

# GRANT ANALYSIS FORM

## OPERATING & CAPITAL GRANT PROJECTS/PROGRAMS

Department/Division: Health Department/Family and Community Health (FCH)

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### Category of Request

- New Grant
- Grant Continuation
- Change in Previously Approved Grant

Previous Council File No. 231073

Previous Council File No.

**Project/Program Title:** Universal Newborn Hearing Screening Grant

**Grantor Agency:** Division of Public Health: Department of Health Services

**Grant Application Date:** N/A

**Anticipated Award Date:** January 1<sup>st</sup> 2025

**Please provide the following information:**

#### 1. Description of Grant Project/Program (Include Target Locations and Populations):

The purpose of the Newborn Hearing Screening Program is to ensure every infant born in Southeastern Wisconsin is screened for hearing loss and that every child identified with reduced hearing has access to timely and appropriate diagnostic and intervention services. While infants are often covered by insurance, accessing and navigating proper medical care is often difficult for families. The Milwaukee Health Departments (MHD) role is to work with any infant in Southeastern Wisconsin who requires initial or repeat hearing screening, and ensure they receive appropriate care. The major activity of this grant is to assist families in accessing and obtaining timely medical and audiological care for their infants. In addition, this program provides education to clients and professionals about newborn hearing screening and related follow-up. This project also assures that each client's family has a medical home for their infant and has access to resources for insurance, immunizations, and safe sleep education.

#### 2. Relationship to City-wide Strategic Goals and Departmental Objectives:

Housed under the Family and Community Health Branch, this program aims to improve the health of children, reduce infant mortality and insure that all children entering school are physically and mentally capable of satisfactory education achievement. These goals are also departmental objectives and support the City-wide objective of making Milwaukee a city of healthy citizens with educational opportunities.

Reflecting on our community health improvement plan, MKE Elevate, this program falls within the strategic objective of 'fair and inclusive society,' as this program model aims to serve all infants regardless of socioeconomic status, race, or housing location. Newborn Hearing Screening supports the MKE Elevate goal of enhancing community connectedness by assessing family needs to other resources such as immunizations, cribs for kids, insurance medical, dental, or vision provider, as well as educating residents on other City of Milwaukee services. Milwaukee Health Department Staff provide only the highest quality services to these infants and their families, supporting them toward living their best lives.

#### 3. Need for Grant Funds and Impact on Other Departmental Operations (Applies only to Programs):

The grant funds 100% of one Public Health Nurse Coordinator along with fringe rate, travel, and administrative costs for the program.

#### 4. Results Measurement/Progress Report (Applies only to Programs):

In 2023, under the Newborn Hearing Screening Grant, the Milwaukee Health Department case managed an average of 400 babies per month in the South-East region of Wisconsin to ensure these babies had access to timely and skilled hearing screening, follow-up medical and diagnostic audiology care, and quality Early Intervention programs when indicated. In addition, MHD staff performed 11 hearing screenings in the region; all 11 hearings screened yielded successful screening results therefore no audiology intervention or referral to early hearing intervention services was warranted.

This program serves as a safety net by monitoring data, providing support services through screening, referrals, and early intervention. The program helps decrease the percentage of babies who are either unscreened or are at risk for being lost to follow up and increases the percentage of babies who receive a timely hearing diagnosis. It ensures families have access to early intervention services when a congenital hearing loss is diagnosed. Early hearing detection and quality interventions enable children with reduced hearing to develop communication skills, cognitive abilities and social-emotional well-being in order to thrive.

#### 5. Grant Period, Timetable and Program Phase-out Plan:

The grant period is January 1, 2025 through June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025; there will be a merging of Newborn Hearing and Congenital Disorders contracts into one effective July 1<sup>st</sup> that will capture a revised budget/scope for the bridging of the Newborn Screening programs. Continuation of funding is crucial to maintain service.

#### 6. Provide a List of Subgrantees:

There are no subgrantees for this program.

#### 7. If Possible, Complete Grant Budget Form and Attach.

Please see attachment.