and workplan changed to meet the current needs of the county and department, with any changes being focused on promoting health equity and strengthening public health infrastructure.

This agenda item is retroactive due to the delay in state processing. The Award letter was sent to Health and Human Services Agency on February 23, 2023.

RESOLUTION OR ORDINANCE NEEDED FOR THIS ITEM:

Yes

CONTRACT NEEDED FOR THIS ITEM:

N/A

CONTRACT AND RFP HISTORY:

N/A

LAST CONTRACT AMOUNT OR N/A:

N/A

STATE IF THIS IS A NEW CONTRACT/ HOW MANY PAST AMENDED CONTRACTS/ OR N/A:

New funding

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: 1. Operational Development & Excellence

Yes

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: 2. Planning And Sustainable Growth

Yes

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: 3. Technology

Yes

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: 4. Community Engagement

Yes

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: 5. Health & Safe Community

Yes

BUDGETED:

Yes

BUDGET ADJUSTMENT NEEDED:

Yes

SOURCE OF FUNDING:

Non-general Fund

UNFUNDED MANDATE:

N/A

SBC BUDGET LINE ITEM NUMBER:

224.80.2392.1000

CURRENT FY COST:

\$675, 929.00 funding for 5 years

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

1. Adopt a Resolution accepting the California Strengthening Public Health Initiative (CASPHI) funding for a full award amount of \$675,929.00 and authorizing Director, Tracey Belton, or Nicholas Calvin, Deputy Director to sign all documents pertaining to accepting the funding and subsequent invoices and documents.
2. Approve budget adjustment in the amount of \$675,929.00. (4/5 vote required)
3. Approve the following full-time position allocations:
 - a. Add 1.0 full time Health Assistant (5 years)
 - b. Fund 1.0 full time Health Educator Associate (2 years)
 - c. Direct staff to amend the schedule of approved position allocations to reflect the above.

BOARD ACTION RESULTS:

1. Adopted Resolution No. 2023.55 per staff recommendation. (5/0 vote)
2. Approved budget adjustment per staff recommendation. (5/0 vote)
3. Approved full-time positions per staff recommendation. (5/0 vote)

ATTACHMENTS:

[Resolution re CASPHI](#)

[Budget Adjustment re CASPHI](#)

[CASPHI Allocation Letter -San Benito](#)

[CASPHI Initiative Funding Certification Form](#)

[CASPHI Work Plan 4.25.23](#)

[Fully Executed Budget Adjustment - CASPHI](#)

[Fully Executed Resolution No. 2023-55 - CASPHI](#)