

LRB-RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS SECTION

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

SEPTEMBER 16, 2009

ITEM 23, FILE # 090441

File # 090441 is a resolution relating to application, acceptance and funding of the Medical Assistance Outreach – ForwardHealth Grant from the State of Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

Background

1. This resolution authorizes the Milwaukee Health Department (MHD) to apply for, accept and fund the Medical Assistance Outreach ForwardHealth grant from the Wisconsin Department of Health Services.
2. MHD’s recent successes with Medical Assistance Outreach (MA Outreach), which were funded from private sources, have resulted in interest on the part of the state and federal governments in supporting an expanded MA Outreach program. This “ForwardHealth” grant is one of 2 grants offered by the state Department of Health Services. The other is the 6-month “DHS” grant reflected in File # 090440. In addition, the federal government is offering an 18-month “Insure the Uninsured” grant which is reflected in File # 090586.

Discussion

1. The purpose of this program is to assist low-income families in obtaining medical insurance and food stamps, and to measure the impact on Milwaukee Health Department programs. Outreach activities are planned at several locations across the City. The recent expansion of Wisconsin’s BadgerCare Plus program to include childless adults provides opportunities to reach and cover many additional residents.
2. The Medical Assistance Outreach program creates opportunities for low-income families to receive information about important community services, including health care, and for MHD to evaluate its various services and programs through data collection and monthly, quarterly and annual reporting of numbers of residents reached, numbers served by the program and numbers of those persons who are signed up.
3. This grant will support 2 current and one new Health Access Assistant II positions. The grant will partially support an existing position of Public Health Educator II. The budget for the 12 month period beginning July 1, 2009, is as follows:

Personnel	
Health Access Assistant II (3 positions at grade 425)	\$ 65,000
Public Health Educator II (1 position at grade 593)	12,163
Fringe	
41% rate	31,637
Community Outreach Supplies	20,000
Office Supplies	1,000
Services	
phone, training and local travel	3,200
TOTAL	\$135,000

4. This grant period is July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2010.

Fiscal Impact

1. The total amount of this grant is \$135,000, entirely from the grantor.
2. One new position is funded.

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