



COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

AGENDA ITEM NO.
I-4

For the meeting of: January 24, 2017

Date: January 5, 2017
To: Board of Supervisors
From: Connie Beck, Director *Sundberg*
Department of Health and Human Services
Subject: Department of Health and Human Services Public Health Accreditation and Live Well Humboldt Community Strategies Team Report

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Receive a report on the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Public Health's status as a nationally accredited health jurisdiction and the associated impact on community health; and
2. Receive a report on the status of the Live Well Humboldt Community Strategies Team work on the Community Health Assessment (CHA) and the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP).

SOURCE OF FUNDING:

N/A

Prepared by Lara Zintsmaster, AA I

CAO Approval *E. Sundberg*

REVIEW:
Auditor _____ County Counsel _____ Human Resources _____ Other _____

TYPE OF ITEM:
 Consent
 Departmental
 Public Hearing
 Other _____

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT
Upon motion of Supervisor *Sundberg* Seconded by Supervisor *Fennell*
Ayes: *Sundberg, Fennell, Bass, Bohn, Wilson*
Nays _____
Abstain _____
Absent _____

PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:

Board Order No. _____

Meeting of: _____

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

Dated: *Jan. 24, 2017*
By: *Kathy Hayes*
Kathy Hayes, Clerk of the Board

DISCUSSION:

DHHS Public Health was recently awarded national accreditation by the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) after a several-year long process. One of 163 accredited health departments nationwide, Humboldt is the first California county of its size to achieve this status. As part of the process to become accredited, DHHS Public Health staff members established several internal committees including a workforce development team and a quality improvement team, developed and implemented a strategic plan, created and updated policies and procedures, and built a universal performance management system – all requirements of becoming an accredited entity. DHHS Public Health submitted dozens of examples of work done by the department to PHAB for evaluation.

Additionally, DHHS Public Health provides backbone support to the community health initiative called Live Well Humboldt! As part of this initiative, DHHS Public Health produced a Community Health Assessment (CHA) in 2013. Based on data in the CHA, DHHS Public Health worked together with partners to identify priority issues and develop the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) to improve the overall health and well-being of residents of Humboldt County. The CHA and CHIP will be updated every 3 years, as they are important requirements that help align collaborative processes and track progress on health outcomes for our community.

Live Well Humboldt! is now guided by a Community Strategies Team established June 2016. This team is made up of representatives from DHHS, First Five Humboldt, Humboldt Area Foundation, Humboldt State University, Open Door Health Community Centers, Redwood Community Action Agency, United Indian Health Services and Changing Tides.

Accreditation holds public health agencies to high standards and requirements. This typically results in public health agencies doing an improved, more consistent job at serving the community, which can lead to better health outcomes. DHHS Public Health’s national accreditation status is expected to give the department a competitive edge when applying for grant funding. PHAB highlighted several strengths of DHHS Public Health, noting its innovative and forward thinking, strong ties to community partners, and dedication and commitment of staff to their work in public health.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

N/A

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

None.

ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Board could choose not to hear the report.

ATTACHMENTS:

None.