


COUNTY OF MONTEREY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT
ADMINISTRATION

MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 2, 2013

TO: Dave Potter, Chair, Board of Supervisors, District 5
Fernando Armenta, Vice-Chair, Board of Supervisors, District 1
Louis R. Calcagno, Board of Supervisors, District 2
Simon Salinas, Board of Supervisors, District 3
Jane Parker, Chair, Board of Supervisors, District 4
Lew Bauman, County Administrative Officer

FROM: Ray Bullick, Director of Health 

SUBJECT: Blue Shield of California Foundation Grant Acceptance Agreement

It is the intent of the Monterey County Health Department Clinic Services Bureau to submit an Agreement with the Blue Shield of California Foundation to accept Grant #7389322 for funding to provide safety net clinics with the resources to acquire the technology and interface capacity needed to fully participate in PHIL (Peninsula Health Information Link) - the Health Information Exchange (HIE) - that is being developed by Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula as a community benefit for providers in Monterey County.

If successful, this would integrate the patient health information found in the safety net's 6 separate electronic medical records and make it available to hospitals, physicians and clinics across the County. The result would be the setting and maintenance of community-wide standards for safety net clinic data collection, security, consent, clinical outcomes measurement, provider participation and ongoing quality review. Monterey County's safety net clinics serve approximately 160,000 patients. The benefit to patients include continuity of care, more timely processing of their health information, and the elimination of the need for redundant and costly services.

Background:

On September 26, 2012, a memo of intent to apply for a grant through the Blue Shield of California Foundation for funding for resources to acquire the technology and interface capacity needed to fully participate in PHIL (Peninsula Health Information Link) - the Health Information Exchange (HIE) was submitted to the Board of Supervisors and the County Administrative Officer.

The application was submitted and subsequent notification was received on December 12, 2012 that a grant in the amount of \$199,879 has been awarded by the Blue Shield of California Foundation. Blue Shield requires that a signature accepting the Agreement be returned to the Blue Shield Foundation by Wednesday, December 19, 2012 for funding.

Therefore, please be advised that the Agreement, with approval from County Counsel, Risk Management, the Auditor-Controller and Contracts/Purchasing is being submitted to the Blue Shield of California Foundation as requested by December 19, 2012. The Health Department will return to the Board of Supervisors in January to request ratification of the action taken to accept the grant and sign the Agreement.

Please call if you have any questions or require additional information.



Ray Bullick, Director of Health