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Enriching Lives Through Effective And Caring Service



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Cynthia D. Banks
Director
Otto Solórzano
Chief Deputy

April 22, 2014

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

29 April 22, 2014

Sachi A. Hamai
SACHI A. HAMAI
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Supervisors:

AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT A FEDERAL FINANCIAL ALIGNMENT GRANT AWARD AND EXECUTE A CONTRACT AGREEMENT WITH THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF AGING (ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)

SUBJECT

This Board Letter requests authorization to: 1) accept a federal Financial Alignment (FA) grant award and any future FA funding; 2) execute an FA contract agreement and future contract amendments with the California Department of Aging (CDA) for Fiscal Years 2013-14 through 2015-16; and 3) execute a contract amendment with the Center for Health Care Rights, the current Community and Senior Services (CSS) Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP) contracted service provider; and 4) increase/decrease the maximum contract sum of the HICAP contract based on funding availability. The FA grant award will be used to assist with Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP) efforts to individuals eligible for both Medicare and Medi-Cal (dual-eligible beneficiaries) about their options and choices under California's three-year Cal MediConnect demonstration.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Delegate authority to the Director of CSS, or designee, of the CDA-designated Los Angeles County Area Agency on Aging (AAA), Planning and Service Area (PSA) 19, to accept the FA Federal Trust Fund allocation in the amount of \$247,676 from the CDA for services to be provided over three (3) fiscal years: 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16.
2. Delegate authority to the Director of CSS, or designee, to accept any future FA funding through contracts or contract amendments from the CDA through FY 2013-16 provided that the Director of CSS, or designee, notifies your Board and the Chief Executive Office (CEO) in writing within ten

workdays of acceptance.

3. Delegate authority to the Director of CSS, or designee, to execute contract agreement number FA-1316-19 and any contract amendments with the CDA as required for acceptance of the current and future FA funding.

4. Delegate authority to the Director of CSS, or designee, to negotiate and execute a contract amendment with the Center for Health Care Rights, the current HICAP contractor (HICAP contract number HI-1014-00), to increase the maximum contract sum by \$111,454 for FY 2013-14 in exchange for the provision of additional HICAP services/areas and incorporate necessary changes to the scope of work. The approval of County Counsel, as to form, will be obtained prior to execution of any contract amendments. The remaining \$111,454 for FYs 2014-15 and 2015-16 will be distributed to the contractor selected as a result of a solicitation currently in progress.

5. Authorize the Director of CSS, or designee, to execute contract amendments to increase or decrease the maximum contract sum of the HICAP contract in response to funding increases/decreases in relation to any FA funding based on contractor performance and total funds available, provided that: (a) approval of County Counsel, as to form, is obtained prior to any such amendments; and (b) the Director of CSS, or designee, confirms in writing to the Board of Supervisors and the Chief Executive Office within 30 days after such amendments have been executed. This action would ensure full expenditure of all FA funds and is consistent with the Board's policy requiring review of contractor performance.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The recommended actions will enable CSS to use FA funding to support current HICAP-contracted services by enhancing and expanding HICAP outreach, education, and counseling to individuals eligible for both Medicare and Medi-Cal (dual-eligible beneficiaries) about their options and choices under California's three-year Cal MediConnect demonstration. The Cal MediConnect demonstration is a joint effort between California's Medi-Cal program and the federal Medicare program. The goal is to promote coordinated delivery of medical, behavioral health, long-term institutional and home- and community-based services through a single organized system to older adults and people with disabilities who are dually eligible for both Medi-Cal and Medicare.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended actions support the Countywide Strategic Plan Goals: Goal 1: Operational Effectiveness; Goal 2: Fiscal Sustainability; and Goal 3: Integrated Services Delivery.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

FA funding will be allocated to CSS in two increments: \$123,838 for FY 2013-14 and \$123,838 for FY 2014-15. For each fiscal year's allocation, \$12,384 will be retained to cover administrative costs.

There is no impact on the County general funds as these funds are fully financed with FA federal trust funds.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The CDA recently channeled FA funding to Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) through Cal MediConnect authorized by Section 1115A of the Social Security Act (added by Section 3021 of the

Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA), P.L. 111-148). Cal MediConnect is a key element of California's Coordinated Care Initiative (CCI), which is authorized pursuant to SB 1008 (Chapter 33, Statutes of 2012), SB 1036 (Chapter 45, Statutes 2012) and California Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) §14182.17, to support local HICAP providers in providing outreach, education, and counseling to dual-eligible beneficiaries to help them understand their Cal MediConnect coverage options.

The FA contract agreement with the CDA is expected to be executed upon Board approval for the acceptance of funds. Program funding is contingent upon execution of the FA contract with the CDA.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

Services with the FA program funding will be provided by the HICAP contractor in the amount of \$111,454, for FY 2013-14. The remaining \$111,454 for FYs 2014-16 will be distributed to the contractor selected as a result of a solicitation currently in progress.

