



SUMMARY/DISCUSSION:

The Health Department's Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) Coordinator and trained Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners (SAFEs) respond collaboratively with Counselors, Law Enforcement, and the District Attorney's Office, to the reports of sexual assault and sexual abuse cases. The responsibility of the Health Department's SART Coordinator and SAFEs include conducting sexual assault forensic exams on survivors of sexual assault, sexual abuse, and perpetrators reported by law enforcement within Monterey County. Exams are conducted at Natividad exclusively. A sexual assault forensic examination consists of a medical examination, evidence collection, and access to necessary medication in the aftermath of a sexual assault or sexual abuse.

The urgency and criticality of conducting sexual assault forensic examinations immediately following a sexual assault or sexual abuse report and providing this service locally, is crucial to the reduction of trauma, as well as provides support for survivors receiving this important medical care and evidence collection for the prosecution of sexual violence.

Ventana Faculty Medical Associates of Monterey County, Inc. is a local contractor whose medical professionals are certified and licensed to provide sexual assault forensic examinations, including call coverage services for SART within Monterey County, providing service directly out of Natividad. Ventana Faculty Medical Associates is a local contractor that performs the necessary provisions to accommodate the urgent need of critical sexual assault services to survivors and keeps the integrity of each assessment, case, and evidence collection.

Ventana Faculty Medical Associates provides a Program Medical Director who manages and oversees the clinical practice of the adult and adolescent SART program. The Program Medical Director is responsible for reviewing policies and procedures, participating in chart audits, and advising the SART Coordinator and SAFEs regarding the appropriate medical care of patients being seen for a sexual assault exam. In addition, the Program Medical Director is available for consult by the SART Coordinator and SAFEs on an ongoing basis as needed.

This agreement will ensure the continuation of local, urgent, and critical sexual assault response in our community, with the supervision and oversight needed to continue to provide timely and effective medical care to survivors of sexual assault. The Health Department recommends execution of this Amendment No. 2 to ensure SART services continue to be made available locally without lapse in service.

This work supports the Monterey County Health Department 2018-2022 Strategic Plan Goals: 4. Engage MCHD workforce and improve operational functions to meet current and developing population health needs. It also supports one of the ten essential public health services, specifically: 3. Inform, educate, and empower people about health issues; 7. Link people to needed personal health services and assure the provision of health care when otherwise unavailable; 8. Assure competent public and personal health care workforce.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

The Office of the County Counsel and Auditor-Controller have reviewed and approved as to legal form and fiscal provisions, respectively.

FINANCING:

There are sufficient appropriations and revenues included in the Health Department's Fiscal Year 2023-24 Requested Budget (4000-HEA003-8124). Future amendments will be budgeted in subsequent Fiscal Years.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS STRATEGIC INITIATIVES:

Check the related Board of Supervisors Strategic Initiatives:

Economic Development:

- Through collaboration, strengthen economic development to ensure a diversified and healthy economy.

Administration:

- Promote an organization that practices efficient and effective resource management and is recognized for responsiveness, strong customer orientation, accountability and transparency.

Health & Human Services:

- Improve health and quality of life through County supported policies, programs, and services; promoting access to equitable opportunities for healthy choices and healthy environments in collaboration with communities.

Infrastructure:

- Plan and develop a sustainable, physical infrastructure that improves the quality of life for County residents and supports economic development results.

Public Safety:

- Create a safe environment for people to achieve their potential, leading businesses and communities to thrive and grow by reducing violent crimes as well as crimes in general.

Prepared by: Juanita Sanders, Management Analyst II, 755-5494

Approved by:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Joseph Macaluso, Assistant Director of Health, 809-4790

**On behalf of** Elsa Mendoza Jimenez, Director of Health, 755-4526

Attachments:

Board Report

Amendment No. 2

Board Order (Amd. No. 2)

Amendment No. 1

Board Order (Amd. No. 1)

Board Order

Agreement