

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS  
ACTION AGENDA SUMMARY

DEPT: HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

BOARD AGENDA # \*B-5

Urgent        Routine X

AGENDA DATE August 28, 2001

CEO Concurs with Recommendation YES X NO         
(Information Attached)

4/5 Vote Required YES        NO X

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION TO APPLY FOR A HEPATITIS C PREVENTION PROJECT FROM THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES.

STAFF  
RECOMMEN-  
DATIONS:

1. AUTHORIZATION TO APPLY FOR A HEPATITIS C PREVENTION PROJECT FROM THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES.
2. AUTHORIZE THE MANAGING DIRECTOR OF THE HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY OR HER DESIGNEE TO SIGN AND EXECUTE THE APPLICATION.

FISCAL  
IMPACT:

This is a grant application for funds to cover a portion of a Public Health Nurse, Health Educator and Administrative Clerk to provide outreach, education, counseling and case management to those at-risk for Hepatitis C. There will be no financial impact to the County General Fund.

BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS:

No. 2001-635

On motion of Supervisor Blom, Seconded by Supervisor Simon  
and approved by the following vote,

Ayes: Supervisors: Mayfield, Blom, Simon, Caruso, and Chair Paul

Noes: Supervisors: None

Excused or Absent: Supervisors: None

Abstaining: Supervisor: None

1) X Approved as recommended

2)        Denied

3)        Approved as amended

MOTION:

ATTEST: CHRISTINE FERRARO TALLMAN, Clerk

By: Deputy

File No.

**SUBJECT:** AUTHORIZATION TO APPLY FOR A HEPATITIS C PREVENTION PROJECT FROM THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES.

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**DISCUSSION:** The California Department of Health Services, Disease Investigations and Surveillance Branch, is accepting applications for projects for the prevention and control of hepatitis C (HCV). The projects are to design and implement culturally relevant hepatitis C prevention and control projects that provide outreach, education, counseling, testing and/or referrals to HCV-infected or at-risk populations. Factors associated with increased risk for HCV include injecting drugs, even once or a few times many years ago; sharing needles; receiving long-term hemodialysis or clotting factor produced before 1987; and possible exposure to hepatitis C-positive blood.

HSA is proposing a project to provide primary and secondary prevention services to a target population including county jail inmates, veterans, and residents of inpatient and outpatient drug treatment programs. It is our experience that inmates in the county jail system are at high-risk for HCV infection or may already be infected and not know it. As well, many of our jail inmates are veterans. HSA hosts a Veterans Affairs Clinic site at our main campus in Modesto that provides a natural linkage opportunity. Our services under this project will build on our existing HIV/STD prevention program and will include outreach, education, counseling, testing, and case management by a Public Health Nurse to provide referrals to insurance programs and treatment options. Another component of this project will be to form a countywide HCV Coalition to help us provide outreach and education to at-risk populations including residents who may have injected drugs at one time in their lives but do not now consider themselves a drug user or know of their risk for HCV infection. HSA has an existing record of success building community coalitions to address public health issues.

**POLICY**

**ISSUES:** Approval to apply for this grant meets the Board of Supervisors priority of ensuring a safe, healthy community through prevention of and early identification of this public health risk and linkage to services for those infected with HCV.

**STAFFING**

**IMPACTS:** None.