

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL**

(1) DEPARTMENT Health Agency/Public Health Department	(2) MEETING DATE March 21, 2006	(3) CONTACT/PHONE Nancy Rosen (805) 781-5518	
(4) SUBJECT Renewal agreement with the California Department of Health for the Women, Infant and Children (WIC) Supplemental Nutrition Program			
(5) SUMMARY OF REQUEST The Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program is a federally funded program that provides healthy supplemental foods and nutrition counseling for pregnant women, new mothers, infants and children under the age of five (5). The program has been in operation in our community since 1976. The WIC Program provides nutrition education, breastfeeding promotion, medical care and social service referrals, and coupons to purchase specific supplemental nutritious foods which are high in protein and/or iron. The goals of the WIC program are to reduce the complications of pregnancy; reduce iron deficiency anemia in women, infants and children; decrease the prevalence of low birth weight infants; and promote the optimum growth and development of infants and young children. Numerous national studies have also shown that pregnant women who participate in WIC seek earlier prenatal care, consume a healthier diet, have longer pregnancies leading to fewer premature births, have fewer low birth-weight babies, and experience fewer fetal and infant deaths.			
(6) RECOMMENDED ACTION It is recommended that the Board approve: (1) the renewal agreement (Clerk's File) with the California Department of Health Services for the Women, Infants and Children Program (WIC) for the period of October 1, 2005 through September 30, 2008; (2) authorize the Public Health Administrator to sign subsequent amendments with the California Department of Health Services for the Women, Infants and Children Nutrition Program that do not increase the level of General Fund Support for the Department.			
(7) FUNDING SOURCE(S) Federal	(8) CURRENT YEAR COST \$895,000	(9) ANNUAL COST \$895,000	
(10) BUDGETED? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/> NO			
(11) OTHER AGENCY/ADVISORY GROUP INVOLVEMENT (LIST): County Counsel has approved the agreement as to form and legal effect.			
(12) WILL REQUEST REQUIRE ADDITIONAL STAFF? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, How Many? <input type="checkbox"/> Permanent _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Limited Term _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Contract _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Temporary Help _____			
(13) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S) 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, <u>(All)</u>	(14) LOCATION MAP <input type="checkbox"/> Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A		
(15) AGENDA PLACEMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing (Time Est. _____) <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation <input type="checkbox"/> Board Business (Time Est. _____)	(16) EXECUTED DOCUMENTS <input type="checkbox"/> Resolutions (Orig + 4 copies) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contracts (Orig + 4 copies) <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinances (Orig + 4 copies) <input type="checkbox"/> N/A		
(17) NEED EXTRA EXECUTED COPIES? <input type="checkbox"/> Number: _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Attached <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	(18) APPROPRIATION TRANSFER REQUIRED? <input type="checkbox"/> Submitted <input type="checkbox"/> 4/5th's Vote Required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A		
(19) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW <p align="center"><i>ok Dan Busheli</i></p> <p align="right" style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">B-5 (3/21/06)</p>			



County of San Luis Obispo • Public Health Department

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Gregory Thomas, M.D., M.P.H.
County Health Officer
Public Health Director

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Gregory Thomas, M.D., M.P.H., Public Health Administrator/Health Officer

DATE: March 21, 2006

SUBJECT: Renewal agreement with the California Department of Health for the Women, Infant and Children (WIC) Supplemental Nutrition Program

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board approve: (1) the renewal agreement (Clerk's File) with the California Department of Health Services for the Women, Infants and Children Program (WIC) for the period of October 1, 2005 through September 30, 2008; (2) authorize the Public Health Administrator to sign subsequent amendments with the California Department of Health Services for the Women, Infants and Children Nutrition Program that do not increase the level of General Fund Support for the Department.

Discussion

The Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program is a federally funded program that provides healthy supplemental foods and nutrition counseling for pregnant women, new mothers, infants and children under the age of five (5). The program has been in operation in our community since 1976. The WIC Program provides nutrition education, breastfeeding promotion, medical care and social service referrals, and coupons to purchase specific supplemental nutritious foods which are high in protein and/or iron. The specific nutritious foods provided to participants include peanut butter, beans, milk, cheese, eggs, iron-fortified cereal, iron-fortified infant formula and juices.

The goals of the WIC program are to reduce the complications of pregnancy; reduce iron deficiency anemia in women, infants and children; decrease the prevalence of low birth weight infants; and promote the optimum growth and development of infants and young children. Numerous national studies have also shown that pregnant women who participate in WIC seek earlier prenatal care, consume a healthier diet, have longer pregnancies leading to fewer premature births, have fewer low birth-weight babies, and experience fewer fetal and infant deaths.

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2

WIC is available to low income pregnant, breastfeeding, and postpartum women and children under age five who are at nutritional risk and who are at or below 185 percent of the federal poverty level. The WIC Program operates two permanent sites in Grover Beach and Paso Robles and six satellite offices located in Atascadero, Cambria, Morro Bay, Nipomo, San Luis Obispo, and San Miguel.

Other Agency Involvement/Impact

County Counsel has approved the agreement as to form and legal effect.

Financial Considerations

In FY 2004/05, the Public Health Department included expense and revenue in the amount of \$865,007. The actual amount expended and received was \$757,761.

Revenue and expense in the amount of \$894,663 was included in the adopted budget for FY 2005/06. The WIC Program allocates \$716,297 to personnel costs. These costs include, .8 FTE Public Health Nutritionist II, 3.25 FTE Public Health Nutritionist I, 6.0 FTE Public Health Aides and funds 2 Temp Help Public Health Nutritionist positions to assist with the implementation of obesity prevention strategies in WIC. Services and supplies for the WIC program are \$178,366. Federal grant regulations allow a maximum of 10% of salaries excluding benefits for allowable claimable overhead costs in the amount of \$20,820. This leaves a balance of County-wide overhead charges in the amount of \$21,601 that are not covered by the WIC Program due to the claiming regulations. Approval of this agreement will not affect the level of General Fund support required by the Public Health Department; this amount was budgeted for FY 05/06 and will be required for FY 06/07.

Results

In FY 2004/05, the WIC program served 97.3% (4,378) of its monthly-allocated caseload, which slightly exceeded State mandates that local agencies serve a minimum of 97% of its allocated monthly caseload.

In FY 2005/06, the WIC program projects to serve greater than or equal to 98% (4,365) of its monthly-allocated caseload in accordance with State mandates. Program staff anticipates that the caseload will meet or exceed last years total. Services provided to participants will include:

- coupons to purchase healthy foods
- nutrition and breastfeeding education
- childhood obesity prevention education
- referrals to health care and other social services.

Numerous national studies have also shown that pregnant women who participate in WIC seek earlier prenatal care, consume a healthier diet, have longer pregnancies leading to fewer premature births; have fewer low birth-weight babies, and experience fewer fetal and infant deaths. The WIC Program services are in direct alignment with the San Luis Obispo Public Health Department's mission to improve and maintain community health by identifying health

5
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issues, preventing disease and injury, influencing policy development, and promoting healthy behaviors through leadership, collaborative partnerships, education, direct services, surveillance, and case management and payment for eligible indigent medical care.

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4