



AGENDA ITEM: 26-22

DATE OF MEETING: July 8, 2026

ACTION: ☒

INFORMATION: ☐

**APPROVE CONTRACT WITH
LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL
FOR HELP ME GROW INLAND EMPIRE
FROM JULY 8, 2026 – JUNE 30, 2027
(CONTRACT NO. CF26150) [\$275,000 – PROP 10 FUNDS]**

SUMMARY OF REQUEST

Approve Contract CF26150 with Loma Linda University Children's Hospital (LLUCH) for an amount not-to-exceed \$275,000, effective July 8, 2026 – June 30, 2027, for Help Me Grow Inland Empire (HMGIE) to continue efforts for full implementation and focused sustainability strategies.

BACKGROUND

The Commission has invested in the development and implementation of Help Me Grow Inland Empire (HMGIE) through a regional partnership between First 5 Riverside County, First 5 San Bernardino and Loma Linda University Children's Hospital (LLUCH), designed to strengthen early identification and connection to developmental supports for children from birth through age five.

Contract No. CF26150 carries forward the Commission's approved investment-of-funds contract structure and updated FY 2026/2027 scope, budget, payment provisions, and Business Associate Agreement for HMGIE.

HMGIE is a cross-county approach to building a strong, aligned early intervention system that best supports children and families. HMGIE is not a program, but rather a mechanism for aligning services in a more systematic way to improve access and better support for children and families. It ensures that young children receive timely developmental support and that families can easily navigate and access the services they need.

The FY 2026/2027 contract reflects a reduced and more focused investment to support continued HMGIE implementation while prioritizing sustainability planning. The scope is intended to maintain core centralized access, screening, care coordination, referral, and parent-support functions while assessing the operational, fiscal, and partnership conditions needed to sustain the regional HMGIE model beyond the current contract period.

Prior Commission Actions:

On July 9, 2025 (Action Item 25-31): The Commission authorized the Executive Director to approve and ratify Contract CF25146 for an amount not to exceed \$500,000, effective July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026, with Loma Linda University Children's Hospital (LLUCH) for Help Me Grow Inland Empire (HMGIE). The contract reflected previously approved contract terms under CF24126.

On May 8, 2024 (Action Item 24-16): The Commission authorized the Executive Director to approve, ratify, and amend the contract terms specific to contract CF24126, with LLUCH for an amount not to exceed \$1,128,762 effective July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2025, for HMGIE.

On July 17, 2023 (Action Item 23-32): The Commission authorized the Executive Director to approve and ratify Contract CF24126, with LLUCH for an amount not to exceed \$1,128,762 effective July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2025, for HMGIE.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

That the Commission:

1. Approve Contract No. CF26150 with Loma Linda University Children's Hospital for an amount not to exceed \$275,000, effective July 8, 2026 through June 30, 2027, for Help Me Grow Inland Empire, and authorize the Executive Director to sign the contract on behalf of the Commission, subject to County Counsel approval as to form; and
2. Authorize the Executive Director, based on the availability of fiscal funding and as approved by County Counsel to sign amendments that exercise the options of executed contract effective July 8, 2026 through June 30, 2027, on behalf of the Commission including modifications to the statement of work that stay within the intent of said contract and if necessary, without requiring further action from the Commission.

BUDGET IMPACT

Adequate appropriation has been included in the proposed FY 2026/2027 budget.
(527980-25800-938001-92945)

STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE

Goal Area 2 - Comprehensive Health & Development (92945)

POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None.

ATTACHMENTS

1. CF26150 A0 with Loma Linda University Children's Hospital for Help Me Grow Inland Empire.