

To: C.H. Huckelberry
County Administrator

Date: 23 January 2015

Via: Jan Leshner *JL*
Deputy County Administrator
Medical and Health Services

From: Francisco García, MD, MPH
Health Department Director
Anne Walker, RN
Clinical Services Division

RE: Proposed Agenda Item for the Consent Calendar Board of Supervisors Meeting on February 17, 2015-- Amendment #1, IGA for Arizona Medical Marijuana Initiative

Introduction

The Arizona Medical Marijuana Initiative (Proposition 203) was approved by voters on November 2, 2010. It provides protection for patients with specific qualifying medical conditions to use limited amounts of marijuana under close medical supervision and provides the Arizona Department of Health Services the authority to regulate and tax dispensaries and to educate the public about medical marijuana.

As part of the educational component, the Arizona Department of Health Services and Pima County Health Department (PCHD) entered into a five year Inter Governmental Agreement beginning January 2014 to provide patient education related to medical marijuana to individuals living with HIV/AIDS. Amendment #1 provides funding in the amount of \$75,000 to continue to support the staffing and operational expenses associated with this effort Year 2. Note that this contract is retroactive to January 1 and that the final document was received from ADHS on January 9, 2015 and signed by the county attorney on January 12, 2015.

Discussion

When appropriately prescribed and monitored, medical marijuana has been shown to provide important benefits for the health and well-being of people living with HIV and AIDS. Today, nearly one in three HIV/AIDS patients uses cannabis to ward off many of the devastating symptoms of the disease. Under the terms of this agreement PCHD incorporates education and information about the Arizona Medical Marijuana Act into our HIV Prevention and Ryan White Programs which work closely to reduce the transmission of HIV and link persons living with HIV/AIDS to medical care. At no time does PCHD prescribe or dispense medical marijuana or related products.

Financial Impact

There is no impact to the General Fund associated with this budgeted contract activity.

Recommendation

I recommend approval of this IGA.

Approved Not Approved

C. Huckelberry

County Administrator

2/6/15

Date