



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA REQUEST & STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: December 7, 2022

SUBJECT: Request approval to accept COHC Grant to purchase a Mobile Outreach Van

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

- 1) Move approval to accept COHC grant, in the amount of \$80,000.
- 2) Move approval Board Signature of Order #2022-069, designating signing authority to Anne Kilty.

BACKGROUND AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

Central Oregon Health Council (COHC) has awarded Deschutes County Health Services (DCHS) \$80,000 to fund the purchase and retrofit of a Mobile Outreach Van. This funding will allow DCHS to provide Public Health (PH) mobile clinic services to our rural and vulnerable populations.

Deschutes County population has grown significantly over the past 10 years. With that growth and the accompanying rise in the cost of living, more individuals are living outside of the Bend and Redmond areas. Although Deschutes County Public Health covers large population-areas with brick & mortar locations in Bend, Redmond, and La Pine, services are often out of reach for rural populations, non-English speaking populations and individuals who have barriers to seeking care (such as finances, transportation, childcare difficulties, immigration status, concerns around BMI, substance abuse disorders, fear of clinics, etc). Additionally, the ability to offer services in remote setting has been constrained by the lack of safe, confidential spaces to meet with individuals.

Deschutes County Health Services WIC (Women, Infant, Children) Program long ago identified outreach clinics as a necessity to reach the WIC eligible target population. DCHS WIC has partnered with Grandma's House of Central Oregon shelter, Mountain Star Relief Nursery, and low income apartment complexes in our service area to provide WIC services outside of our three brick and mortar locations. Through partnership with these agencies, we have learned the value improved access has had for WIC participants.

Obtaining a Mobile Outreach Van will enable the DCHS to provide many PH programs at partner sites that do not have adequate or appropriate space to host us. "PH on the MOVE", the name we've chosen for the project, will allow us to reach people where they are, increasing uptake of services, and improving health outcomes and quality of life. Some of the services we anticipate providing include:

- Clinical Services (CS) including most contraceptives, STI screenings & treatments, some well visits and basic health screenings such as blood pressure, blood sugar and limited immunizations.
- PCC (Perinatal Care Coordinators) could conduct full appointments with pregnant individuals. The PCC team will enroll clients in OHP, make OB appointments, set-up rides to appointments, referrals to dental, and other services like maternal mental health.
- WIC could conduct appointments including weights, heights, and hemoglobin checks on adults, children, and infants. WIC could also provide nutrition assessments and education, breastfeeding education and support, and administrative support.
- Vaccines. We will focus on the HPV vaccine for cancer prevention, Tdap especially for those seeking pregnancy or with new babies, and Hepatitis A/B vaccines for high-risk individuals. If there is need, additional vaccine types can be added.

As we continue to identify new ways to reduce barriers and increase health equity in our community, it is apparent that we need an innovative way reach clients where they are. It is for this reason, we are requesting approval to accept the COHC grant funds to purchase a Mobile Outreach Van for PH on the MOVE.

BUDGET IMPACTS: \$80,000 revenue. If approved, budget resolution will be forthcoming.

ATTENDANCE:

Anne Kilty, Manager Clinical Services

Christine Pagano, HS Supervisor