



Agenda Date: 12/18/2007
Agenda Placement: 6I

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

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 the University of Southern California (Interns)

RECOMMENDATION

Director of Health and Human Services requests approval of and authorization for the Chair to sign an agreement with the University of Southern California, through its Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy, for the term January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008, with a provision for automatic annual renewal, reciting terms and conditions for the placement of interns for field work to be performed at the Health and Human Services Agency.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Approval of the requested agreement will allow HHSA to accept interns from the University of Southern California's Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy for completion of their required field work. The field work will consist of observation and provision of occupational and physical therapy services in HHSA's Public Health Division.

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

Approval of this agreement will allow the Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) to offer educational internship opportunities to graduate level students from the University of Southern California's Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy program. The interns will be placed in the California Children's Services Medical Therapy Program, which provides medically necessary occupational and physical therapy to children from birth to 21 who qualify diagnostically for the program.

In order 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 in general, and few physical therapists are choosing pediatrics as their specialty area. To provide for the succession of our current workforce, HHSA strives to provide one twelve-week Level II pediatric internship annually so that physical therapy graduates have an exposure to and training in pediatric physical therapy. The physical therapy interns will, under the direct supervision of the Medical Therapy Unit senior and staff physical therapists, learn to assess children with neurological, orthopedic and neuromuscular diagnoses, design evidence-based therapy treatment plans, carry out the treatment plan, include adapting activities to accomplish goals, reassess the impact of therapy on the child's progress, complete required documentation and participate in the assessment, obtain prescriptions, and order and fit orthotics and durable medical equipment. The students also will 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 Occupational Therapists, parents, and teachers. Students also will complete a report and presentation on a pediatric therapy-related subject of interest to them. No stipends are paid for this internship; any expenses incurred during the course of the internships are the responsibility of each intern that is placed at HHSA.

For purposes of HIPAA, the University of Southern California Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy is not a Business Associate. Placed interns will be considered members of the County's workforce and therefore a Business Associate Agreement is not required for each intern.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Lorenzo Zialcita