

GRANT ANALYSIS FORM OPERATING & CAPITAL GRANT PROJECTS/PROGRAMS

Department/Division: Health Department/ Family and Community Health

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Category of Request

New Grant

Grant Continuation

Change in Previously Approved Grant

Previous Council File No. 250135

Previous Council File No. _____

Project/Program Title: The Wisconsin Congenital Disorder/Newborn Screening

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

Grant Application Date: _____

Anticipated Award Date: July 1, 2026

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

The *Wisconsin Congenital Disorder/Newborn Screening (NBS) Program* will provide follow up services that include enhancing the early hearing detection and intervention system of services and supports, short term follow up services, nutritional counseling and genetic counseling, care coordination and transition services for children who screen positive on the blood screening and their families, as well as communication and consultation on confirmatory testing with the patient's primary healthcare provider. It is expected that routine clinical care will be provided in accordance with standard clinical practice and reimbursed through routine mechanisms. However, significant care coordination including telehealth is required to manage these cases. The purpose of this contract is to provide support targeted towards enabling infrastructure in the form of follow up assistance, supporting services required to maximize health outcomes, ensuring return of data to the program, and enabling continuing improvement.

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

Housed under the Family and Child Health Division, this program aims to improve the health of children, reduce infant mortality and ensure 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. It also 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 two Public Health Nurse Coordinators along with fringe rate, travel, hearing equipment, outreach supplies, and administrative costs for the program.

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

In 2025, under the Newborn Hearing Screening Grant, the Milwaukee Health Department case managed an average of 360 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 71 hearing screenings in the region; 20 of those hearing screens yielded successful screening results therefore no audiology intervention or referral to early hearing intervention services was warranted. Only 6 of those babies needed referrals to CHW audiology.

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.

In 2025, under the Newborn blood screening grant, the Milwaukee Health Department had a decrease in referrals and screening of babies needing intervention. This decrease was in part due to changes in workflows at The State Lab of Hygiene for babies needing rescreens or follow up. The Milwaukee Health Department only received 27 referrals for the state lab. There was an average of 2-5 babies being case managed per month under the Newborn blood screening program. Out of those 27 referrals, 22 babies were rescreened by MHD and didn't warrant any intervention. While referrals to our program was down, we were able to conduct 8 educational outreach programs throughout 2025 on the importance of Newborn screening collection at birth. Significant effort was also dedicated to building partnerships aimed at addressing the needs of children who have fallen out of clinical care. We collaborated closely with state partners, local hospitals, and community organizations. New work flows were established for hemoglobinopathies and cystic fibrosis with the collaboration of CHW, MCW, Wisconsin State Lab of Hygiene and our DHS partners. With the creation of the new work flows, the program hopes to close the gaps with children being lost to follow up for needed services once diagnosed.

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

The grant period July 1, 2026 through June 30th, 2027. 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 to back.
Please see attached budget form