



COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

For the meeting of: 11/7/2023

File #: 23-1420

To: Board of Supervisors

From: DHHS: Social Services

Agenda Section: Consent

Vote Requirement: Majority

SUBJECT:

Inter-Departmental Memorandum of Understanding By and Between Humboldt County Department of Health and Human Services and Humboldt County Sheriff's Office Regarding Implementation of the Justice Involved Pre-Release Medi-Cal Eligibility and Enrollment Project in Humboldt County

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve, and authorize the Department of Health and Human Services - Social Services Director and the Humboldt County Sheriff, or designees thereof, to execute, the attached inter-departmental memorandum of understanding regarding implementation of the Justice Involved Pre-Release Medi-Cal Eligibility and Enrollment Project in Humboldt County;
2. Authorize the Department of Health and Human Services - Social Services Director and the Humboldt County Sheriff, or designees thereof, to execute any and all subsequent amendments to the attached inter-departmental memorandum of understanding, after review and approval by County Counsel, Risk Management and the County Administrative Office; and
3. Direct the Clerk of the Board to provide the Department of Health and Human Services - Contract Unit and the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office with one fully executed, certified copy of the Board Order related to this item.

SOURCE OF FUNDING:

There is no funding for this MOU

DISCUSSION:

The Justice Involved Pre-Release Medi-Cal Eligibility and Enrollment Project is meant to make the current Medi-Cal system more equitable, coordinated and person-centered to help people maximize their health and life trajectory. The Justice Involved Pre-Release Medi-Cal Eligibility and Enrollment Project will help streamline the Medi-Cal system and is a collaborative effort among health plans, providers, hospitals, community-based organizations, tribes and county agencies to increase more positive outcomes among justice involved adults and youth.

The Humboldt County Department of Health and Human Services - Social Services (DHHS - Social Services) and the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office (HCSO) created a process to facilitate pre-release access well before the Justice Involved Pre-Release Medi-Cal Eligibility and Enrollment Project was put in place as part of our regular inter-agency work to ensure equitable access to benefits for Humboldt County residents. The attached inter-departmental memorandum of understanding formalizes the rights and responsibilities of both DHHS - Social Services and HCSO regarding the provision of assistance to individuals incarcerated in the Humboldt County Correctional Facility with enrolling in affordable health coverage, and accessing high quality health services, as part of the Justice involved Pre-Release Medi-Cal Eligibility and Enrollment Project.

Accordingly, DHHS - Social Services recommends that the Board approve, and authorize the DHHS - Social Services Director and the Humboldt County Sheriff, or designees thereof, to execute, the attached inter-departmental memorandum of understanding regarding implementation of the Justice Involved Pre-Release Medi-Cal Eligibility and Enrollment Project in Humboldt County. It is also recommended that the Board authorize the DHHS - Social Services Director and the Humboldt County Sheriff, or designees thereof, to execute any and all subsequent amendments to the attached inter-departmental memorandum of understanding, after review and approval by County Counsel, Risk Management and the County Administrative Office, in order to avoid any unnecessary delays in implementation of the Justice Involved Pre-Release Medi-Cal Eligibility and Enrollment Project in Humboldt County.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There are no direct costs associated with the attached inter-departmental memorandum of understanding by and between DHHS - Social Services and HCSO regarding implementation of the Justice Involved Pre-Release Medi-Cal Eligibility and Enrollment Project in Humboldt County. As a result, approval of the attached inter-departmental memorandum of understanding will not impact the Humboldt County General Fund.

STAFFING IMPACT:

Approval of the attached inter-departmental memorandum of understanding will not impact current staffing levels.

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK:

The recommended actions support the following areas of the Board of Supervisors' Strategic Framework.

Core Roles: Enforce laws and regulations to protect residents

New Initiatives: Build interjurisdictional and regional cooperation

Strategic Plan: 4.1 - Identify synergies between all county departments and cities to increase efficiency and effectiveness

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

California Department of Health Care Services

ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Board may choose not to approve the attached inter-departmental memorandum of understanding by and between DHHS - Social Services and HCSO regarding implementation of the Justice Involved Pre-Release Medi-Cal Eligibility and Enrollment Project in Humboldt County. However, this alternative is not recommended as it would put the County of Humboldt out of compliance with applicable local, state and federal requirements.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Inter-Departmental Memorandum of Understanding By and Between Humboldt County Department of Health and Human Services and Humboldt County Sheriff's Office Regarding Implementation of the Justice Involved Pre-Release Medi-Cal Eligibility and Enrollment Project in Humboldt County

PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:

Board Order No.: N/A

Meeting of: N/A

File No.: N/A