



## AGENDA REQUEST & STAFF REPORT

**MEETING DATE:** August 7, 2023

**SUBJECT:** Application for COHC Opportunity Grant

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:**

Move to authorize Public Health staff to apply for a COHC Opportunity grant.

**BACKGROUND AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS:**

Deschutes County Health Services (DCHS) is seeking approval to apply for the Central Oregon Health Council 2023 Opportunity Grant. This grant opportunity is unique in that it is open to organizations who have already been awarded funding from another grantor and whose projects align with the Regional Health Improvement Plan (RHIP) Future State Measures. COHC will award up to \$200,000 per organization to assist in enhancing and sustaining grant funded programs. Allowable use of funds are for project capacity expansion, service area expansion, project timeline extension and/or including additional populations. DCHS-Public Health has prioritized the Drug Free Community (DFC) grant funded program for this COHC funding opportunity.

DCHS' current DFC grant, awarded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), addresses the geographic area of the City of Bend with a focus on preventing youth under 18 years from consuming alcohol, e-cigarettes and vape pens, and increasing their perception of risk for underage cannabis use.

DFC required goals include:

1. Increase community collaboration – including engagement and coalition sustainability.
2. Reduce youth substance use- including Information dissemination, education problem identification and referral, and environmental strategies

The DFC grant expires September 29, 2025. The COHC Opportunity Grant would allow DCHS Public Health (PH) to expand the DFC grant timeline through December 2026, expand the service area from Bend only to broader Deschutes County, and expand service population from youth under 18 only to include young adults, 18-25 year olds, while strengthening the sustainability of recent projects.

For example, this grant opportunity could allow more time and expertise to adapt youth-

focused tobacco cessation materials to reach all of Deschutes County communities and help to expand the alcohol binge drinking prevention efforts to young adults in Deschutes County, a heavy drinking, and high-risk population. Please see “DFC Accomplishments” document, attached.

If awarded, DCHS intends to use all funding to support a current 1.0 FTE Community Health Specialist II (limited duration currently ending Sept. 2025). Total cost of salary and benefits for the proposed 15-month timeframe is \$205,503. DCHS will secure additional resources to cover the \$5,503, which exceeds the grant amount. Additionally, it should be noted that the COHC grant opportunity does not allow for indirect costs. The loss of indirect revenue from the DFC grant is \$12,500. In recognition of this loss, DCHS will consider multiple options to address the shortfall in FY26 and 27 budgets; this may include reprioritization of current resources or reduction of FTE.

**BUDGET IMPACTS:**

If awarded, \$200,000 revenue for the term September 30, 2025 to December 31, 2026

**ATTENDANCE:**

Jessica Jacks, Public Health Program Manager

Lauren Wood, Drug Free Communities Program Coordinator