

1999-2000 GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

STATUS REPORT: WHO PROVIDES INPATIENT
INDIGENT CARE IN VENTURA COUNTY?

Respondents: Board of Supervisors
Chief Administrative Officer

W. C. ...

Recommendation R1:

The Board of Supervisors vigorously continue to support the County's health care system and the VCMC.

Response:

The Board of Supervisors agrees completely with this recommendation. The Board has consistently demonstrated, and will continue to demonstrate, its concern for the health care needs of all Ventura County residents by its strong support for the County's health care system and the Ventura County Medical Center (VCMC) as an integral part of that system.

Two members of the Board of Supervisors sit on the VCMC Oversight Committee, manifesting the Board's firm commitment to assuring the best possible hospital services for all Ventura County residents, regardless of ability to pay. As noted in the Grand Jury Final Report, VCMC provides most of the inpatient indigent care within the County. Additionally, the Board has consistently made policy and budget decisions to ensure that the best possible outpatient health care is made available to all Ventura County residents, regardless of ability to pay.

While there are many challenges in maintaining the high quality health care system which has been developed over the years, and while acknowledging that further improvements can be made, the Board believes that its strong support and the tireless efforts of Health Care Agency doctors and employees, have resulted in the finest overall county health care system in the State of California.

It is the Board's intent to continue to vigorously support the County's health care system, including VCMC, as a demonstration of its longstanding and ongoing desire to cost-effectively and efficiently provide the best patient care and health services possible to all the people of the County.

Recommendation R2:

The CAO continue to support a public information campaign that highlights the care and services offered by VCMC and the client base that VCMC serves.

Response:

The CAO concurs with this recommendation, and will continue to support the dissemination of information to the public, emphasizing the high quality of health care and services provided by VCMC to all patients, regardless of ability to pay. In addition to supporting and endorsing the excellent printed and video informational materials produced by the Health Care Agency, the Chief Administrative Officer often takes the opportunity to personally provide to groups and individuals information about VCMC's quality patient care and services.