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Growing Children, One by One...

MEMO

TO: Commissioners

FROM: Rick Alford, Contracts & Evaluation Coordinator

DATE: December 22, 2011

RECOMMENDATION: Amend the El Dorado Children's Dental Van Operations contract with Shingle Springs Tribal Health Program to extend performance time through June 30, 2012 and establish a monthly payment schedule allowing SSTHP to repay the remaining \$85,000 by June 30, 2012.

BACKGROUND: In September 2010, the Commission approved a reimbursable contract in the amount of \$125,000 with the Shingle Springs Tribal Health Program (SSTHP) to support startup costs for the El Dorado Children's Dental Van (CDV). This agreement provided funding for CDV operating costs (staff and supplies) until SSTHP received Medi-Cal billing reimbursement for services provided during that time period. This contract was extended twice in order to support the CDV while awaiting its license and establishing a patient population during its first year of operation.

DISCUSSION: The CDV was licensed in March 2011 to provide services for eligible children. Since that time, Children's Health Initiative staff and CDV staff have provided oral health services to over 500 children at seven sites through December 20, 2011. Over the past year, the CDV has experienced many challenges and successes, but has not yet generated sufficient revenue to fully support their staffing and operations as was originally projected. Despite operating the CDV at a loss over the past year, SSTHP made a "good faith" payment of \$40,000 to the Commission in August 2011. In that time, the number of children seen on the CDV has averaged about 60 per month, and dental visits have averaged just over 100 per month. The CDV Team has addressed many of the issues in service delivery, staffing and licensing, and is very optimistic that these numbers will increase significantly beginning in January 2012.

CONCLUSION: Given the challenges faced by the CDV, and the fact that it has been operating for less than 1 year, staff recommends amending the El Dorado Children's Dental Van Operations contract with SSTHP to extend performance time through June 30, 2012 and establish a monthly payment schedule that will allow SSTHP to repay the remaining \$85,000 by June 30, 2012. Under the terms of the amendment, SSTHP would pay the Commission \$17,000 each month beginning February 2012, with the final monthly payment due by June 30, 2012. This contract amendment should allow the El Dorado Children's Dental Van enough time to increase delivery of services and generate the revenue needed to fully support CDV staffing and operating costs. SSTHP will provide the Commission with monthly updates on the number of children seen, the number of dental visits, and the projected revenue generated for the services delivered on the CDV.