

# COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO CALIFORNIA

For the Agenda of:  
June 9, 2009

To: Board of Supervisors

From: Department of Health and Human Services

Subject: Report Back On The Status Of Negotiations Between The State And The Dental Program Regarding Changes In Grant Requirement

Contact: Ann Edwards-Buckley, Acting Director, 875-2002

## **Background**

During the May 14, 2009 Budget Workshop, the Department of Health and Human Services was requested to report back on the status of negotiations between the State and the Dental Program regarding changes in the grant requirements that the program may not be able to meet due to reduced County funding in the program.

## **Discussion**

The requirements of the State Dental grant have not changed and a revision of the State grant requirements is being discussed, but would require legislation and is not likely to happen in the near future. Consequently, the County's Dental Program was being restructured to provide only the minimum level of services required by the State grant and a plan to operate at these lower service levels was possible as long as all other funding and revenue sources stay intact. However, Tobacco Litigation Settlement (TLS) funding of \$99,000 has been diverted from the Dental Program.

Given this new circumstance, the Dental Program is no longer viable. The TLS funding provided the required matching funds for the program to operate. Revenue of \$367,087 will be lost with the following grants returned:

- ♦ \$251,316 - State of California, Office of Oral Health,
- ♦ \$40,000 - Sierra Health Foundation,
- ♦ \$24,404 - City of Sacramento
- ♦ \$30,070 - Liberty Dental Plan.
- ♦ \$15,000 - Medi-Cal Administrative Activities (MAA)
- ♦ \$ 6,297 - Other funding

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This change eliminates services to 30,000 high risk children. Of the 30,000 low-income, high-risk children:

- ◆ 7,300 children will no longer receive dental sealants and fluoride treatments.
- ◆ 18,563 children will not receive dental screenings and referrals of which, 1,670 of those screened need urgent dental care and 4,640 needed restorative care.
- ◆ Parents/guardians will not receive information or assistance in obtaining Medi-Cal services.
- ◆ 886 uninsured children will not be referred to free dental care provided by other entities and agencies.
- ◆ 12,954 children will not receive dental screening at the Sacramento District Dental Society's Smile for Kids Day.

This will also eliminate the mobile dental van known as the SmileKeepers Van, which was purchased in 2002 for over \$200,000 with TLS funds. First 5 has approved providing \$15,000 to retrofit the dental van to comply with new State laws to come into effect in 2010 concerning diesel engine particulates, which will no longer be needed.

In the next ten years dental treatment for Sacramento's needy children who will develop cavities due to the loss of these preventive services will cost between \$5,328,792 and \$33,304,950.

Respectfully submitted,

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ANN EDWARDS-BUCKLEY, Acting Director  
Department of Health and Human Services

APPROVED:  
TERRY SCHUTTEN  
County Executive

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
JAMES HUNT, Acting Administrator  
Countywide Services Agency