

Measure A also created a Citizen Oversight Committee that monitors Measure A spending. The Committee publishes regular reports covering this spending for each fiscal year.

In its reports, the Oversight Committee has consistently found that recipients of Measure A sales tax revenue spent the funds in compliance with the requirements of Measure A.

In addition, the Committee found that over time, Measure A spending has moved from filling service gaps to actually enabling recipients to expand services and facilities and make needed equipment purchases.

Look inside to see highlights from the reports, showing how Measure A is benefiting health care in Alameda County.

This brochure shows some highlights of Measure A fund recipients and their projects. Read the Oversight Committee's reports to learn how Measure A has provided support to a full range of organizations and programs. In the reports, you can read detailed information such as the following:

- A complete list of all provider organizations receiving Measure A funds in each fiscal year
- The amounts received by each provider in each year
- Descriptions of the services offered by Measure A providers
- Maps showing the geographic distribution of Measure A providers, indicating the spread of services throughout all of Alameda County
- Findings from the Oversight Committee on whether funds were spent in compliance with Measure A, and Committee concerns regarding the state of health care, Measure A reporting, and more.

Want to see the full reports?

- Go to www.acgov.org/health/ to download them.
- Call (510) 618-2016 or email MeasureA@acgov.org to request free copies in the mail.

Prepared by the
Measure A Citizen Oversight Committee
October 2009



How YOUR Half-Cent Is SAVING LIVES



In 2004, you, the voters of Alameda County, approved Measure A, the Essential Health Care Services Initiative. Measure A raised the County sales tax by one-half cent to support emergency medical, hospital inpatient, outpatient, public health, mental health, and substance abuse services for indigent, low income, and uninsured County residents.

Your half-cent has made a big difference. Since its passage, Measure A has generated over \$100 million annually for health care services in Alameda County.



ALAMEDA COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER

Based on the language of Measure A, Alameda County Medical Center (ACMC) receives 75% of Measure A funds. Measure A funding helped ACMC stabilize its financial condition and accomplish the following:

- increase staff efficiency and reduce costs per hospital bed
- increase total patient days, daily census, and inpatient and outpatient surgeries
- improve the medical interpretation, labor and delivery, and early pediatric care programs
- establish the Healthy Hearts Clinic, Primary Care Health Coach Program, and Rapid Evaluation Accelerated Care at Triage (REACT) Program.



FLEXIBLE RESPONSE TO HEALTH CARE NEEDS

Measure A gives the County and the Board of Supervisors flexibility to address unmet needs and unanticipated costs.

For example, when the federal Medicare Part D program began, both the Alameda Health Consortium and Behavioral Health Care Services used Measure A funds to assist over 5,000 low income County patients with co-payments and filling prescriptions. Measure A thus helped ensure that those most in need received the medication they require.

SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTERS

The school-based health centers in Alameda County used Measure A funds to increase clinic visits, first aid and medical visits, and mental health visits from year to year. Measure A enabled the opening of new clinics and expansion of services across clinics, including implementation of a computer system to collect data from across the sites. Clinics served over 30% of the overall student population at the schools where they are based.



The school health center is a place I feel very comfortable. The attention they give me makes me feel safe and I would recommend it to anyone

— SBHC student client

EMERGENCY ROOM (ER) AND ON-CALL PHYSICIANS

Many ER and on-call physicians receive partial or no payment for emergency services they provide to indigent and uninsured patients. Measure A funds helped bridge the payment gap for physicians performing these vital services, thereby helping to stabilize and maintain the availability of these services.

ST. ROSE AND CHILDREN'S HOSPITALS

With help from Measure A, St. Rose almost doubled the number of its cardiac procedures, expanded its medical staff, and served nearly 14,000 children annually in the Silva Pediatric Clinic. Children's Hospital and Research Center in Oakland doubled the number of visits in its adolescent clinics, expanded its medical and mental health services to victims of abuse and domestic violence, and pioneered new treatments for children with cancer and hearing loss.

MATCHING FUNDS

Many Measure A fund recipients used the money to obtain matching federal, state, and foundation funds, increasing their capacity to provide vital health care services. Matching funds received by Measure A providers have averaged over \$8 million annually.



BUILDING AND EQUIPMENT PURCHASES

The Measure A Capital Investment fund has helped service providers modernize their equipment, expand and renovate facilities, and make needed repairs. For example, Tri-City Homeless Coalition used Measure A funds to purchase a mobile health clinic, Measure A funds enabled ValleyCare Medical Center to add eight exam rooms in its emergency department.

DETOX/SOBERING STATION

Measure A funded a 50-bed Sobering Station and a 32-bed Detoxification Facility.



In addition to meeting a pressing need, the facilities promote savings for police, fire, and emergency departments through significant reductions in demand for their services.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT PREVENTION INITIATIVE

Using Measure A funds, the Alameda County Public Health Department has developed a Prevention Initiative supporting Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention, Health Inequities and Community Capacity-Building, and Obesity Prevention and School Health. The program has lowered emergency room asthma and diabetes visits, offered after-school activities and mentoring, and developed a community group to support healthy eating and physical activity among seniors.

Our family is healthier because of the education, support, and supplies that we received from the Asthma Start program.

— Asthma Start participant