

LRB-RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS SECTION

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

MAY 8, 2008

ITEM 17, FILE # 080019

File # 080019 is a resolution relating to the application, funding and expenditure of the Fetal Infant Mortality Review (FIMR) Grant from the Black Health Coalition.

Background

1. This resolution addresses the fourth year of a continuing 4-year grant cycle funded by the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration through the Black Health Coalition of Wisconsin.
2. Fetal Infant Mortality Review provides an interdisciplinary review of infant and fetal deaths for the purpose of identifying opportunities and strategies to reduce and prevent such deaths and to support families at risk.
3. A key objective of Milwaukee Health Department is to reduce the 5-year average infant mortality rate to 9 deaths per 1,000 live births.

The following table presents historical information for the City of Milwaukee relative to infant mortality and 2006 data provided by the Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services (WISH data inquiry system):

Year*	# Infant Deaths (City)	Rate/1,000 Live Births			
		City	African American (non-Hispanic)	White	Hispanic
1997	110	10.3	13.8	7.9	7
1998	132	12.1	18.8	6.8	6.2
1999	117	10.5	14.6	4.8	11.8
2000	127	11.5	16	5.2	6.2
2001	128	11.5	17.6	4.9	7.8
2002	134	12.5	18.7	6.4	8.6
2003	125	11.3	17.0	5.7	7.4
2004	131	12	19.4	5.7	4.9
2005	128	11.5	15.7	8.4	7.0
2006	137	12.0	18.0	7.2	5.7

*Figures for 2007 have not yet been certified by the Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services. Delay in reporting is partly due to the fact that deaths are recorded by residence of victim may not be the same location as death.

Causes of death classified under the FIMR review include:

- Prematurity
- Congenital
- SIDS/SUDI (Sudden Unexplained Death in Infancy)
- Infection
- Mechanical or Positional Asphyxiation
- Homicide

4. The Milwaukee Health Department suggests that, given overall numbers and data limitations rolling 3-year mortality rate is more useful to evaluate both mortality experience and prevention efforts because factors affecting an annual rate or fluctuation are difficult to identify. The Department's most recent figure and table for the Three Year Rolling Average of Fetal/Infant deaths for City of Milwaukee residents is attached.

Discussion

1. FIMR project activities, goals and objectives include:
 - *Data analysis* of abstracted medical record data and state and local data
 - *Case review analysis* of 2005-2009 fetal and infant deaths for recommendations that may prevent future infant deaths. According to the Department, it is not yet clear which portions of 2005 and 2009 experience can be appropriately included in the analysis.
 - *Education and outreach efforts* that will utilize MHD staff for support services to bereaved parents, health providers and organizations interested in FIMR project and goals.
 - *Producing recommendations* to reduce fetal and infant deaths.
 - *Decreasing the number* of infants exposed to smoke.
 - *Increasing the number* of infants whose caretakers place them in safe sleeping environments.
2. This grant encompasses the period of June 1, 2008 through May 31, 2009. .
3. This grant renewal of \$100,000 is 100% grantor share, the same amount as provided in previous years.
4. A Case Review Team analysis of 2005-2009 fetal and infant deaths is planned for purposes of informing health and social service systems, community organizations, policy-makers and individuals of recommendations for the reduction an prevention of fetal and infant mortality.
5. The proposed budgetary allocation of these grant funds is as follows:

Personnel	
Health Project Assistant (530)	\$ 44,500
Office Assistant (410) new 0.5 FTE position	13,900
Fringe (41%)	23,944
Supplies and Materials	4,806
Services	
(phones, travel, printing report)	5,000
Contractual Services	
(Community Interviewers)	7,850
TOTAL \$100,000	

6. The resolution in File #080019 authorizes the City Comptroller to commit \$100,000 grantor share funds within the Project/Grant Parent of the 2008 Special Revenue-Grant and Aid Projects Fund and to create appropriate Special Revenue Fund-Grant and Aid Project/Grant and Project /Grant levels.

7. The resolution further authorizes the Health Department, consistent with the terms of the grant, to: expend from these budgeted amounts; enter into subcontracts and leases; to expend 2008 budgeted grants for equipment deemed necessary to the operation of the program; and to expend funds for training and out-of-town travel of departmental staff from the grant funds in 2008.

Fiscal Impact

1. The proposed \$100,000 in non-O&M funding will support continuation of activities and services that would not be provided absent such funding.
2. There is no impact on the tax levy.

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