

**Elliott, Lynaya J.**

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**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] RHNTC Maternal Health Impact Mini-Grant Decision

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**From:** Taylor, Johanna C.  
**Sent:** Friday, February 23, 2024 7:59 AM  
**To:** Elliott, Lynaya J. <LJElliott@columbus.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] RHNTC Maternal Health Impact Mini-Grant Decision

**From:** [sydney\\_pelley@jsi.com](mailto:sydney_pelley@jsi.com) [[mailto:sydney\\_pelley@jsi.com](mailto:sydney_pelley@jsi.com)] **On Behalf Of** Reproductive Health National Training Center  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 22, 2024 2:57 PM  
**To:** Taylor, Johanna C. <[JCTaylor@columbus.gov](mailto:JCTaylor@columbus.gov)>  
**Cc:** Vira David <[vira\\_david@jsi.com](mailto:vira_david@jsi.com)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RHNTC Maternal Health Impact Mini-Grant Decision

Dear Columbus Public Health,

Congratulations! Your application for a Maternal Health Impact Mini-Grant has been accepted! We had an overwhelming response, and your application was selected from among the large number of excellent submissions.

In the next few days, please be on the lookout for a follow up email with the subject “**RHNTC Maternal Health Mini-Grant Initiation**” to set up a meeting to discuss your proposal, a plan for reporting outcomes/impact, and any technical assistance needs you may have.

You will also receive an email with instructions for setting up a subaward contract and the transfer of funds.

Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

The RHNTC Team

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The RHNTC Team  
  
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# Announcing Maternal Health Impact Mini-Grants: Request for Applications by February 6, 2024

The RHNTC will award **up to 10 mini-grants of up to \$25,000 each to support implementation of evidence-based approaches to improve maternal health outcomes**. Priority will be given to strategies to reduce racial disparities in maternal health outcomes. Mini-grants will be awarded to **Title X- (grantees, subrecipients, or sites) or TPP-funded agencies** to implement initiatives that work to establish or strengthen:

- Preconception health services
- Hypertension management services
- Basic infertility services
- Infertility prevention services
- Referral systems, and partnerships to improve coordination with the broader system of care, services, and supports
- Strategies to address social determinants of maternal health
- Adoption of trauma-informed, resilience-oriented, and equitable (TIROE) care principles and practices
- Other proposals to improve maternal health outcomes

Initiatives must be implemented between March and September 2024 and each award will be contingent on a clear plan for reporting outcomes and impact. RHNTC staff will provide support to awardees, including monthly office hours and individual technical assistance and coaching by request.

**Applications are due by 11:59 PM ET on February 6, 2024.** The RHNTC will announce awards by February 15, 2024. ***[The application period is now closed.]***



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## Columbus Public Health Reproductive Health & Wellness Programs Congenital Syphilis Prevention through Community Engagement

According to the Ohio Department of Health, syphilis cases in the state more than doubled in the last 5 years. This surge is even more pronounced in Franklin County, the state's most populous county where local rates have met the CDC criteria for an epidemic. Ohio syphilis rates are most common among those of reproductive status between the ages of 20 – 39. Local congenital syphilis has followed the same trend – where YTD 2023 congenital syphilis cases in Franklin County exceeded 20. Congenital syphilis is a complicated issue in Franklin County amplified by substance use disorder and human (sex) trafficking concentrated on the city's West Side (zip codes 43223 and 43204)<sup>1</sup>.

Columbus Public Health (CPH) at 240 Parsons Avenue, Columbus, Ohio in Franklin County houses the Women's Health and Sexual Health and Wellness Centers, which operate as sub-recipient Title X programs. The programs feature high quality care and lead the community in mobile reproductive health, patient-centered contraceptive care, and same-day services. CPH is well positioned to pilot a project aimed at interventions to improve maternal health through increased syphilis screening, pregnancy testing, and community partnerships.

