



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA REQUEST & STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: February 1, 2023

SUBJECT: Authorization to apply for a grant from the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute to address Health Systems Factors and Social Determinants of Maternal Health

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

Move to authorize staff to apply for a grant from the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute to address health systems factors and social determinants of maternal health.

BACKGROUND AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

Despite decreasing globally, maternal mortality in the United States continues to increase. Recent data suggest that more than 80 percent of pregnancy-related deaths are preventable. Severe maternal morbidity, defined as unintended consequences of pregnancy that result in significant short- or long-term consequences to a women's health, also continues to increase and affects more than 50,000 women per year in the U.S. Importantly, significant disparities in maternal outcomes persist for Black, Hispanic, American Indian/Alaska Native, rural, and low income populations and for people with disabilities.

The Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI), an independent, nonprofit organization which funds patient centered outcomes research, seeks to fund rigorous, high-quality studies that address the comparative effectiveness of multicomponent, multilevel interventions to improve maternal outcomes for individuals from populations highly affected by maternal health disparities. PCORI seeks to fund studies in which community organizations are full partners in the work, are in study leadership roles, and are partners in critical decision making alongside research organizations.

Deschutes County Health Services (DCHS) is seeking approval to partner with Oregon Community Health Information Network (OCHIN), who will be the primary applicant, to apply for a PCORI Partnering Research and Community Organizations for Novel Health Equity Research: Addressing Health Systems Factors and Social Determinants of Maternal Health grant. Additional key partnering organizations include Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU).

For the project, DCHS would provide dedicated project personnel to provide enhanced postpartum expansion, and integration of health information technology (HIT) tools to facilitate care coordination. OCHIN, a long-term partner with DCHS for HIT, has a research division that would be responsible for overall project management and administration. OHSU would be responsible for community engagement/facilitation, qualitative data collection and analysis, and provide subject matter expertise on reproductive health, which includes the perinatal and post-partum.

Outcomes of interest include:

- Timely prenatal care uptake (within first trimester), engaging in postpartum care (within 6 weeks post-delivery), and metrics around postpartum Emergency Department visits (within 6 weeks postpartum) ; and
- Incidence of clinically significant maternal morbidity outcomes, such as postpartum hypertension and hemorrhage, post-partum depression, breastfeeding, family planning engagement and utilization of other community health resources detected during routine care within 6 weeks postpartum.

Evidence of the enhanced Perinatal Continuum of Care (PCC) model's effectiveness will inform PCC and obstetric providers about their efforts to improve maternal health and mitigate maternal morbidity and mortality, as well as allow transfer of the model to other rural counties.

The maximum award is \$21 million with a grant term of six years; up to one year for the planning phase and up to five years for the research phase. Earliest project start is March 2024. DCHS would use funding to support 1.0 FTE Public Health Educator II, 1.0 FTE Administrative Support Specialist, 0.1 FTE HS Supervisor, and 0.1 FTE Clinical and Family Services Program Manager for the term of the grant. Additionally, funding would cover training, travel, computer equipment, supplies and 10% indirect costs.

BUDGET IMPACTS:

Approximately \$2.5 million revenue.

ATTENDANCE:

Anne Kilty, Manager, Clinical & Family Services

Janice Garceau, Director, Health Services