



24-5255

DATE: May 7, 2024 (Item No. 35)

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Paul Lorenz, Chief Executive Officer, Santa Clara Valley Healthcare

SUBJECT: Considerations to add a Medical Social Worker Position for Obstetrics and Gynecology Urgent Care Clinic

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Under advisement from February 6, 2024 (Item No. 21): Receive report from Santa Clara Valley Healthcare relating to a Medical Social Worker position in the proposed Obstetrics and Gynecology Urgent Care Clinic.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no fiscal implications in receiving this report.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION AND BACKGROUND

During the February 6, 2024, Board of Supervisor (Board) meeting (Item No. 21), Supervisor Chavez requested a report to the Board relating to the terms and conditions considered to determine if a Medical Social Worker (MSW) position should be added to the proposed Obstetrics and Gynecology Urgent Care Clinic (OB/GYN UCC).

When considering the inclusion of an MSW position, SCVH thoroughly evaluates various factors, including patient needs, clinic scope, staffing, and budget. Presently, Valley Health Center (VHC) San Jose, housing the OB/GYN UCC, employs a full-time MSW who serves both the Pediatrics and OB/GYN units. After a comprehensive assessment of staffing needs at the OB/GYN UCC, an additional MSW specific to the OB/GYN UCC is currently not needed.

Urgent Care Clinics primarily deliver episodic care, and MSW services are readily accessible in SCVH primary care clinics for all patients. These services can be accessed through referral, enabling any provider to initiate the process. Furthermore, SCVH ensures comprehensive patient support by making MSW services available and shared across its system, and an MSW is already available full-time at VHC San Jose.

Considering the episodic nature of urgent care and the accessibility of MSW services throughout SCVH's primary care network, an MSW is not needed at this time to support

OB/GYN UCC. This approach aligns with SCVH's operational model and promotes efficient resource allocation.

Typically, SCVH determines if additional staffing for a new clinic is needed after approximately six months of operation. This timeframe allows for a better understanding of patient needs and clinic workflow. These factors will be carefully reviewed and assessed as part of the decision-making process for evaluating positions to support the OB/GYN UCC as service utilization grows.

CHILD IMPACT

The recommended action will have no/neutral impact on children and youth.

SENIOR IMPACT

The recommended action will have no/neutral impact on seniors.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

The recommended action will have no/neutral sustainability implications.

STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL

Upon approval, the Clerk of the Board is requested to notify George Hurrell, Director of Business Development and Managed Care, at George.Hurrell@hhs.sccgov.org.