



COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

AGENDA ITEM NO.

C12

July 24, 2018

For the meeting of:

Date: June 15, 2018
To: Board of Supervisors
From: Connie Beck, Director MSR for Connie Beck
Department of Health and Human Services - Public Health
Subject: Grant Award from the Rx Safe Humboldt Coalition

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the Board of Supervisors approve and accept a grant award in the amount of \$103,150 from the Rx Safe Humboldt Coalition for the period of July 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019.

SOURCE OF FUNDING:

Public Health Fund

DISCUSSION:

Aegis Treatment Centers and the Rx Safe Humboldt Coalition are excited to help Public Health with their efforts in prevention. The Rx Safe Humboldt Coalition received funding support from Aegis Treatment Centers and has made funding of a total of \$103,150 possible for Humboldt County Department of Health and Human Services.

This amount includes \$80,000 for the support of a Prevention Specialist to work with high-risk populations in Humboldt County and link them to needed treatment, care and services and \$23,150 for support of youth opioid/Rx misuse prevention activities.

Prepared by Debbie Rodrigues, AA

CAO Approval

[Handwritten signature]

REVIEW:

Auditor County Counsel Human Resources Other

TYPE OF ITEM:

- Consent (checked)
Departmental
Public Hearing
Other

PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:

Board Order No.

Meeting of:

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

Upon motion of Supervisor Wilson Seconded by Supervisor Bass

- Ayes: Bass, Fennell, Sunelberg, Bohm, Wilson
Nays
Abstain
Absent

and carried by those members present, the Board hereby approves the recommended action contained in this Board report.

Dated: 7/24/18

By: [Signature]
Kathy Hayes, Clerk of the Board

The Prevention Specialist duties will include: provide referrals to substance use disorder treatment to include medication assisted treatment, conduct opioid safety education and overdose prevention education, including training on the use of Naloxone and distribution of free Naloxone, provide access to free sterile syringes and other injection equipment, provide safe disposal of used syringes and syringe exchange, provide other health and supportive services, comprehensive risk reduction counseling, HIV and viral hepatitis screening and referral to confirmatory testing and treatment, provide referrals to medical and mental health care, assist clients with linkages to necessary services and medical providers, and work with clients to complete applications for Medi-Cal and other social programs.

Some of the specific youth opioid/Rx misuse prevention activities that the project will support include: work to develop an online activity guide for youth, provide technical support around integrating drug education, life skills, and fun activities into existing youth programs, deliver National Institute on Drug Abuse curriculum in schools, provide youth with the opportunity to get involved with prevention efforts and provide feedback and input on prevention activities that are already being implemented, and teach healthy cooking classes in local substance abuse rehabilitation and recovery settings, such as Humboldt Recovery Center and the Serenity Inn.

Humboldt County has the fastest growing rate of newly diagnosed cases of Hepatitis C (HCV) in all of California. One in 18 people (approximately 5.6%) in Humboldt County is living with HCV. The US prevalence is 1% and California's HCV prevalence is similar to the US. Injection drug use is the primary way that HCV is spread. The percentage of HCV cases in people under 30 years of age is increasing (2017: 14.0%; 2016: 13.0%). There are places in the County where the prevalence of HCV is nearly 20%.

Receipt of this grant will help reduce the spread of HCV by identifying people who test positive and connecting them to treatment, in addition to providing outreach about how HCV spreads. It is anticipated that through overdose prevention and education that the number of overdose deaths in Humboldt County will be reduced.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Acceptance of the grant award from Rx Safe Humboldt will allow Humboldt County to be reimbursed a maximum of \$103,150 for the period of July 1, 2018 to March 31, 2019. The grant funds were included in the FY 2018-19 county budget process in the amount of \$23,150 in Fund 1175, Budget Unit 414 and \$80,000 in Fund 1175, Budget Unit 437. There will be no impact to the General Fund.

This grant supports the Board's Strategic Framework by protecting vulnerable populations, providing community-appropriate levels of service and creating opportunities for improved safety and health.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT: None

ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

If the Board chooses not to approve the recommendations, it will result in a loss of both funding and services to the County.

ATTACHMENTS:

Rx Safe Humboldt Coalition Grant Award Letter

May 30, 2018

Department of Health and Human Services
908 Seventh St.
Eureka, CA 95501

Dear Dana Murguia,

We are delighted to inform you that the Rx Safe Humboldt Coalition has received funding support from Aegis Treatment Centers. This includes the funding of \$80,000 for the support of a Prevention Specialist position for the Department of Health and Human Services. These funds will allow this position to work with high-risk populations in Humboldt County and link them to needed treatment, care and service. This position is essential in the outreach activities in Humboldt County, especially in the outlying areas of the county.

We have also received funding of \$23,150 for support of Youth Opioid/Rx Misuse Prevention Activities for the Department of Health and Human Services. These funds will support DHHS, Public Health, Healthy Communities and Rx Safe Humboldt to work collaboratively with agencies that serve at-risk communities including youth, homeless, native American, Latino, Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender and Questioning (LGBTQ), and injection drug users to address substance use, chronic disease, suicide and overdose prevention goals.

Should you like to publicize this grant, please state the grant was made possible by Rx Safe Humboldt. This partnership includes local foundations and organizations who are collectively applying resources to support our community in these challenging times.

We are excited that these funds will support the efforts to broaden the coalition and expand the efforts to make the community safer and improve treatment

Sincerely,



Rosemary Den Ouden
Co-Chair Rx Safe Humboldt



Mary Meengs, MD
Co-Chair Rx Safe Humboldt

RX Safe Humboldt

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