

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

DEPT: Health Services Agency *MD*

BOARD AGENDA # \*B-4

Urgent  Routine

AGENDA DATE July 21, 2009

CEO Concurs with Recommendation YES  NO   
(Information Attached)

4/5 Vote Required YES  NO

SUBJECT:

Approval for a Two Day Closure of the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program Offices in Ceres, Turlock and Patterson and the Partial Two Day Closure of the Modesto WIC Office on September 29 and 30, 2009 in preparation of the Implementation of New WIC Food Packages on October 1, 2009

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Approve the Two Day Closure of the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program Offices in Ceres, Turlock and Patterson and the Partial Two Day Closure of the Modesto WIC Office on September 29 and 30, 2009 in preparation of the Implementation of New WIC Food Packages on October 1, 2009.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact relating to the closure of the WIC offices. The WIC program budget for the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 is \$3,777,890. This amount is included in the core Public Health budget which was approved in the amount of \$26,273,576 for Fiscal Year 2009-2010.

BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS:

No. 2009-496

On motion of Supervisor Monteith, Seconded by Supervisor Chiesa  
and approved by the following vote.

Ayes: Supervisors: O'Brien, Chiesa, Grover, Monteith, and Chairman DeMartini

Noes: Supervisors: None

Excused or Absent: Supervisors: None

Abstaining: Supervisor: None

1) X Approved as recommended

2) \_\_\_\_\_ Denied

3) \_\_\_\_\_ Approved as amended

4) \_\_\_\_\_ Other:

MOTION:

ATTEST:

*Elizabeth A. King*  
ELIZABETH A. KING, Assistant Clerk

File No.

Approval for a Two Day Closure of the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program Offices in Ceres, Turlock and Patterson and the Partial Two Day Closure of the Modesto WIC Office on September 29 and 30, 2009 in preparation of the Implementation of New WIC Food Packages on October 1, 2009

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## **DISCUSSION:**

The Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Supplemental Nutrition Program at the State level has been preparing for major changes in the food packages which are distributed to WIC participants in the form of printed vouchers (food instruments) on a monthly basis. This change in food package is to be implemented October 1, 2009 statewide, and was presented as part of a program update to the Board of Supervisors at the January 6, 2009 board meeting. In order to make the final computer preparations for this change, the statewide WIC Program computer system will be down starting Monday, September 28 at 7 p.m. to allow for routine end-of-month batch processes and not be available for local agencies on Tuesday, September 29 or Wednesday, September 30. WIC local agencies will not be able to print food instruments during those two days, or access the system for any WIC services, such as enrolling participants, recertification of participants, or making appointments for participants.

It is recommended by the State that local agencies close all WIC sites during these two days and utilize the time to perform administrative duties and conduct staff trainings in preparation for the new food package.

The Health Services Agency WIC Program staff has been preparing for this change during the last few months. The schedule for participant visits has been adjusted in preparation for this information system downtime and all clients will have appointments to receive their WIC services prior to these two days for the month of September. It is proposed that during these two days, the outlying WIC offices be closed while the main office located on Hackett Road in the Community Services Agency building remains open. Staff at the Hackett Road location would be answering phones at the call center and a receptionist would be available to answer questions for any walk-in participants. WIC services will be limited to breastfeeding support, referrals and other non information system related activities. Remaining staff will be in trainings during this time.

Signs announcing the closure of these two days have been provided by the State WIC office and would be posted at each local WIC location upon approval of this proposal by the Board of Supervisors.

## **POLICY ISSUES:**

Approval of this proposal supports the priorities of *A healthy community* and *Efficient delivery of public services* by supporting the preparation of a more appropriate and nutritious food package and efficiently using staff time while the State WIC information system is inaccessible.

## **STAFFING IMPACT:**

WIC Program staff will work normal hours during the recommended two day closure of the WIC Program offices.