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NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Alice Hughey for Snowden, Randolph F. - Director
Health & Human Services
REPORT BY: Shelli Brobst, Contracts Analyst, 253-4720
SUBJECT: Presentation on Community Health Needs Assessment

RECOMMENDATION

Presentation on the Napa County Community Health Needs Assessment by the Napa County Collaborative of Health Organizations and Funders.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In Fiscal Year 2006-2007, a collaborative of the three hospital systems serving Napa County (St. Helena Hospital, Kaiser Permanente, and Queen of the Valley Medical Center), Napa County Public Health, Napa Valley Vintners/Auction Napa Valley and Community Health Clinic Ole, working with the consulting firm Barbara Aved Associates, gathered and reviewed existing demographic, health status and service data and community input to produce a community health needs assessment. The assessment provides a foundation for community health planning, provides appropriate information on which policymakers, provider groups, and community advocates can base improvement efforts, and informs funders about how to direct grant dollars most effectively. Members of the Napa County Collaborative of Health Organizations and Funders will present the results of the Napa County Community Health Needs Assessment.

Procedural Requirement

(No action required)

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact? No

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

There is no Environmental Impact for this item.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

"Health" is a multi-dimensional concept. Individual health status can be rated along any of several dimensions, including presence or absence of life-threatening illness, risk factors for premature death, severity of disease and overall health. It may also be assessed by asking the person to report his or her overall perception of health. The health of an entire population is determined by aggregating data collected on individuals. Some commonly used measures of population health status are morbidity (incidence and prevalence of disease) and mortality (death rates). Judgments regarding the level of health of a particular population are usually made by comparing one population to another, or by studying the trends in a health indicator within a population over time. Health status is closely related to a number of socioeconomic characteristics. Social and economic variables that have been shown to affect health include income, education, employment and even literacy, language and culture.

One of the best ways to gain a better understanding about health needs and available resources is to conduct a comprehensive needs assessment. A community health needs assessment provides the foundation for all community health planning, and provides appropriate information on which policymakers, provider groups, and community advocates can base improvement efforts; it can also inform funders about directing grant dollars most appropriately. One of the most important aspects of the community health needs assessment is obtaining information and views from community members themselves. This involves surveying a certain percentage of the community to find out which health problems are most prevalent and soliciting their ideas about strategies to address them. It also explores the factors that affect the design of programs and services to effectively address the identified health problems.

This report summarizes such a countywide health needs assessment undertaken in Napa County that included all of these methods and spanned approximately one year. The data in this report are not intended to be exhaustive, however, as various other reports and assessments of Napa County containing similar data—culled from the same publicly available databases—are already available and used by different groups for specific purposes.

In Fiscal Year 2006-2007, a collaborative of the three hospital systems serving Napa County (St. Helena Hospital, Kaiser Permanente, and Queen of the Valley Medical Center), Napa County Public Health, Napa Valley Vintners/Auction Napa Valley and Community Health Clinic Ole, working with the consulting firm Barbara Aved and Associates (BAA), gathered and reviewed existing demographic, health status and service data and community input to produce the present needs assessment.

The collaborative gathered and reviewed existing demographic, health status and service and other relevant assessments carried out by others, such as the Napa County Mental Health Services Act Plan. Community input that validated and enriched the data was obtained in several ways: distribution of a community health questionnaire at health fairs and other locations, countywide focus groups and interviews with community leaders whose perspectives would help to inform the review. To paint a more inclusive picture, several relevant assessments carried out by others are also summarized in this report.

To make the study manageable, a decision was made to limit the scope to the factors most directly related to health status—and for which community benefits grantmaking would most likely be directed. Hence, concerns such as the environment and housing, while clearly impacting health and well-being, were not included in the review. While attention is drawn to groups with a disproportionate burden of poor health—e.g., low-income seniors, Latinos with higher risk of diabetes—this community health needs assessment provides an overview of the state of health-related needs in Napa County and benchmarks from which to gauge improvement.

The members of the Napa County Collaborative of Health Organizations and Funders are:

P.J. LoDuca, M.S., R.N., Executive Director, Community Outreach, Queen of the Valley Medical Center
Gayle H. Hunt, Napa Solano Community Benefit Manager, Kaiser Foundation Health Plan
Linda Schulz, M.S., Director, The Women's Center of St. Helena Hospital
Suzanne Shiff, M.A., Grants Outreach Consultant, Auction Napa Valley/Napa Valley Vintners
Karen Smith, M.D., M.P.H., Public Health Officer, Napa County Public Health
Beatrice Bostick, Executive Director, and Stacey McCall, Assistant Executive Director, Community Health Clinic Ole
Catherine Hoffman, ScD., R.N., community volunteer to the project, Associate Director, Kaiser Commission on
Medicaid and the Uninsured
Donald Hitchcock, M.D., Medical Director, Community Outreach, Queen of the Valley Medical Center
Jennifer Henn, Ph.D., Epidemiologist, Napa County Public Health

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Lorenzo Zialcita