



AGENDA REQUEST & STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: December 7, 2022

SUBJECT: Request approval for extension of 7 limited duration Covid-19 positions and 1 new position to continue Covid-19 recovery step down

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

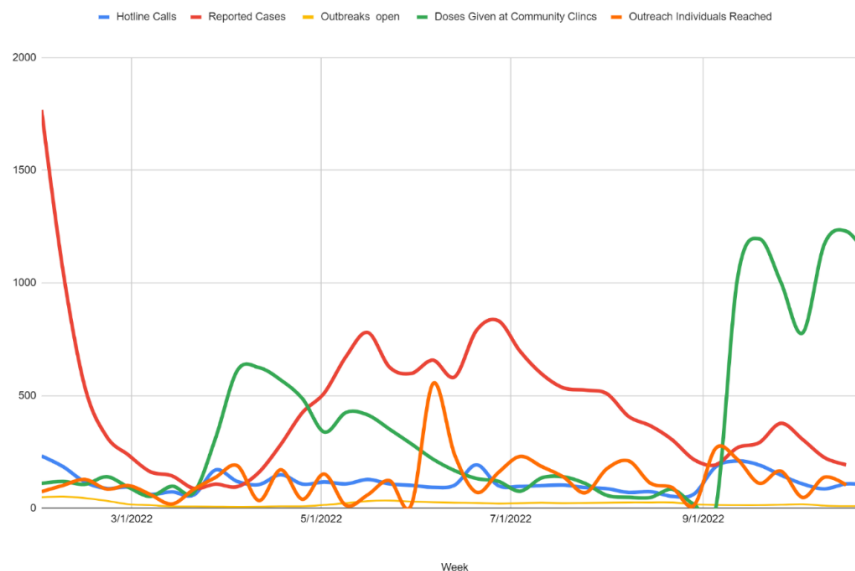
- 1) Move approval of acceptance of \$574,696 from ARPA reserves for the purposes of Covid-19 recovery within the Health Services department.
- 2) Move approval of Resolution No. 2022-076 to extend seven limited duration positions (LTD) and create one new LTD Public Health Educator I position within the Health Services Fund.

BACKGROUND AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

January 2022, the Board of County Commissioners approved a standalone structure to address continued high demands for Covid-19 services. This included 16 limited duration (LTD) employees and financial support for a robust temporary workforce. The unit was responsible for Oregon Health Authority requirements and was organized into four sections; Community Engagement/Hotline, Clinical Services, Outbreak/Case Management, and Administration.

Although work volume continues to be inconstant (shown below), dedicated Covid-19 staff leverage experience, create efficiencies and cross train where possible. This allows teams to continue to provide high quality required services while decreasing necessary funding. As of November, we no longer rely on temporary staff funded by ARPA.

Covid-19 Teams Work Volumes



DCHS’s proposed Covid-19 Recovery Unit aligns with Board stated Fiscal Year 2023 goals and objectives for Safe Communities and Healthy People. Specifically, it aligns with the objectives to “Collaborate with partners to prepare for and respond to emergencies, natural hazards and disasters,” and “Continue to support pandemic response and community recovery, examining lessons learned to ensure we are prepared for future events.”

The chart below shows the proposed Covid-19 Recovery Unit team extensions and new 1.0 FTE LTD Public Health Educator I. To fund these positions, DCHS will use the remaining Covid-19 funds through Oregon Health Authority, PE01-09 and PE01-10. Furthermore, DCHS requests use of the \$540,032 of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds the Board set aside as “COVID Unit Team-reserve” funds as well as \$34,664 of the “Public Health Response Contingency.”

Proposed Extension of Covid-19 Employees

POSITION	APPROVED END DATE	REQUESTED END DATE	EXTENSION FUNDING SOURCE
ADMINISTRATION			
PH Manager	6/30/2023	12/31/2024	ARPA
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TEAM			
Supervisor Health Services	6/30/2023	6/30/2024	ARPA
Public Health Ed II	12/31/2022	6/30/2023	PE01-09 & PE01-10
Public Health Ed II	6/30/2023	6/30/2024	PE01-09
Public Health Ed I – (start 6/1/23) (Start 6/1/2023)	NEW	6/30/2024	PE01-09
CLINICAL			
Public Health Nurse II	6/30/2023	6/30/2024	PE01-10
Project Coordinator	6/30/2023	6/30/2024	ARPA
OUTBREAK MANAGEMENT – HIGH RISK SETTINGS			
Public Health Nurse II	3/31/2023	12/31/2023	ARPA

Program Element (PE) 01-09 is for COVID-19 active monitoring: cultural and linguistic competency and responsiveness; testing coordination; case investigation; contact tracing; isolation and quarantine; wraparound supports; infection prevention and control for high-risk settings; and community education. **PE01-10** is for vaccine planning and delivery: collaborating with partners; assuring cultural and linguistic access; assuring populations most impacted by COVID-19 are served; promote vaccines and improve vaccine confidence in communities of color, Tribal communities, disability communities and others.

BUDGET IMPACTS:

Extension of 7.0 FTE and addition of 1.0 FTE Public Health Educator I. Approval of \$540,032 of the “COVID Unit Team-reserve” and \$34,664 of the “Public Health Response Contingency” within the ARPA reserves. No additional FY23 appropriation needed in Health Services Fund. Please see attached budget.

ATTENDANCE:

Emily Horton, Public Health Program Manager

Janice Garceau, Health Services Director

Cheryl Smallman, Health Services Business Officer

Dan Emerson, Budget Manager

Laura Skundrick, Management Analyst