



Equity Impact Statement

1. Describe the proposed ordinance or resolution.

This is the annual grant renewal for Emergency Preparedness programming under the Emergency Preparedness Environmental Health (EPEH) Division of the Milwaukee Health Department. This grant is funded through the State of Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) Division of Public Health. The Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) cooperative agreement helps health departments build and strengthen their abilities to effectively respond to a range of public health threats, including infectious diseases, natural disasters, and biological, chemical, nuclear, and radiological events.

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

See #3

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

Preparedness activities funded by the PHEP cooperative agreement specifically target the development of emergency-ready public health departments that are flexible and adaptable. Therefore, preparedness activities are able to adapt to changing circumstances and conditions during public health emergencies to ensure scarce resources (e.g., COVID-19 testing and vaccination sites, warming or cooling shelters) are consistently prioritizing vulnerable populations such as elderly and minority populations, and persons with access and functional needs.





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

Preparedness efforts largely target vulnerable populations based on socioeconomic status, family composition and disability, minority status and language minority, housing type, and transportation access. Emergency Preparedness and Response activities include but are not limited to continued COVID-19 response and recovery activities, leading the Milwaukee Area Extreme Weather Task Force, providing emergency shelter (warming/cooling centers) for individuals to stay cool/warm and be connected to long-term housing services, co-Chairing the Milwaukee BioWatch Program to detect bioterrorist attacks, and supporting local drug takeback initiatives in response to the opioid crisis.

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

Continued COVID-19 operations track specific outcome measures including closing the vaccination rate gap between targeted populations and the general public, increasing overall percentage of City Residents vaccinated, lowering the hospitalization rate in targeted vulnerable populations, and maintaining adequate hospital capacity in future surges. Preparedness programming as a whole will continue to analyze demographics (race, ethnicity, age, gender) and social vulnerability (housing status, etc.) when evaluating success in reaching those most vulnerable to poor outcomes and facing the greatest barriers in the event of potential emergencies.

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

- Continue to utilize data/trends provided by MHD's Data team to inform where our Preparedness efforts should be targeted in terms of populations most in need of shelter and access to health department services

- Solicit input from community members to improve our preparedness planning and response efforts - Survey community members to ensure preparedness efforts are accessible to the populations we are targeting (e.g., offering a range of hours of operation, facilitating access to multiple means of transportation/on-foot service, etc.)

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