

LRB-RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS SECTION

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

ITEM 5, FILE # 070210

May 17, 2007

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File # 070210 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 third 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:

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

*Figures for 2006 have not yet been certified by the Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services

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. An average 5-year mortality rate is used to evaluate efforts because factors affecting an annual rate or fluctuation are difficult to identify.

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
 - *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, 2007 through May 31, 2008. MHD anticipates that this grant will be renewed annually through the period ending May 31, 2009.
 3. This grant renewal of \$100,000 is 100% grantor share, the same amount as last year.
 4. A reduction in consulting costs through the addition of a FIMR Staff Assistant, and the cost savings achieved because a biennial written report is not required in this 3rd year of the grant cycle, allow for the addition of a 0.5 FTE Office Assistant II position. This additional support is necessary due to the volume of paperwork resulting from the collection and abstraction of information from a variety of sources for each fetal and infant death.
 5. The resolution in File #070210 authorizes the City Comptroller to commit \$100,000 grantor share funds within the Project/Grant Parent of the 2007 Special Revenue-Grant and Aid Projects Fund and to create appropriate Special Revenue Fund-Grant and Aid Project/Grant and Project /Grant levels.
 6. 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 2007 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 2007.

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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