

GRANT ANALYSIS FORM

OPERATING & CAPITAL GRANT PROJECTS/PROGRAMS

Department/Division: **Health Department/Maternal and Child Health**

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Category of Request

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

Previous Council File No. 201255

Previous Council File No.

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

Grantor Agency: **Division of Public Health**

Grant Application Date: N/A

Anticipated Award Date: January 1, 2022

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. MHD's 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.

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

Housed under the Maternal and Child Health Division, 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. MHD 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 60% of one Public Health Nurse Coordinator along with supplies/administrative costs for the program.

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

In 2020, under the Newborn Hearing Screening Grant, MHD staff case managed an average of 90 babies per month in the South-East region of Wisconsin to ensure these babies have 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 14 hearing screenings in the region; three of these infants were identified with congenital hearing loss and were referred to Early Intervention services.

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, 2021 through December 31, 2022. 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.