



# COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

## AGENDA ITEM

### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

GREG COX  
First District

DIANNE JACOB  
Second District

DAVE ROBERTS  
Third District

RON ROBERTS  
Fourth District

BILL HORN  
Fifth District

**DATE:** October 22, 2013

**XX**

**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**SUBJECT:** HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY – PUBLIC HEALTH ACCREDITATION (DISTRICTS: ALL)

### Overview

Today's action will authorize the Health and Human Services Agency (HHS) to pursue national public health accreditation through the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB). If granted accreditation, the status will last five years. Undertaking this process allows HHS to attain recognition, validity, and accountability for performance excellence in delivering public health programs and services. It also follows the *Live Well San Diego* (LWSD) strategy of Building a Better Service Delivery System and supports the County's required discipline of operational excellence.

### Recommendation(s)

#### CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

1. Approve and authorize application to the Public Health Accreditation Board for national public health department accreditation.

### Fiscal Impact

Funds for this request are included in the HHS Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Budget part of the CAO Operational Plan Fiscal Years 2013-2014 and 2014-2015. If approved, this request will result in costs and revenue of \$63,600 for Fiscal Years 2013-2018. The funding source is the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention National Public Health Improvement Initiative (NPHII) grant. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

### Business Impact Statement

N/A

### Advisory Board Statement

The Health Services Advisory Board will review this proposal at its meeting on September 19, 2013.

### Background

Today's item requests Board approval of the Health and Human Service Agency (HHS)

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pursuing national public health department accreditation through the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB). This process, if successful, will grant HHSa national public health accreditation status lasting five years.

Public health department accreditation is defined as the development of standards, a process to measure health department performance against those standards, and recognition for the health departments who meet the standards. Accreditation documents the capacity of the public health department to deliver the three core functions of public health (assessment, policy development, and assurance) and the Ten Essential Public Health Services. Thus, accreditation gives reasonable assurance of the range of public health services a department should provide. Accreditation declares that the health department has an appropriate mission and purpose, which the department implements through its programs and services.

Accreditation is determined through a process overseen by PHAB, a nonprofit organization, whose focus is advancing continuous quality improvement of public health departments. In conjunction with national partners and with support from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, PHAB created national standards and launched national public health accreditation in September 2011. HHSa participated as one of thirty national beta test sites when the standards were tested and now plans to attain official accreditation status.

In preparation for accreditation, HHSa engaged with community partners using The National Association of County and City Health Officials' (NACCHO) Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnership (MAPP) model. Each HHSa region, working with these partners, assessed their communities' health status and strengths and challenges in addressing priority health issues unique to each of their regions. This input was used to create the *HHSa Community Health Assessment* (Appendix A). Subsequently, each region used the information from the community health assessments to create the *HHSa Community Health Improvement Plan* (Appendix B). This contains specific strategies and goals to address the challenges identified during the community health assessment using the community's strengths. Together, the *HHSa Community Health Assessment* and the *HHSa Community Health Improvement Plan* will guide the County towards LWSD's vision of a healthy, safe, and thriving community. Both documents will be available to the public on the LWSD website ([http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/hhsa/programs/sd/live\\_well\\_san\\_diego/index.html](http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/hhsa/programs/sd/live_well_san_diego/index.html)). As the third requirement to apply for accreditation, the *Public Health Services 2013-2018 Strategic Plan* (Appendix C) will be submitted. This plan includes the vision, mission, and values for the Division, as well as individual goals and objectives and implementation plan for each branch of Public Health Services. It is in alignment with the *County of San Diego 2013-2018 Strategic Plan* and the *Live Well San Diego* Strategic Initiative.

Applying for accreditation directly supports the LWSD vision of creating healthy, safe and thriving communities and supports the County's required discipline of Operational Excellence, as well as continuous quality improvement. The process allows HHSa to improve and synchronize programs and services to support all residents to live well. Other benefits to public health accreditation include:

1. Identification of strengths and opportunities for improvement; this process will lead to

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areas for quality improvement of HHSA’s performance. It will result in improved efficiency and effectiveness of care and improved access to care mentioned as part of Building a Better Service Delivery system.

2. Enhanced validity and accountability of HHSA’s public health programs and services.
3. Improved communication and collaboration across the divisions of HHSA, as well as across County groups and departments.

Thus, approving HHSA’s application for accreditation aligns with the County’s strategic plan and LWSD goals.

**Linkage to the County of San Diego Strategic Plan**

Today’s proposed actions support the following required disciplines in the County of San Diego’s 2013-2018 Strategic Plan:

- Accountability, Transparency and Ethical Conduct
- Regional Leadership
- Continuous Improvement and Innovation

Respectfully submitted,

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FUNCTION TO INSERT  
SIGNATURE

HELEN N. ROBBINS-MEYER  
Chief Administrative Officer

**ATTACHMENT(S)**

- Appendix A – Health and Human Services Agency Community Health Assessment Report
- Appendix B – Health and Human Services Agency Community Health Improvement Plans
- Appendix C – Public Health Services Strategic Plan 2013-2018

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**AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION SHEET**

**REQUIRES FOUR VOTES:**       Yes    No

**WRITTEN DISCLOSURE PER COUNTY CHARTER SECTION 1000.1 REQUIRED**  
 Yes    No

**PREVIOUS RELEVANT BOARD ACTIONS:**  
N/A

**BOARD POLICIES APPLICABLE:**  
A-136 GMS

**BOARD POLICY STATEMENTS:**  
A-136 GMS. The Health and Human Services Agency will be acting in a manner consistent with the General Management System by applying for accreditation. The process includes Strategic Planning, Operational Planning, Monitoring & Control, and Functional Threading – all aspects of the General Management System.

**MANDATORY COMPLIANCE:**  
N/A

**ORACLE AWARD NUMBER(S) AND CONTRACT AND/OR REQUISITION NUMBER(S):**  
N/A

**ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT:** Health and Human Service Agency

**OTHER CONCURRENCES(S):** N/A

**CONTACT PERSON(S):**

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