



A Tradition of Stewardship  
A Commitment to Service

Agenda Date: 3/1/2011  
Agenda Placement: 7E

## NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Shelli Brobst for Randolph F. Snowden - Director  
Health & Human Services  
**REPORT BY:** Shelli Brobst, Contracts Analyst - 253-4720  
**SUBJECT:** Agreement with University of Southern California (Interns)

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### **RECOMMENDATION**

Director of Health and Human Services requests approval of and authorization for the Chairman to sign an agreement with University of Southern California for the term March 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012, with a provision for annual renewal, for the placement of students as interns for field work to be performed at the Health and Human Services Agency, at no cost to the County.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Approval of the recommended agreement will allow students from the University of Southern California to be placed as interns within the Napa County Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) for completion of their required field work as interns. Each intern's field work will consist of exposure to, and eventually the provision of, services while under the supervision of HHSA staff.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Is there a Fiscal Impact?                      No

### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

**BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION**

Napa County HHSA will offer educational internship opportunities to undergraduate and graduate level students from the University of Southern California in the County's California Children's Services Medical Therapy Program.

The California Children's Services Medical Therapy Program provides medically necessary Occupational and Physical Therapy to children from birth to 21 who qualify diagnostically for the program. To provide standards-based pediatric therapy, specific training, as well as an interest in pediatrics, is required. There is a statewide shortage of Physical Therapists and Occupational Therapists in general, and few Physical Therapists and Occupational Therapists are choosing pediatrics as their specialty area. To provide for the succession of HHSA's current workforce, HHSA strives to provide one twelve-week Level II pediatric internship annually for both Occupational and Physical Therapy graduates so that they have an exposure to and training in pediatric therapies.

The Physical/Occupational Therapy intern will, under the direct supervision of the Medical Therapy Unit senior and staff Physical or Occupational Therapists, learn to assess children with neurological, orthopaedic and neuromuscular diagnoses; design evidence-based therapy treatment plans; carry out the treatment plan, including adapting activities to accomplish goals; reassess the impact of therapy on the child's progress; complete required documentation; and participate in assessments, obtaining prescriptions, ordering and fitting orthotics and durable medical equipment. The student will also design and teach home and school therapeutic exercise and activity programs, deliver summaries of the child's progress to the prescribing physician, and consult with other members of the child's team including therapists, parents and teachers. The student will also complete a report and presentation on a pediatric therapy-related subject of interest to the student.

There is no cost to the County for the placement of interns. The University of Southern California provides insurance coverage for interns and their work for the County. Staff views the provision of the internships as prospective recruitment and employment opportunities for interns who successfully complete field placement and university studies.

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

None

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Karen Collins