

**Ventura County Medi-Cal Managed Care Commission (VCMMCC)  
dba Gold Coast Health Plan**

**Special Meeting**

**Thursday, December 12, 2024 1:30 p.m.**

**Meeting Locations: Zachari Dunes at Mandalay Beach  
2101 Mandalay Beach Rd  
Oxnard, CA 93035**

**Community Memorial Hospital  
147 N. Brent St.  
Ventura, CA 93003**

**Members of the public can participate using the Conference Call Number below.**

**Conference Call Number: 1-805-324-7279**

**Conference ID Number: 107 278 086#**

**Para interpretación al español, por favor llame al: 1-805-322-1542 clave: 1234**

**AGENDA**

**CLERK ANNOUNCEMENT**

All public is welcome to call into the conference call number listed on this agenda and follow along for all items listed in Open Session by opening the GCHP website and going to ***About Us > Ventura County Medi-Cal Managed Care Commission > Scroll down to Commission Meeting Agenda Packets and Minutes***

**CALL TO ORDER**

**INTERPRETER ANNOUNCEMENT**

**ROLL CALL**

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

The public has the opportunity to address Ventura County Medi-Cal Managed Care Commission (VCMCC) and Committee doing business as Gold Coast Health Plan (GCHP) on the agenda.

Persons wishing to address VCMCC and Committee are limited to three (3) minutes unless the Chair of the Commission extends time for good cause shown. Comments regarding items not on the agenda must be within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission and Committee.

Members of the public may call in, using the numbers above, or can submit public comments to the Commission and Committee via email by sending an email to [ask@goldchp.org](mailto:ask@goldchp.org). If members of the public want to speak on a particular agenda item, please identify the agenda item number. Public comments submitted by email should be under 300 words.

## **CONSENT**

### **1. Recuperative Care Sustainability Project**

Staff: Erik Cho, Chief Policy & Programs Officer

**RECOMMENDATION:** The Plan recommends that the Ventura County Medi-Cal Managed Care Commission authorize the CEO to execute the grant funding agreement of \$1,500,000 with the County of Ventura to sustain Recuperative Care services within the County.

## **STRATEGIC PLANNING RETREAT**

### **Welcome & Opening Remarks**

Dr. Felix L. Nunez, M.D., MPH,  
Acting Chief Executive Officer

Marlen Torres, Chief Member Experience &  
External Affairs Officer

### **Competitive Landscape State**

Linea Koopmans, CEO, Local Health Plans  
of California

Chris Dickerson, Sr. Consulting Actuary I  
Health Management Associates

### **National**

Jennifer Babcock, Sr. VP of Medicaid Policy,  
Assoc. of Community Affiliated Health Plans  
Craig A. Kennedy, President & EO, Medicaid  
Health Plans of America

## **Financial Outlook**

Sara Dersch, Chief Financial Officer

## **Update on 5-Year Plan**

### **a) Improving Health Outcomes**

Erik Cho, Chief of Policy & Programs

- California Advancing & Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM)
- Quality/MCAS/NCQA

### **b) Improve Member Experience**

Marlen Torres, Chief Member Experience and External Affairs Officer

### **c) Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Health Equity**

Ted Bagley, Chief Diversity Officer  
James Cruz, M.D., Acting Chief Medical Officer

## **Breakout**

20 minute discussion at each table, 10 minutes to share highlights

### **a) Stabilize Operations**

Alan Torres, Chief Information & System Modernization Officer  
Anna Sproule, Exec. Director of Operations

### **b) Implement Dual Special Needs Plan (D-SNP)**

Eve Gelb, Chief Innovation Officer

### **a) Transform our Culture**

Paul Aguilar, Chief of Human Resources & Organization Performance Officer

## **Breakout**

20 minute discussion at each table, 10 minutes to share highlights

## **Retrospective on Today's Retreat and Closing Remarks**

Laura Espinosa, Commission Chair  
Felix L. Nunez, M.D., Acting Chief Executive Officer

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The next meeting will be held in the Community Room located at 711 E. Daily Drive, Suite 110 Camarillo, CA 93010 on Monday, January 27, 2025 Start time is: 2:00 PM

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**Administrative Reports relating to this agenda are available at 711 East Daily Drive, Suite #106, Camarillo, California, during normal business hours and on <http://goldcoasthealthplan.org>. Materials related to an agenda item submitted to the Committee after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public review during normal business hours at the office of the Clerk of the Commission.**

**In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact (805) 437-5512. Notification for accommodation must be made by the Monday prior to the meeting by 1:00 p.m. to enable the Clerk of the Commission to make reasonable arrangements for accessibility to this meeting.**

