

The County of Yuba

Health and Human Services Department



TO: Health and Safety Committee

FROM: Jennifer Vasquez, Director
Dr. Phuong Luu, Bi-County Health Officer
Melissa Shaw, Deputy Director
Health & Human Services

SUBJECT: Health and Human Services: Consider Agreement with Longview International Technology Solutions, Inc, for placement of Narcan Kiosks throughout Yuba County

DATE: March 26, 2024

NUMBER: 132/2024

Recommendation:

The Yuba County Board of Supervisors' Health and Safety Committee is requested to provide input on the lease of four kiosks for the purpose of dispensing Narcan (naloxone) kits to the public and recommend that the Master Services Agreement between the County of Yuba, on behalf of its Health and Human Services Department (HHSD), and Longview International Technology Solutions, Inc. (dba "LTS"), be included as a County Department agenda item for consideration at a future Board of Supervisors meeting.

Background:

The opioid epidemic has significantly impacted many American communities, including the Yuba County community. Fentanyl and other related opioid deaths have risen drastically in the past several years. According to the CA Department of Public Health's Opioid Overdose Dashboard, Yuba County experienced 22 opioid-related overdose deaths in 2022, the most recent full year of available data. This correlates to an annual age-adjusted mortality rate for 2022 of 27.91 per 100,000 residents, an increase of 162% compared to 2020 rate.

There is a life-saving medication called Narcan (naloxone) that can assist with reversing this trend. In March 2023, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved the over-the-counter use of Narcan allowing for the medication to be directly sold and provided to consumers without the need for a prescription.

Discussion:

The Yuba County Health and Human Services Department is working on multiple different avenues to distribute Narcan throughout the Yuba County community – including the purchase of Narcan kits to distribute to staff and key external community organizations. However, there is shame and stigma associated with substance abuse and some individuals may not ask for Narcan kits for fear of identifying themselves, family, or friends as current opioid users. Therefore, the recommendation is to strategically place four Narcan kiosks that will allow residents to obtain Narcan kits anonymously. This removes the access barrier that comes with persistent stigma. In addition, though Narcan is now available over-the-counter, it may still be cost-prohibitive to some, with a 2-pak Narcan kit costing approximately \$50.

Longview International Technology Solutions, Inc. (dba "LTS") provides a self-serve kiosk with a testandgo™ Kiosk Platform that is a unique, fully interactive, and automated self-service system with the added benefit of collecting and compiling non-identifiable demographic data. LTS will also stock and maintain the kiosks as a condition of the agreement. After consultation with the Yuba County Fentanyl Task Force (comprised of broad representatives from the Sheriff Department, District Attorney, other law enforcement agencies, fire departments, community-based organizations, and healthcare entities), the Task Force agreed upon the following four sites where the County should seek to place the Narcan kiosks: 1) the Life Building Center, 2) Yuba College, 3) reception area at the Yuba County Jail and, 4) reception area at Yuba County HHSD to provide Narcan free of charge anonymously to the community.

Currently, the California Civil Code 1714.22, requires a standing order to be issued by a licensed health care provider who is authorized by law to prescribe opioid antagonist for the administration of intranasal naloxone during an opioid-related overdose. However, now that Narcan is available over-the-counter (OTC) it is unclear whether this provision of Civil Code 1714.22 must apply to OTC Narcan and whether in the absence of a standing order the County would be liable for mis-use of the Narcan kits obtained from the kiosks. The prevailing evidence is that Narcan is easy to use, and medical training is not required. Narcan will not harm someone who is overdosing on non-opioid drugs, but again, is life-saving for someone who is overdosing on opioids, including fentanyl.

Many counties in California have distributed Narcan via kiosks throughout their jurisdictions including Santa Clara County, San Diego County, and San Joaquin County

Fiscal Impact:

Budget

- Board Approved FY 2023-2024 Budget Appropriation

Total Projected Cost

- \$155,400 for FY 2023-2024
- \$152,400 for FY 2024-2025 and Ongoing

Source of Funds

- Janssen Pharmaceuticals and Distributors Settlement Opioid Abatement funding

Attachment: