



Tulare County Health & Human Services Agency

John Davis, Agency Director

AGENDA DATE: November 14, 2006

SUBJECT: Accessing Patient Assistance Programs for Patients of Tulare County's Health Care Centers.

REQUEST(S): That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve the amendment to agreement # 21893 with Envision Resources, Inc. to provide medication savings strategies to the County by facilitating access to Patient Assistance Programs through June 30, 2007.
2. Authorizes the Board Chair to sign three (3) copies of the amendment.

SUMMARY: Tulare County is mandated by the Welfare and Institutions Code to provide medical care to indigent persons living within the County, including the provision of prescription medications. The rising cost of prescription medication has been of great concern to HHSA, therefore, the Agency has researched potential approaches to decrease the cost of prescription medications to patients and the County alike. The most effective method identified to decrease prescription medication costs was to access Patient Assistance Programs. Patient Assistance Programs are voluntary efforts by pharmaceutical manufacturers to make some of their drugs (1321) available free of charge to indigent patients who do not have prescription drug coverage. Envision Resource, Inc. located in Fresno, Ca. is able to assist health care providers, including other County Health Departments in accessing Patient Assistance Programs by offering a comprehensive service that includes assistance in data collection, data entry, software for automating applications, as well as additional services tailored to meet our pharmacy needs. The current contract expired June 30, 2006. This amendment is to extend that contract through June 30, 2007.

Retroactive Agreement: This amendment is retroactive to July 1, 2006. The amended agreement was not ready to be presented to the Board until today, due to the time needed to process, prepare and have the signed amendment returned by the Contractor. Therefore, although the County had the authority and intended to enter into the agreement, the agreement paperwork had to be inadvertently delayed for a short period of time.

Board Strategic Plan Initiative Addressed: Quality of Life

FINANCING: There is no net county cost associated with this amendment. Envision will retain 18% of the rebates provided by this amendment and those costs are included in the FY 2006/2007 approved budget.

ALTERNATIVES: Do not contract with Envision Resources, Inc. Do not save money on medications for indigent County patients.

INVOLVEMENT OF OTHER DEPARTMENTS/AGENCIES: This amendment was approved as to form by County Counsel and no changes have been made.

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS: The signature of the Board Chair is required on three (3) originals of the amendment. (Please return two (2) original copies for distribution).

ADMINISTRATIVE SIGN-OFF:

Ray Bullick – Director Health

BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COUNTY OF TULARE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE MATTER OF

Accessing Patient Assistance Programs for Patients
of Tulare County's Health Care Centers.

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) RESOLUTION NO.

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UPON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR _____, SECONDED BY
SUPERVISOR _____, THE FOLLOWING WAS ADOPTED BY THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, AT AN OFFICIAL MEETING HELD _____,
BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

ATTEST: C. BRIAN HADDIX
COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
CLERK, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BY: _____
Deputy Clerk

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