

Executive Summary Form

Agenda Number: November 15, 2022 Item #6791

Recommendation:

Approve Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between Pinal County Public Health Services District and Cochise County Health and Social Services for the enhancement of the health and well-being of women in Cochise County.

Background (Brief):

Cochise County Health and Social Services provides reproductive health services through the Title V Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Services Block Grant. This grant funds efforts to “provide accessible, comprehensive education, screening and contraceptive services to underserved individuals of reproductive age.”

Research indicates that women who can plan and space their pregnancies are likely to have healthier babies. The reduction of unplanned pregnancy increases the likelihood that women will receive early and continuous prenatal care and infants will experience improved birth outcomes.

Long-acting reversible contraceptives (LARC) include intrauterine devices (IUD) and implants and have a lower risk of pregnancy when compared to injectables, pills, condoms, fertility awareness methods, etc. Currently, Cochise County Health and Social Services does not offer any LARC methods.

The implementation of IUDs and implants as a form of contraception has been a work in progress for over a year. On June 15, 2021, a BOS Work Session was conducted to discuss the updating of the reproductive health service fees and the introduction of a sliding fee scale for reproductive health services. On December 14, 2021, the Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the reproductive health service fees and sliding fee scale. These fees included the insertion and removal of LARC (IUD) with the intention being that in the future we would be able to provide those services.

Approval of the IGA will allow the CCHSS healthcare provider to receive supervised training from Pinal County healthcare provider(s) on the insertion and removal of long-active reversible contraceptives (LARC).

Fiscal Impact & Funding Sources:

The funding source that will support this IGA will be the Title V Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Services Block Grant (CTR055256 IGA Amendment 2) effective July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023, approved by the BOS in August 2022.

Next Steps/Action Items/Follow-up:

Your approvals are respectfully requested.

Please forward signed copies of the agreements to the Health Director Alicia M. Thompson

Impact of Not Approving:

CCHSS will not be able to provide intrauterine devices (IUDs) or implants to women in Cochise County (IUDs and implants), thus limiting the options of birth control available to women.