



# Health & Human Services Agency

## COUNTY OF TULARE AGENDA ITEM

### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

LARRY MICARI  
District One

PETE VANDER POEL  
District Two

AMY SHUKLIAN  
District Three

EDDIE VALERO  
District Four

DENNIS TOWNSEND  
District Five

**AGENDA DATE:** August 27, 2024

Public Hearing Required	N/A
Scheduled Public Hearing w/Clerk	N/A
Published Notice Required	N/A
Advertised Published Notice	N/A
Meet & Confer Required	N/A
Budget Transfer (Aud 308) attached	N/A
Personnel Resolution attached	N/A
Agreement(s) attached	Yes

CONTACT PERSON: Staci Chastain PHONE: 559-624-8000

**SUBJECT:** Approve a Memorandum of Understanding with the California Department of Public Health

**REQUEST(S):**

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve a Memorandum of Understanding with the California Department of Public Health for the Pathways Fellows and Interns Program, effective from July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026. There is no cost associated with this Memorandum of Understanding.
2. Authorize the Chair of the Board to sign the Memorandum of Understanding.

**SUMMARY:**

The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the need for an expanded and capable workforce. The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Pathways, in conjunction with the University of California San Francisco (UCSF) and University Enterprises, Inc. (UEI), has a goal to increase the workforce capacity of local health departments across California by providing training, support, and work experience for professionals from historically underrepresented and diverse backgrounds. The vision of the Pathways program is to develop a representative public health workforce capable of effectively responding to public health priorities, promoting health equity, and advancing the health and safety of California's diverse people. Fellows hired will be able to work in a wide variety of public health areas, including, but not limited to, infectious diseases, immunizations, maternal and child health, emergency preparedness and response, chronic illnesses, and general health education. Fellows have worked full-time at the Local Health Jurisdiction (LHJ) for approximately 13 months. California Pathways into Public Health Initiative interns work part-time, 15 - 29 hours per week, usually for a single semester.

**SUBJECT:** Approve a Memorandum of Understanding with the California Department of Public Health

**DATE:** August 27, 2024

The Public Health Branch has numerous agreements with educational institutions and hosts interns as part of their public health undergraduate and graduate programs. Through these agreements, interns contribute significantly to the Public Health Branch's operational capacity and organizational efficiency. Interns are generally assigned to provide observational support services within various public health programs to meet their practicum requirements.

The Tulare County Public Health Branch is requesting the Board of Supervisors to approve this Memorandum of Understanding to allow Pathways Fellows and Interns to assist and provide support in carrying out Public Health Branch public health activities. The MOU included the following substantive deviations from the standard County boilerplate: 1) This MOU may be modified or terminated upon thirty (30) days advance in writing by either party of its intent to modify or terminate the MOU, 2) CDPH may terminate this MOU for cause, default, or negligence on the part of the County at any time without advance written notice, and 3) The MOU contains a mutual indemnification clause.

**FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:**

CDPH is responsible for administering the program. CDPH will utilize contractors, including UCSF, to select and supervise Fellows in accordance with UCSF regulations and recruitment and hiring requirements. UCSF will pay the salary of Fellows. UEI will be used to select and supervise Interns. CDPH will pay the salary of Interns. There is no net County cost to the General Fund.

**LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF TULARE STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN:**

The County's five-year strategic plan includes an Organizational Performance Initiative. This Memorandum of Understanding will enhance quality service through proven, cost-effective strategies by utilizing fellow interns from UCSF and UEI. HHSa can utilize additional personnel to support program operations for minimal administrative costs.

**ADMINISTRATIVE SIGN-OFF:**

/s/ Karen Elliott

Karen Elliott

Director of Public Health

Cc: County Administrative Office

Attachments: Memorandum of Understanding