



County of Los Angeles
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

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DAVID E. JANSSEN
Chief Administrative Officer

Board of Supervisors
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First District

YVONNE B. BURKE
Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Third District

DON KNABE
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

March 21, 2007

To: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich
From: 
David E. Janssen
Chief Administrative Officer

POTENTIAL GRANTS FOR THE CHILDREN'S HEALTH EDUCATION ELECTRONIC RECORD SYSTEM AND OTHER FUNDING RESOURCES TO ENHANCE THE MEDICAL HUBS FOR CHILDREN

On May 30, 2006 on motion of Supervisor Antonovich, your Board instructed the Chief Administrative Office (CAO), in collaboration with the LAC+USC Violence Intervention Program and the Children's Action Network, to report back on potential grants for the Children's Health Education Electronic Record System and other funding resources to enhance the medical hubs for children.

In a memo dated June 19, 2006, I indicated my office would provide a response to the May 30, 2006 motion that consolidates the three motions (see attached) related to an automated health and education record system (May 30, 2006 agenda item 90-G, May 16, 2006 agenda item 68-A, and June 13, 2006 agenda item 66-A). On June 19, 2006 and September 11, 2006 status memorandums were sent to your offices with an update on actions being taken by the below working group.

My staff has been meeting with representatives of the Chief Information Officer (CIO), Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), Department of Mental Health (DMH), Department of Health Services (DHS), Education Coordinating Council (ECC), County Counsel, and Children's Action Network (CAN) to discuss the history and progress on development of an automated health/mental health/education information system, funding issues, and potential legal issues.

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The working group agreed that an interagency health/mental health/education information system would be beneficial and would significantly reduce the time required to obtain accurate up-to-date health/mental health/education information, versus the current system of storing information in multiple electronic systems and on paper. Under the current method of storing information, update of systems data is slow, and medical information is often outdated.

The working group began looking at the feasibility of implementing such a system, including a review of funding and legal issues. During this review process, legal and funding issues were raised by County Counsel in a confidential memorandum to your Board on October 5, 2006.

We are continuing to work on the issues identified in County Counsel's discussion of the legal and funding issues presented with creating such a system to determine the options available to the County to store health/mental health/education information. We will return to your Board with further recommendations or a status memorandum no later than June 29, 2007.

If you have any questions or require further information, you may contact me, or your staff may contact Arena Turner of my staff at (213) 974-1128.

DEJ:SRH:DL
DJ:AT:bjs

Attachments

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Chief Information Officer
Director of Children and Family Services
Director of Health Services
Director of Mental Health
Education Coordinating Council



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

Chief Administrative Officer
Chief Information Officer
County Counsel
Director of Children and Family Services
Director of Health Services
Director of Mental Health

At its meeting held May 16, 2006, the Board took the following action:

68-A

Supervisor Burke made the following statement:

"The Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) has identified improved safety, permanency and a reduced reliance on detention as its primary service delivery goals for the children and families of Los Angeles County. The consistent and timely delivery of expert health and mental health care to children Countywide supports improvements in all three areas. Through a partnership between DCFS and the Departments of Health Services (DHS) and Mental Health (DMH), Medical Hubs have been established throughout the County to consistently provide a standard level of services to children placed in out-of-home care as a result of substantiated child abuse and/or neglect. These services include an initial medical examination and mental health screening and an expert forensic examination, whenever necessary. By July 1, 2006, it is projected that Medical Hubs will become fully operational Countywide.

(Continued on Page 2)

68-A (Continued)

“The long-term plan for Medical Hubs is to also provide expert forensic examinations to children suspected to be victims of child abuse and/or neglect who are not yet removed from their homes. In these cases, the results of an expert child abuse/neglect examination would factor into DCFS’ determination of whether a child’s safety warrants removal. In addition, Hub services will expand to children who have been injured while under DCFS’ care; children whose care requires a second opinion; and children whose ongoing health care needs warrant the expertise of Hub professionals until referred to community providers.

“An automated interagency data system to track each child as he/she moves through the Los Angeles County child welfare system is fundamental to the efficient exchange of vital information between DCFS, DHS, DMH and Medical Hubs while serving a child. The Hubs can immediately access the child’s insurance coverage, such as Medi-Cal, which will inform the Hubs of the appropriate billing source to cover the cost of Hub services and provide a history of services previously rendered to the child. The Department of Children and Family Services can immediately receive the results of Hub services, which will expedite the required Hub-identified follow-up as well as update each child’s Health and Education Passport. The data will also facilitate DCFS’ measurement of the impacts of Countywide Medical Hub services upon its three outcome goals.

“Although the benefits of an automated interagency data system to support the Countywide Medical Hubs are evident, clearly, the implementation requires consideration, research and discussion by and between DHS, DCFS, DMH, County Counsel and the Chief Information Office (CIO). Nevertheless, any enhancement that will support consistent and expert health and mental health care service delivery to abused and neglected children is absolutely essential.”

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Burke, seconded by Supervisor Knabe, unanimously carried (Supervisors Molina and Antonovich being absent), the Chief Information Officer was instructed, in conjunction with Director of Health Services, Chief Administrative Officer, Director of Children and Family Services, Director of Mental Health and County Counsel to report back in 30 days on the feasibility of a cost-effective automated data system and include in the analysis the status of the medical passport.

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Copies distributed:
Each Supervisor



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

Chief Administrative Officer

At its meeting held May 30, 2006, the Board took the following action:

90-G

Supervisor Antonovich made the following statement:

“On May 16, 2006, the Board of Supervisors approved a motion for various County departments to report on the feasibility of a cost-effective automated data system to track the Department of Children and Family Services-supervised children served by the Countywide Medical Hubs. This included an analysis and a report on the status of the medical passport.

“It has been brought to my attention that that the LAC+USC Violence Intervention Program in collaboration with the Children’s Action Network are working to develop a proposed grant on the Children’s Health Education Electronic Record system which will potentially enhance the Medical Hubs data tracking.”

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Antonovich, seconded by Supervisor Yaroslavsky, unanimously carried (Supervisor Molina being absent), the Chief Administrative Officer, in collaboration with the LAC+USC Violence Intervention Program and the Children’s Action Network, was instructed to report back to the Board within two weeks on potential grants for the Children’s Health Education Electronic Record System, and other funding resources to enhance the Medical Hubs for children.

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Copies distributed:

Each Supervisor
County Counsel
Director of Health Services



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer-
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

Director of Children and Family Services
Chief Probation Officer

At its meeting held June 13, 2006, the Board took the following action:

66-A

The following statement was entered into the record for Supervisors Antonovich and Yaroslavsky:

“On February 14th, the Board approved a report from the Los Angeles County Education Coordinating Council (ECC): *Expecting More: A Blueprint for Raising the Educational Achievement of Foster and Probation Youth*. One recommendation was for the ECC to develop a public/private partnership to create an electronically based information system that includes the individual education records of youth under the supervision of the Department of Children and Family Services and the Probation Department.”

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Antonovich, seconded by Supervisor Yaroslavsky, unanimously carried (Supervisor Knabe being absent), the Los Angeles County Education Coordinating Council was requested to report back to the Board on August 15, 2006 on the development of a public/private partnership to create an electronic based information system for individual education records of youth under the supervision of the Departments of Children and Family Services and Probation.

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Copies distributed:

Each Supervisor
Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel
Chief Information Officer

Letter sent to:

Contact, Los Angeles County
Education Coordinating Council