



## **Memo**

**To:** Commissioners, First 5 Ventura County

**From:** John Anderson, Program Manager

**Date:** March 20, 2014

**Re:** Recommendation for reallocation of \$23,500 for oral health treatment services

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### **Background**

In the current Strategic Plan, the Commission has continued to fund prevention and treatment strategies for children's oral health. In FY 2013-14, the Commission allocated \$250,000 for oral health treatment services and contracts were issued to Clinicas Del Camino Real for \$116,500 and to Santa Barbara-Ventura Counties (SBVC) Dental Care Foundation for \$133,500.

In FY 2012-13 and the current year, Clinicas has experienced difficulty reaching their targeted numbers of eligible children to treat through the F5 funded program. As a fee-for-service program, this affects their utilization of allocated funding. Staff has been working closely with Clinicas to address this situation and to monitor their progress. In recent months, Clinicas has found that most children they are serving on their mobile clinic have dental coverage (usually Medi-Cal), so they are not a part of the First 5 program. Consequently, expenditure projections indicate that Clinicas will not be able to utilize their entire funding allocation this year.

A portion of the oral health allocation is designated for children who require extensive treatment, often including sedation or anesthesia, which is \$18,000 for FY 2013-14. This funding is within the SBVC Dental Care Foundation contract and the services are provided through subcontracts with private dentists, at a reduced fee. Through discussions with the SBVC Dental Care Foundation, it was affirmed that there continues to be an unmet need by children in Ventura County for this extensive treatment. The current allocation of \$18,000 is less than it was in previous years, which was \$40,000 at its peak in FY 2011-12. Clinicas has agreed to a reduction of their allocation in the current year by \$23,500, based on the expenditure projections, so that it can be redirected to increase funding for extensive treatment services to which they can also refer eligible children.

### **Recommendation**

The staff recommendation is to reallocate \$23,500 in funding for oral health treatment services from Clinicas to the SBVC Dental Care Foundation to increase the extensive treatment services provided through subcontracts with private dentists. This is in accordance with current need for oral health services and provider capacity to deliver services by June 30, 2014.

The recommended action would grant authority to the Executive Director to decrease the current contract amount for Clinicas by \$23,500 to \$93,000 and to increase the current contract amount for the Santa Barbara-Ventura County Dental Foundation by \$23,500 to \$157,000. This will not require any additional funding.