

**Agenda Item Number:**

**ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH  
AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY**

**Meeting Date:** October 28, 2015

**Agenda Item Subject:** Proposal to Fund Primary Care Services for Uninsured Men in Orange County

**Attachment(s):** PowerPoint Presentation

**Staff or Board Member Reporting:** Rebekah Hermann, Whitted Clinic Manager

**Purpose:**  Action  
 Information only  
 Information with possible action

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**Summary Information:**

During the FY 16 budget review process the Board of County Commissioners asked the health department to assess the healthcare needs of men in Orange County. With information regarding uninsured men living in Orange County and early data from the 2015 Community Health Assessment OCHD has determined that there is a need for affordable healthcare especially for men living in Northern Orange County. OCHD has explored various options and is recommending that the county partner with UNC Physicians Network to provide care at one of their clinics in Hillsborough. We have proposed paying the Medicaid reimbursement rate for services delivered. Negotiations are ongoing and the approval would be contingent on an agreement with UNC Physicians Network.

**Recommended Action:**  Approve  
 Approve & forward to Board of Commissioners for action  
 Approve & forward to \_\_\_\_\_  
 Accept as information  
 Revise & schedule for future action  
 Other (detail):



# Men's Health Needs Assessment

Orange County Health Department  
October 28, 2015

# BACKGROUND

- During the FY 2015-2016 budget approval process, the BOCC requested a needs assessment of men's health in Orange County.
- The OCHD historically has not offered primary care for men so research was necessary to assess the potential, unmet need.

# Data Collection

- 2011 Orange County Community Health Assessment
- 2013 American Community Survey
- 2014 State of the County's Health Report
- 2015 Community Health Assessment surveys and focus groups

# Key Findings - Population

According to the 2013 American Community Survey:

- There are approximately 7,700 uninsured males in Orange County, ages 18-64
- 24% of the 7,700 men live north of I-85 and 76% live south of I-85

# Key Findings - Access

2015 OC Community Health Assessment Survey question: “Do you have trouble finding healthcare for yourself or a family member?”

- 8% of male respondents who answered this question had trouble getting medical care (40/485).
- 17% of those men who had trouble getting medical care, listed primary care as where they had trouble (9/53).
- Of those that reported having trouble finding healthcare:
  - 16% Black
  - 19% Hispanic
  - 12% White

# Key Findings - Access

## Latino and Burmese Immigrant Focus Groups

- “How many years have I been going there and they say sorry we don’t have space?” (male)
- “My husband doesn’t have a doctor. If anything happens at work they’ll take him, but otherwise he doesn’t have a regular doctor. He’d have to go to the emergency room.”
- It’s difficult to get a doctor. (male)

# How Do We Address the Need?

- OCHD currently provides primary care services only to women and children enrolled in preventive health programs.
- Options
  - Refer men to existing safety net providers
  - Offer Primary Care Services to Men at OCHD clinics
  - Outsource to an existing Primary Care clinic

# Option One – Refer to Existing Safety Net Providers

## Pros

- No cost to OCHD
- Existing primary care infrastructure

## Cons

- Transportation barriers to existing providers
- No options for primary care for men in Northern Orange County (closest is Caswell County or Southern Orange)

# Option Two – In-house

## Pros

- Single medical home for client families
- Expand knowledge base of existing staff to act as back-up to new staff

## Cons

- Most costly - Will have to pay staff regardless of number of actual encounters (permanent or contract staff)
- Will have to retrofit space at Medical Clinic for patient interview room

# Option Three – Outsource to Existing Primary Care Clinic

## Pros

- Experienced in Primary Care for Men
- Existing site, staff, and equipment

## Cons

- More bureaucracy through outsourcing with large organization
- Less control over quality of care

# Costs

	Refer to Safety Net Providers	Outsourced to UNC Physician's Network		In-House		Average Cost per Encounter Within 25 Mile Radius of Zip Code 27278 *For reference only
Estimated Costs	UNC Outpatient Clinics, Carrboro Community Health Center, Prospect Hill Clinic	Medicaid Rate Reimbursement	UNC Proposed Cost per Encounter (Pending negotiations)	Permanent Staff	Contract Staff	(BCBS Data)
Total Cost for 6 Month Pilot (up to 200 encounters)	\$0.00	\$24,426.00	\$0.00	\$41,503.74	\$41,493.75	\$38,510.00

# Recommendation

- Partner with UNC Physicians Network
  - Conduct a 6 month pilot program
  - Refer to Hillsborough-sited UNC clinic to serve men in Northern Orange County
  - Cap uninsured encounters at 200 for pilot period to help control cost and analyze usage