

Executive Summary Form

Agenda Number: HLT- STD Testing and Treatment Sliding Fee Proposal

Recommendation:

Adopt Resolution No. 13- to establish a schedule of fees for STD Testing Services provided by Cochise Health & Social Services for testing, education, screening and treatment of clients for sexually transmitted diseases, effective on and after February 11, 2013.

Background (Brief):

CHSS has received funds from the ADHS for many years to provide screening, laboratory testing, treatment, and follow-up for sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) primarily Gonorrhea, Chlamydia, and Syphilis. Through this contract the CCHD is funded to ensure availability of STD care, treatment and services to our community. In recent years this funding has decreased dramatically while demand for testing has increased. Currently this grant covers approximately 48% of direct cost of services without factoring in staffing costs. There is cash carry forward in this grant in the amount of 13,977.00 as of July 30, 2012. If demand for services remains at the current level the spend down in this budget will leave 11,116.00 at the end of this calendar year, and assuming no change in cost or demand for services, this budget will be depleted in 2016. The shortfall for services will then shift to general fund dollars or the services will be eliminated.

This fee proposal is based on prevailing charges in other counties and allows for services to continue to be provided free of charge to individuals under age 19, and those who report inability to pay. The anticipated income from charging for services will subsidize STD services but is not anticipated to return a profit. The implementation of a sliding fee schedule will prevent the provision of STD services from becoming a fiscal burden on the general fund and preserving the cash carry forward into future revenue cycles beyond 2016. The addition of a fee schedule will allow for testing of individuals who do have insurance but do not want to seek testing and treatment in their medical home due to privacy issues, improving the overall health of the citizens of Cochise County.

See Exhibit A (attached) for the detailed STD Proposed Fee Schedule.

Fiscal Impact & Funding Sources: 2012 grant

Grant	Amount	Salaries + ERE's	Authorized OH	Small-Grant OH at 5%*	Net Co. Subsidy
STD	\$2,271	\$0	\$0	\$114	\$114

* Small-grant rate used for subsidy calculation since there are no salaries/EREs

Impact of Not Approving:

Not approving this fee schedule could cause the STD services to become a fiscal burden on the general fund and preserving the cash carry forward into future revenue cycles beyond 2016 will not be possible. The addition of a fee schedule will allow for testing of individuals who do have insurance but do not want to seek testing and treatment in their medical home due to privacy issues, improving the overall health of the citizens of Cochise County, which would not be possible as the program is currently.

RESOLUTION 13- _____

**ESTABLISHING A SCHEDULE OF FEES FOR SEXUALLY
TRANSMITTED DISEASE (STD) TESTING SERVICES
PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY**

WHEREAS, pursuant to A.R.S. § 11-251.08, Cochise Health & Social Services has recommended to the Board of Supervisors that it establish a schedule for reimbursement for County services which shall not exceed the actual costs for the services provided by the County; and

WHEREAS, the cost to provide STD testing services has increased it is now necessary to adopt a schedule of fees for these services to reflect the current actual cost of providing STD testing services as specified in the accompanying Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, the testing fees listed herein do not exceed the actual and reasonable costs of providing these services and are necessary in order for the County to continue to provide the same level of STD testing services; and

WHEREAS, this matter has been noticed for public hearing on December 5, 2012, as required by A.R.S. § 11-251.08, and following this hearing the Cochise County Board of Supervisors has determined that these proposed revisions to the STD testing fees are necessary and appropriate,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors adopts the following schedule of fees (as set forth in Exhibit A) for STD testing services provided by the County, under provisions of A.R.S. § 36-187 and A.R.S. § 11-251.08 to be in effect on and after February 11, 2013.

RESOLUTION 13- _____

**Re: Establishing A Schedule Of Fees For Std Testing Services
Provided By The County**

Page 2

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that any and all prior fee schedules adopted for STD testing services are hereby rescinded effective with the passage of this Resolution.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED in Formal Session this 8th day of January, 2013.

Richard R. Searle, Chairman
Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

Katie Howard
Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Terry Bannon
Civil Deputy County Attorney

Exhibit A

STD Testing Proposed Fee Schedule

Test	Proposed Fee	Current Fee
STD Screening (includes testing for Gonorrhea, Chlamydia, Syphilis and HIV)	\$40	\$0
HIV (Screen Only)	\$20	\$0
Medication	\$10 - \$30	\$0
1 st request Emergency Contraception	\$15	\$0
2 nd request Emergency Contraception	\$30	\$0
3 rd request Emergency Contraception	\$60	\$0

* Minors (age 19 and under) will remain 100% Free.

Tiered payment structure to work in conjunction with the fee schedule. This will allow clients, close to or below the Federal Poverty line, to still receive treatment and testing services through Cochise County, NCHS.

Tier I - Client will have the ability to pay the full testing/medication fees (with or without insurance).

Tier II - Client will report an inability to pay full testing medication fees. Program staff will then ask the client to pay a reduced amount.

Tier III - Client will report that they are unable to pay any fees. Program staff will verify income information of the client and determine if client meets the current 100% Federal Poverty Guidelines.(see table below)

2012 Federal Poverty Guidelines			
Monthly Income		Annual Income	
Size of Family	100%	Size of Family	100%
1	\$ 931	1	\$ 11,170
2	\$ 1,261	2	\$ 15,130
3	\$ 1,591	3	\$ 19,090
4	\$ 1,921	4	\$ 23,050
5	\$ 2,251	5	\$ 27,010
6	\$ 2,581	6	\$ 30,970
7	\$ 2,911	7	\$ 34,930
8	\$ 3,241	8	\$ 38,890
For each Additional person add:	\$ 330.00	For each additional person add:	\$3,960.00

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to A.R.S. §11-251.08, the general public is hereby notified that the Cochise County Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing on January 8, 2013 at 10:00 A.M. to consider increases in the Cochise County STD Program's Testing fees. This fee increase would be effective February 11, 2013.

This hearing will be held at the Cochise County Board of Supervisors Hearing Room, 1415 Melody Lane, Building G, Bisbee, Arizona 85603. This building is accessible by handicapped individuals.

Information is available with the Clerk of the Board by calling (520) 432-9200 or by mail, Attention: Katie A. Howard, Clerk of the Board, Cochise County Board of Supervisors, 1415 Melody Lane, Building G, Bisbee, Arizona 85603 or via email at khoward@cochise.az.gov.

Dated this 5th day of December, 2012
Katie A. Howard, Clerk of the Board