

**REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY
AND RECORD OF ACTION**

October 22, 2024

FROM

JOSHUA DUGAS, Director, Department of Public Health

SUBJECT

Award from the California Department of Public Health for the Refugee Health Assessment Program

RECOMMENDATION(S)

Accept and approve Award and **Agreement No. 24-1000** (State Award No. 24-36-90899-00) from the California Department of Public Health, for the Refugee Health Assessment Program, to provide health assessments for newly arrived refugees and other eligible entrants in San Bernardino and Riverside Counties, for reimbursement of \$106 per comprehensive health assessment and \$53,486 in administrative costs, retroactively for the period of October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2025.

(Presenter: Joshua Dugas, Director, 387-9146)

COUNTY AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Provide for the Safety, Health and Social Service Needs of County Residents.

Pursue County Goals and Objectives by Working with Other Agencies and Stakeholders.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Approval of this item will not result in the use of Discretionary General Funding (Net County Cost). The Department of Public Health (DPH) estimates reimbursement under the Refugee Health Assessment Program (RHAP) through the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) to be approximately \$79,986, for 250 health assessments at a cost of \$106 per assessment, and \$53,486 in administrative costs. There is no match required for this award. Adequate appropriation and revenue have been included in DPH's 2024-25 budget and will be included in the 2025-26 recommended budget.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Under the direction of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), all refugees, asylees, federally certified victims of human trafficking, Special Immigrant Visa holders, eligible humanitarian parolees from Afghanistan, Cuba, Haiti, and Ukraine, and other eligible entrants (refugees) undergo a comprehensive medical screening prior to admission to the United States. The screening is designed to identify applicants with inadmissible health-related conditions or communicable disease, as designated by the CDC or Presidential Executive Order.

Many refugees have experienced conditions of war, social, gender, and religious persecution, nutritional deprivation, and the loss of home, family, and status. Such stressors can cause feelings of isolation, anxiety, and depression, negatively impacting physical and mental health, and making it more difficult to achieve self-sufficiency. Refugees also often arrive in California

**Award from the California Department of Public Health for the Refugee
Health Assessment Program
October 22, 2024**

having had little or no access to health care services. Therefore, it is important to provide comprehensive health assessments and resources to help refugees become self-sufficient and to protect public health.

DPH has provided health assessments to newly arrived refugees in San Bernardino and Riverside Counties since 2014. A total of 242 assessments were reported during the period of October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024. The Agreement will allow DPH to continue protecting the health of San Bernardino and Riverside Counties' residents by screening newly arrived refugees for inadmissible health-related conditions. Through the Agreement, CDPH agrees to reimburse DPH on a fee-for-service basis for completed health assessments, as well as administrative costs to support DPH's operating expenses, medical staff costs, interpretation services, data entry, and reporting costs. DPH anticipates completing approximately 250 health assessments during the period of October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2025.

On August 30, 2024, DPH received the RHAP award notice and Agreement (Award No. 24-36-90899-00), from the CDPH for reimbursement at \$106 per completed comprehensive health assessment, and \$53,486 in administrative costs, for the period of October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025. This item is being presented at this time, as this is the first available date following the required operational, fiscal, and legal reviews. Approval will not impact DPH's services or activities.

PROCUREMENT

Not applicable.

REVIEW BY OTHERS

This item has been reviewed by County Counsel (Adam Ebright, Deputy County Counsel, 387-5455) on October 3, 2024; Finance (Iliana Rodriguez, Administrative Analyst, 387-4205) on October 4, 2024; and County Finance and Administration (Robert Saldana, Deputy Executive Officer, 387-5423) on October 4, 2024.

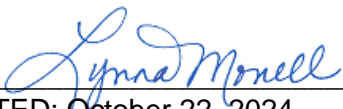
**Award from the California Department of Public Health for the Refugee
Health Assessment Program
October 22, 2024**

Record of Action of the Board of Supervisors
San Bernardino County

APPROVED (CONSENT CALENDAR)

Moved: Joe Baca, Jr. Seconded: Jesse Armendarez
Ayes: Col. Paul Cook (Ret.), Jesse Armendarez, Curt Hagman, Joe Baca, Jr.
Absent: Dawn Rowe

Lynna Monell, CLERK OF THE BOARD

BY 
DATED: October 22, 2024



cc: Public Health - Correra w/agree
Contractor - c/o Public Health w/agree
File - w/agree
MBA 10/23/2024