

**LRB – FISCAL REVIEW SECTION ANALYSIS**

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

**ITEM 8, FILE 010192**

**JUNE 7, 2001**

**ANGELYN WARD**

File #010192 is a resolution relative to the application, acceptance and funding of the SURVNET Grant by the Milwaukee Health Department.

**Background and Discussion**

1. This resolution authorizes the Health Department to apply for, accept and fund the SURVNET Project from the Centers for Disease Control through the Wisconsin Division of Health and Family Services. The purpose of the project is to maintain a county-wide system for reporting communicable diseases in Milwaukee. This is a continuation grant.
2. SURVNET is a county-wide communicable disease surveillance system. Physicians, laboratories, and other health providers are required to report 78 communicable diseases. This permits rapid identification and response by the department to disease clusters and outbreaks as well as unusual disease events. Reportable diseases include foodborne and waterborne illness that requires prompt public health intervention. (Example: This past year, SURVNET was used to alert the City of a major foodborne illness outbreak involving E.coli 0157:H7 as well as cluster cryptosporidiosis cases in the community.)
3. The information is logged and given to one of 14 local health departments in the Milwaukee County based on the patient's residency for investigation and follow-up. Upon completion of the disease investigation, the department reviews and analyzes the data for risk factors, disease trends and level of response. The data is summarized and electronically sent to the State Division of Health and Family Services.
4. During 2000, there were a total of 1,722 reports of communicable disease logged by SURVNET within Milwaukee County. Of that total, 1287 cases (75%) were within the City.
5. SURVNET not only enhances disease surveillance and public health response within Milwaukee County but also is used to communicate health alerts, advisories and emerging disease control and prevention strategies electronically to partners within the community including infection control practitioners in hospitals, clinics and physicians in private practice. Local public health agencies have been able to contain disease outbreaks to a minimum.
6. SURVNET is also integrated as an early warning event system used by the department in bioterrorism preparedness and planning.

**Fiscal Impact**

1. The grant for the SURVNET Grant is \$40,000, funded entirely by the grantor. There is no City in-kind share.
2. The grant funds one position, an Office Assistant II (SG 410) as well as training and program supplies.
3. The grant period is from July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2002.

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June 5, 2001