



AGENDA ITEM: 26-17  
DATE OF MEETING: May 13, 2026  
ACTION:   
INFORMATION:

**APPROVE ONE-YEAR EXTENSION FOR TWO HEALTHYSTEPS CONTRACTS  
THROUGH JUNE 30, 2027  
[AMOUNT NOT-TO-EXCEED \$3,045,257 - PROP 10 FUNDS]**

**SUMMARY OF REQUEST**

Approve two HealthySteps contract amendments contingent upon completion of required labor review pursuant to AB 339 (Attachments 1 & 2), to extend the term through June 30, 2027, and increase the combined not-to-exceed amount by \$1,301,364 (from \$1,743,893 to \$3,045,257).. This action supports continued implementation of the HealthySteps model while advancing site-level sustainability through Medi-Cal billing, increased pediatric volume, and integration into long-term care delivery systems.

**BACKGROUND**

HealthySteps, a program of ZERO TO THREE (the National Center for Infants, Toddlers, and Families), is an evidence-based, team-based pediatric primary care program that promotes the health, well-being, and school readiness of babies and toddlers, with an emphasis on families living in low-income communities.

Since 2018, First 5 Riverside County has invested in pediatric care transformation through HealthySteps, an evidence-based model that strengthens developmental and behavioral support for young children during well-child visits. This amendment maintains services within the original intent of the contracts while reflecting increased capacity, expanded billing infrastructure, and evolving sustainability strategies across both providers.

Assembly Bill 339 requires that certain contract amendments be provided to applicable labor representatives for review prior to execution; this review is currently underway and is expected to be completed following the Commission meeting.

**BACKGROUND – RADY**

On July 10, 2024 (Action Item 24-18): The Commission approved Contract No. CF24150 with Rady Children’s Hospital for FY 2024–25 in the amount of \$950,000. This agreement emphasized sustainability planning and deeper alignment with Medi-Cal billing.

On July 17, 2023 (Action Item 23-35): The Commission approved and ratified Contract No. CF24102 with Rady Children’s Hospital for an amount not-to-exceed \$1,059,663 effective July 1, 2023 - December 31, 2024, for HealthySteps Sustainability Program inclusive of an option for a 6-month extension based on Commission approval of additional funding.

On May 11, 2022 (Action Item No. 22-22): The Commission approved the First Amendment with Rady Children’s Hospital Clinic for an amount not-to-exceed \$1,554,500 effective July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2023.

January 27, 2021 (Action Item No. 21-02): The Commission approved contracts in three strategic goal areas in alignment with Riverside County Children and Families Commission Strategic Plan through 2023.

On September 12, 2018 (Action Item 18-30): The Commission approved funding to support the HealthySteps pilot, which included Rady Children’s Hospital. Funding for this project period was to support the continuance of the HealthySteps program to allow sustainability efforts to come to full fruition to make the program self-sustaining by utilizing billable services.

## **BACKGROUND – RUHS**

On July 10, 2024 (Action Item 24-19): The Commission approved and ratified Contract No. CF24149 with RUHS-CHC for FY 2024-25 in the amount of \$841,756. That agreement emphasized sustainability planning and deeper alignment with Medi-Cal billing.

On July 17, 2023 (Action Item 23-36): The Commission approved and ratified Contract No. CF24103 with RUHS-CHC effective July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024, for HealthySteps sustainability and expansion to three additional sites.

On October 26, 2022 (Action Item No. 22-34): The Commission approved the First Amendment with RUHS-CHC, effective July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2023.

On January 27, 2021 (Action Item No. 21-02): The Commission approved contracts in three strategic goal areas in alignment with Riverside County Children and Families Commission Strategic Plan through 2023.

On September 12, 2018 (Action Item No. 18-30): The Commission approved funding to support the HealthySteps pilot, which included Riverside University Health System-Community Health Centers (RUHS-CHC).

## **FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT PERIOD**

Due to the evolving reimbursement landscape for dyadic care, an additional year of funding is needed to support continued implementation while sustainability strategies mature. While Medi-Cal billing and managed care alignment have improved, current reimbursement does not yet fully cover the comprehensive services required to maintain HealthySteps model fidelity.

During this period, Rady and RUHS will continue sustainability efforts by expanding Medi-Cal billing, increasing pediatric volume at participating clinics, and working with managed-care partners to integrate the model into long-term care and payment strategies. The updated Scope of Work also reflects their increased capacity to bill Medi-Cal and generate alternate revenue streams. These advancements are reducing reliance on Prop 10 funds and positioning the HealthySteps model for long-term financial sustainability through integration with the private children's hospital and Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) structure and managed-care billing strategies.

Additionally, Rady Children's Hospital's contract includes planning for the development of a pilot HealthySteps + program, partnering with Rady's Hemet site in collaboration with Riverside County Department of Public Social Services (DPSS). This pilot is intended to integrate child welfare referrals with pediatric care coordination and will require cross-agency infrastructure to support data-sharing, client matching, and systems navigation. The Commission will continue to monitor provider performance, billing progress, and revenue generation to inform future funding decisions.

## **RECOMMENDED ACTION**

That the Commission:

1. Approve the First Amendment to CF25130 with Rady Children's Hospital San Diego and the First Amendment to CF25144 with RUHS-CHC to increase the not-to-exceed amount by \$1,301,364, through June 30, 2027, for a revised total budget of \$3,045,257 and authorize the Executive Director or designee to sign the amendments on behalf of the Commission, subject to County Counsel approval as to form; and
2. Authorize the Executive Director, contingent upon completion of required labor review pursuant to AB 339 and subject to available funding and County Counsel approval, to execute contract amendments for Attachments 1 and 2. This includes making modifications to the statement of work that remain within the original intent of the contracts, without requiring further Commission action.

## **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 known

## **ATTACHMENTS**

1. CF25130 A1 - Rady Children's Hospital San Diego
2. CF25144 A1 - Riverside University Health System-CHC