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February 1, 2010

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Jonathan E. Fielding, M.D., M.P.H. *J. Fielding ms*
Director and Health Officer

SUBJECT: **CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY SERVICES**

This is in response to the January 12, 2010 Board instruction to the Department of Public Health (DPH) to report back in two weeks with a plan to restore the full funding benefit for the Child Passenger Safety (CPS) program to address any gaps in services since 2007. To most adequately fill the gap in services and bring the districts up to funding parity, DPH proposes the following actions: increase the base amount of services for Supervisorial Districts (SDs) 2 and 3 per year and reallocate funds to The Children's Collective (TCC) and New Economics for Women (NEW) to allow them to reach the base amounts of workshops and car seats. The total program cost for services in all five districts will remain the same at \$1,523,000.00.

Background

On November 20, 2007, the Board approved contracts with three agencies to provide CPS services for the period of November 20, 2007 through November 19, 2012. The three agencies identified were Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD), New Economics for Women (NEW), and The Children's Collective (TCC). A fourth agency, Safety Belt Safe, USA, was identified to provide technical assistance to the direct service providers. Funding for all four contracts is 100% offset by revenue collected from fines assessed by the courts for the misuse or non-use of child passenger safety seats.

As described in previous communications to your Board, including a memo dated August 4, 2009 and the Board Letter from January 12, 2010, LAUSD terminated its CPS contract without having provided any services and without expending any contract funds. Since LAUSD was responsible for service provision in SDs 2 and 3, these two districts have been underserved.

Attachment 1 illustrates what services were intended for the two districts and what services were actually provided to the two districts.

After LAUSD terminated its contract, DPH worked with the two other contractors to get services into SDs 2 and 3 quickly by asking NEW and TCC, to provide the services they could within their current contracts without any additional funds. Both contractors indicated that they had enough resources to provide additional CPS educational workshops in SDs 2 and 3. TCC indicated that they had adequate resources under their current contract to expand car seat distribution, but only in SD 2 because of the proximity of service sites in SD 1 to SD 2. Under their current contracts, DPH did not have the authority to require TCC or NEW to expand further into SD 3.

Recommendations

On January 12, 2010, the Board approved the reallocation of the remainder of the funds from the canceled LAUSD contract to the other two CPS contractors for the provision of services to SDs 2 and 3. The Board also granted DPH the delegated authority to reallocate the unexpended funds from the first two years of the LAUSD contract (which remain available in the CPS budget) in the same fashion to bring SDs 2 and 3 to parity with the other three districts in CPS services provision. The recommendations below will correct the imbalance in CPS services provision caused by the termination of the LAUSD contract:

1. Set a base for CPS services of at least two educational workshops per month and 150 car seats distributed per year in each SDs 2 and 3. These levels are derived from the original goals for the program and the actual performance by NEW and TCC over the past two years in SDs 1, 4 and 5. At the end of the contract period in November 2012, each district should have received at least 750 car seats (see Table 1).
2. Reallocate funds intended for services in SD 2 to TCC, with the total amount prorated to reflect the fact that the SD 2 received some services over the past two years. To ensure that at least 750 car seats are distributed by the end of the contract period in SD 2 will require TCC to distribute at least 19 additional car seats over the base during through 2010 and 2011 (see Table 1). TCC will be reallocated an additional \$6,973.00 over the next two contract years (\$3,486.50 per year). By July 1, 2011, SD 2 should be on track to reach 750 total car seats distributed, similar to SDs 1, 4, and 5.
3. Reallocate the entire \$55,000 per year (\$110,000 over two years) intended for SD 3 to NEW for enhanced services provision in that district. To ensure SD 3 receives at least 750 car seats, NEW will be required to conduct at least 3 educational workshops per month and distribute at least 250 car seats in 2010; 250 car seats in 2011; and 250 car seats in 2012 (see Table 1).

Table 1. Car Seat Distribution Calendar Years (CYs) 2008 – 2012

Car Seat Distribution CYs 2008 – 2012							
SD	2008	2009	2008-2009 Subtotal	2010	2011	2012	Grand Total
1	142	192	334	150	150	150	784
2	122	159	281	159	160	150	750
3	0	0	0	250	250	250	750
4	168	148	316	150	150	150	766
5	188	119	307	150	150	150	757

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

Attachment 1. CPS Services Provision, 2007-2009

Contracts for Supervisorial Districts 1-5							Gap services provided by TCC & NEW November 2007 – December 2009	
Agency	Funding level	SD	Contracted November 2007 to December 2009		Actual November 2007 to December 2009		# workshops	# car seats
			# workshops	# car seats	# workshops	# car seats		
TCC	\$55,000 /year	1	48	300	27	334		
LAUSD	\$110,000 /year	2	48	300	0	0	22	281
		3	48	300	0	0	2	0
		4	48	300	57	316		
NEW	\$110,000 /year	5	48	300	73	304		
SBS	\$29,561 /year	Technical assistance to all contractors						