

MONTEREY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

MEETING:	June 14, 2011	AGENDA NO.:	28
SUBJECT:	Authorize the Purchasing Manager for Natividad Medical Center (NMC) to execute Amendment #5 to the Agreement (# A-10748) with Jennifer L. D'Attilio, MS for Speech Therapy Services at NMC in an amount not to exceed \$764,000 in the aggregate and \$176,000 for the period July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012.		
DEPARTMENT:	Natividad Medical Center		

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors authorize the Purchasing Manager for Natividad Medical Center (NMC) to execute Amendment #5 to the Agreement (# A-10748) with Jennifer L. D'Attilio, MS for Speech Therapy Services at NMC in an amount not to exceed \$764,000 in the aggregate and \$176,000 for the period July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012.

SUMMARY/DISCUSSION:

Jennifer D'Attilio has been providing speech therapy services at NMC since July 1, 2006, as it is very difficult to recruit qualified Speech Therapists in the Salinas area. The Joint Commission and California Title 22 require hospitals to make Speech Therapy Services available. The services that Jennifer D'Attilio's contract provide include assessment and treatment for both adult and pediatric patients and treatment for inpatient Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) and outpatient children with suspected feeding, swallowing or cognitive deficits and/or language disabilities. The adult services include inpatient and outpatient evaluation of dysphasia, aphasia post stroke, traumatic brain injury and treatment for deficits resulting from surgery, Alzheimer's, Parkinson's disease and trauma. In this past fiscal year 2010 – 2011 Speech Therapy saw 2,334 patients.

The contracted Speech Therapists work as part of the Natividad team of physicians, nurses and therapy staff to provide services and education to our patients. Literatures shows that patients receiving speech and language services have faster recovery and increased functioning in overall communication, language and feeding skills.

NMC will evaluate in Fiscal Year 2012 the practicality of bringing Speech Therapy services in house. This could be a potential cost savings for the hospital as well as allow for a tighter linkage between speech therapy services and the other in-house therapies, such as physical therapy and occupational therapy. The proposed agreement with Jennifer D'Attilio will allow for early termination (there is a "30 day without cause" clause in the agreement) if the hospital decides to move in this direction.

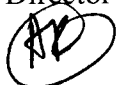
OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

The Amendment has been reviewed and approved by County Counsel, the Auditor/Controller's office and the Natividad Medical Center Board of Trustees.

FINANCING:

The cost for this Amendment is \$176,000 and is included in the 2011/2012 Fiscal Year Recommended Budget. This action will not require any additional General Fund subsidy.

Prepared by:
Chris Esposto, Director Physical Therapy 769-8698
April 5, 2011



Harry Weis
Chief Executive Officer

Attachments: Amendments #1, 2, 3, 4, 5, Original Agreement, Board Order
Attachments on file with the Clerk of the Board