

LRB-RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS SECTION

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

SEPTEMBER 16, 2009

ITEM 22, FILE # 090440

File # 090440 is a resolution relating to application, acceptance and funding of the Medical Assistance Outreach – DHS 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 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 such as the Greater Milwaukee Foundation and the Social Development Commission, have resulted in interest on the part of the state and federal governments in supporting an expanded MA Outreach program. This "DHS" grant is one of 2 grants offered by the state Department of Health Services. The other is the 12-month "ForwardHealth" grant reflected in File # 090441. 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 new Health Access Assistant II positions. The budget for 6 months is as follows:

Personnel

Health Access Assistant II	\$33,037
(2 new positions at grade 425)	

Fringe

41% rate	13,545
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Community Outreach Supplies	2,618
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Services

phone and local travel	800
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TOTAL	\$50,000
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4. This grant period is July 1, 2009, through December 31, 2009.

Fiscal Impact

1. The total amount of this grant is \$50,000 entirely from the grantor.
2. Two new positions are funded.

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