## **AGENDA ITEM NO. 1**

TO: Ventura County Medi-Cal Managed Care Commission

FROM: Erik Cho, Chief Policy and Program Officer

DATE: December 12, 2024

SUBJECT: Recuperative Care Sustainability Project

### **Executive Summary**

- GCHP intends to update the grant agreement with the County of Ventura to add an additional \$1.5 million of Housing and Homelessness Incentive Program (“HHIP”) dollars as start-up/transitional/gap funding to sustain our local Recuperative Care capacity.
  - GCHP has provided to DHCS a capital investment plan for HHIP that includes both infrastructure design and construction costs and start-up, transitional, and gap funding. This funding is consistent with GCHP’s capital investment plan.
  - These funds are designed to ensure that recuperative care facilities remain available to those who require such services, in consideration of shortfalls in federal grant funding, until new recuperative care facilities become available.
- The County of Ventura is in the process of finishing the construction of 125 recuperative care beds that was approved by this Commission and the Ventura County Board of Supervisors in 2023, but due to certain delays, neither will be available in 2025.
  - Current location:
    - 2145 E. Harbor Boulevard, Ventura, houses 50 recuperative care beds and administrative services.
  - New locations under construction:
    - 1400 Vanguard Drive, Oxnard, includes 75 recuperative care beds and permanent supportive housing.
    - 2323 Knoll Drive, Ventura, will house 50 recuperative care beds and administrative services.
- Recuperative Care services provide short-term residential care, up to 90 days, and connection to health and social services for all GCHP members who no longer meet medical necessity for hospitalization but need additional time to convalesce.

According to the Hospital Association of Southern California (“HASC”), a hospital can significantly reduce the costs (about \$1,200 per day) associated with caring for homeless inpatients by transitioning them to recuperative care.

## **BACKGROUND/ DISCUSSION:**

### **Project Summary**

Through this request, GCHP staff is asking the Ventura County Medi-Cal Managed Care Commission to amend the grant approved in 2023 to add \$1,500,000 in additional start-up, transitional, and gap funding to the County of Ventura (“the “County”) to sustain their current capacity for recuperative care services. The proposed funding may support use of existing or interim facilities while the new locations finish construction. Without transitional or gap funding, GCHP risks a temporary loss of all Recuperative Care beds due to the sunset of federal grant funding at the E. Harbor Blvd location and the delays in construction at the two new locations. The additional funding is needed to ensure that programs can continue at existing or interim facilities until the new locations begin operations, within the next year, and to support the start-up costs at the new facilities, as necessary. As stated previously, demand for Recuperative Care services has far exceeded the local capacity since the program’s inception. GCHP is utilizing HHIP funds, allocated to the Plan through DHCS through earned incentives for investments related to preventing housing and homelessness issues. DHCS, through HHIP, encourages Managed Care Plans who participate in the program to make significant investments in addressing homelessness and keeping people housed. GCHP’s additional \$1.5 million investment is in support of a larger \$10 million investment by GCHP to ensure and expand access to recuperative care in Ventura County. Continuing access to Recuperative Care ensures that GCHP’s most vulnerable members can still access supportive services that improve health outcomes and results in fewer hospital readmissions, supporting long-term stability and an increased likelihood of independence.

### **Recuperative Care Services**

Ensuring access to recuperative care, also known as medical respite care, is a priority for GCHP. Recuperative care is a California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (“CalAIM”) Community Support that provides short-term residential care for individuals who no longer require hospitalization but still need to heal from an injury or illness (including behavioral health conditions) and whose condition would be exacerbated by an unstable living environment. Recuperative care is an allowable Community Support if it is necessary to achieve or maintain medical stability and prevent hospital admission or re-admission. Under the recuperative care Community Support, individuals are able to remain in the recuperative care setting for up to 90 days of continuous duration. GCHP currently offers Recuperative Care as a Community Support to all members who qualify regardless of network assignment or hospital discharge. Members in Recuperative Care are offered connections to Enhanced Care Management and supportive services during their stays.

### **Summary of Funding Sources**

GCHP is utilizing funding earned through the Department of Health Care Services’ (“DHCS”) Housing and Homelessness Incentive Program for this project. HHIP funding is intended to reduce and prevent homelessness. HHIP funds are necessary to develop and expand capacity

and partnerships to connect our members to needed housing services. HHIP funding comes from both State and federal dollars through DHCS.

In September 2022, GCHP submitted its HHIP Investment Plan to DHCS, demonstrating its plan for achieving measures and targets in collaboration with the County and other local partners. In its Investment Plan, GCHP included a recuperative care investment activity that would support the expansion and sustainability of recuperative care beds in the County. DHCS approved GCHP's Investment Plan in early 2023.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

The total anticipated cost of the project will not exceed \$1,500,000. Funds will be allocated by GCHP via earned incentives through participation in HHIP. GCHP will provide the County with two equal installments of \$750,000 on or before January 15, 2025, and July 15, 2025. The County is required to use the funds solely as intended.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

The Plan recommends that the Ventura County Medi-Cal Managed Care Commission authorize the CEO to execute the grant funding agreement of \$1,500,000 with the County of Ventura to sustain Recuperative Care services within the County.

#### **ATTACHMENTS:**

N/A