City of Milwaukee

Equity Impact Statement

1. Describe the proposed ordinance or resolution.

This is the annual grant renewal for the Community Healthcare Access Program (CHAP) under the Maternal and Child Health Division of the Milwaukee Health Department. This grant is through the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) State of WI-DHS-Division of Health Care Access and Accountability Federal Pass through. The grant cycle runs from January 1st through December 31st each year. The purpose of this funding is to continue support for the City of Milwaukee Health Department (MHD) CHAP, formerly the Medical Assistance Outreach Program. DHS funding in 2010 assured program staffing to improve access to and utilization of primary and preventive health care for low income individuals eligible for expanded BadgerCare Plus program services. CHAP has been successful by intensifying efforts in community outreach to high-risk

2. Identify the anticipated equity impacts, if any, of this proposal.

There would only be positive impacts to equity as the crux of this grant is focused on health equity and access to cares. Minority groups in particular are positively impacted by the services of the CHAP program as it targets those that are disenfranchised, have increased issues with health disparities, and have higher infant mortality rates which statistically speaking tend to be our mothers and fathers of color. Our services are offered to all ethnicities, races, genders, sexual identities, legal statuses, ages, languages and disabilities. We can accommodate language, socioeconomic, housing, transportation and literacy needs and our services are built to support those most in need.

3. Identify which minority groups, if any, may be negatively or positively impacted by the proposal.

See #2; there would only be positive impacts to equity as highlighted above.

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4. Describe any engagement efforts with minority communities potentially impacted by the proposal.

CHAP services are available at 3 MHD Health Centers to increase accessibility on different sides of town. CHAP is also able to provide services at remote locations; utilizing partnerships with libraries, community businesses, and targeted outreach--all in efforts to reach the areas most at risk. CHAP provides hands-on application support for health benefits, troubleshooting, health education, resources, and referrals into other MHD programs (i.e WIC, Home Visiting, etc.). Our services are free and voluntary, culturally and literacy level friendly, and are built to increase awareness and access to those who may otherwise fall in the cracks of large healthcare systems.

5. Describe how any anticipated equity impacts of the proposal will be documented or evaluated.

CHAP tracks demographic information, services provided, outcomes and trends of all families/clients served. It is built into the contract to monitor progress of meeting our numbers of applications/technical assists/etc. along with identifying areas or gaps in populations served; focusing on underserved areas of the uninsured. This is provided in our quarterly reports to the State funders. CHAP has been working with our Policy, Innovation and Engagement Branch to create more relational data that will provide trends/gaps along with epidemiological research into community needs - particularly during COVID. COVID has shed a lot of light on the racial health disparities given its impact on medically at-risk populations and needing to find ways to close the gaps of access to immediate and preventative cares. It is anticipated that with the implementation

6. Describe strategies that will be used, if any, to mitigate any anticipated equity impacts.

- Utilization of data/trends via our Policy, Innovation and Engagement Branch - specifically Public Health Strategists and Epidemiologists to help guide our practice on issues of health equity, SDOH, disparities, infant mortality and any other identified needs in the community.
- Partnering with pertinent community partners like the Milwaukee Fire Department to obtain access to uninsured patients and develop proactive approaches to outreach and identification of clients in need.
- Surveying our clients for their satisfaction/dissatisfaction of services and accounting for any feedback in our practice.
- Utilizing community impact assessments performed under our Division and/or MHD that solicit the

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