In addition to an increase in the provision of existing required HICAP services, the contract amendment for FY 2013-14 will allow changes to the scope of work to include the provision of the following FA services:

- **Enhanced Outreach Services.** Enhanced Outreach Services are outreach activities above and beyond routine activities planned in response to other funding (e.g., basic State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) Funds) tailored to the specific needs of dual eligible beneficiaries targeted for enrollment into a Cal MediConnect Health Plan.
- **Options Counseling Services.** Options Counseling Services include the provision of local counseling and informational resources that enable dual-eligible beneficiaries to make informed decisions about options they have for receiving their Medicare and Medi-Cal benefits.
- **Ensure that individuals in the Eligible Service Population have access to information and counseling to empower them to make informed decisions about their Medicare and Medi-Cal benefit options.** This information and counseling shall be unbiased, timely, accurate, and consumer-friendly. It shall include, but not be limited to, how and when the project will be implemented, appeal rights, and how to participate in the program.
- **Enhanced outreach activities and materials to partners, beneficiary caregivers, providers, and other aging network programs (e.g., Information and Assistance, Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRC), county Medi-Cal offices, and not-for-profit agencies) regarding Cal MediConnect and the availability of HICAP options counseling for the Eligible Service Population and refer beneficiaries to other resources as needed.**
- **Ensure that the Eligible Service Population is provided with enhanced outreach activities, materials, and options counseling regarding Cal MediConnect and alternatives.** Outreach materials and counseling activities should be health literate, culturally/linguistically appropriate, and specific to the needs of the Eligible Service Population regarding Cal MediConnect benefits and options.

On July 11, 2000, your Board approved guidelines for the acceptance of State and federal grants of \$100,000 or more. These guidelines require that County departments prepare a Grant Management Statement prior to commencing the activities related to the grant. Accordingly, a Grant Management Statement for this grant is attached.

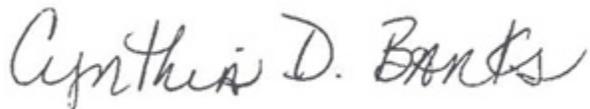
IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Approval of the recommended actions will enable CSS to continue to expand HICAP-related service delivery to include dual-eligible beneficiaries in Los Angeles County. In addition, these efforts will generate additional collaboration between the County, service providers, and other entities that serve the target population.

CONCLUSION

Upon Board approval, please provide one (1) copy of the adopted Board letter to Ms. Sonja Ivey-Rojas, CSS, 3175 West Sixth Street, Los Angeles, CA 90020. Ms. Ivey-Rojas may be reached by e-mail: siveyrojas@css.lacounty.gov or by telephone: (213) 351-8917.

Respectfully submitted,



CYNTHIA D. BANKS

Director

CDB:OS:PG:SIR

Enclosures

c: Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors

Los Angeles County Chief Executive Office

Grant Management Statement for Grants \$100,000 or More

Department: Community and Senior Services (CSS)

Grant Project Title and Description

Grant Title: Financial Alignment (FA) – Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) awarded California Department of Aging \$1 million FA grant to support local Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) in providing and expanding current Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP) outreach, education and counseling services to individuals who are eligible for both Medicare and Medi-Cal (dual eligible beneficiaries) about their options and choices under California’s three-year Cal MediConnect demonstration. CSS is one of the AAA(s) to participate in this project.

Funding Agency	Program (Fed. Grant #/State Bill or Code #)	Grant Acceptance Deadline
California Department of Aging	FA Contract # FA-1316-19	N/A

Total Amount of Grant Funding: \$247,676	County Match: \$ 0
Grant Period: 30 Months	Begin Date: 12/01/2013 End Date: 05/31/2016
Number of Personnel Hired Under This Grant: 0	Full Time: 0.1 Part Time: 0

Obligations Imposed on the County When the Grant Expires

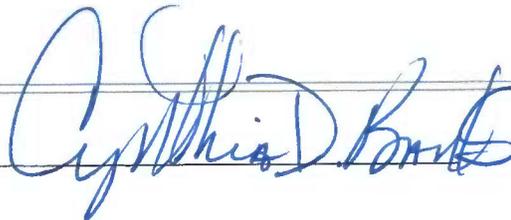
Will all personnel hired for this program be informed this is a grant-funded program?	___	N/A
Will all personnel hired for this program be placed on temporary ("N") items?	___	N/A
Is the County obligated to continue this program after the grant expires?		No
If the County is not obligated to continue this program after the grant expires, the Department will:		N/A
a.) Absorb the program cost without reducing other services		N/A
b.) Identify other revenue sources (describe below)		N/A
c.) Eliminate or reduce, as appropriate, positions/program costs funded by the grant.		N/A

Impact of additional personnel on existing space:

Does not apply to this grant.

Other requirements not mentioned above: There is no impact to the General Fund.

Department Head Signature



Date:

3-19-14