### Proposed initiative and activities:

- Partner with 4 agencies in the target zip codes that provide resources to individuals with substance use disorder (SUD) and/or being trafficked to provide reproductive health services via a mobile health unit
- Develop a regular schedule of community-based clinics and promotional materials
- Provide care using trauma-informed, resilience-oriented, and equitable (TIROE) principles
- Syphilis testing using a point of care (POC) test (DPP HIV-Syphilis) with same-day syphilis treatment available
- Promote and provide all other Title X health services, including pregnancy testing and same-day contraception initiation, along with linkages to other services including prenatal care or SUD
- Distribution of home pregnancy test kits, prenatal vitamins, condoms, and comfort packages containing educational materials and other resources
- Continue to provide health services beyond pilot for long term impact

### This project proposes to:

- Increase syphilis screening and early pregnancy detection among individuals with reproductive potential in areas experiencing a surge in congenital syphilis
- Increase access to contraception and other Title X health services
- Partner with community agencies to build trust and provide linkage to residents with SUD that may also be homeless and survivors of human trafficking

### Project team to carry out activities:

- Brooke Jenkins, RN, Mobile Health Manager
- Jo Taylor, APRN-CNP, Title X Clinician
- Neli Ventura, Disease Intervention Specialist and Deb Baker, Medical Assistant

<sup>1</sup>Data Source: Ohio Department of Health, Ohio Disease Reporting System (ODRS), STI Surveillance Program

| Outcomes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Objectives                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Measures                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Impact                                                                                                                                                                            |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Partner with 4 agencies in 43223 and 43204 zip codes that serve individuals with SUD, are homeless and/or trafficked</p> <p>Sanctuary Night<br/>1195 Sullivant Ave.<br/>Columbus, OH 43223<br/><a href="https://www.sanctuarynight.com/">https://www.sanctuarynight.com/</a></p> <p>SAFER Station<br/>368 W. Park Ave.<br/>Columbus, OH 43223<br/><a href="https://franklinton.org/?resource-item=safar-station">https://franklinton.org/?resource-item=safar-station</a></p> <p>Salvation Army<br/>2300 W. Mount St.<br/>Columbus, OH 43204<br/><a href="https://easternusa.salvationarmy.org/southwest-ohio/central-ohio/help-trafficking-survivors/">https://easternusa.salvationarmy.org/southwest-ohio/central-ohio/help-trafficking-survivors/</a></p> <p>Jordan's Crossing<br/>342 N. Hague Ave.<br/>Columbus, OH 43204<br/><a href="https://jordanscrossingcolumbus.org/">https://jordanscrossingcolumbus.org/</a></p> | <p>Establish coalition to provide reproductive health services</p> <p>Develop calendar of community-based mobile health clinics offered</p> <p>Create promotional materials with input from agencies</p>                                                                                                                                     | <p>Mission statement of coalition</p> <p>Coalition meeting minutes</p> <p>Mobile health clinic calendar</p> <p>Summary of creative brainstorming and marketing drafts (CPH Public Affairs &amp; Communication, in kind services)</p> | <p>Strengthen collective impact and community partnership</p> <p>Increase uptake of reproductive health services to reduce syphilis (and other STIs) and unintended pregnancy</p> |
| <p>Increase project team knowledge of TIROE principles</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | <p>The team will complete the RHNTC meeting package prior to first clinic</p> <p><a href="https://rhntc.org/resources/trauma-informed-resilience-oriented-equitable-tiroe-care-helping-staff-clients-feel-safe">https://rhntc.org/resources/trauma-informed-resilience-oriented-equitable-tiroe-care-helping-staff-clients-feel-safe</a></p> | <p>Completion of "Team Safety Covenant" and "Staff Safety Self-Assessment"</p> <p>Workshop sign in sheet and minutes</p>                                                                                                             | <p>Increase knowledge of TIROE, staff satisfaction, patient engagement; create a safe environment</p>                                                                             |
| <p>Ensure that all project staff have completed annual competencies related to Human Trafficking</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <p>Two required trainings:</p> <p><a href="https://rhntc.org/resources/identifying-and-responding-human-trafficking-title-x-settings-elearning-course">https://rhntc.org/resources/identifying-and-responding-human-trafficking-title-x-settings-elearning-course</a></p>                                                                    | <p>Training records for each team member - certificates</p>                                                                                                                                                                          | <p>Increase knowledge and competency of those experiencing and surviving human (sex) trafficking</p>                                                                              |

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|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | CPH Mandatory Reporting via Power DMS system                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Ensure all regulatory requirements are met                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <p>Increase POC syphilis testing for pregnant individuals or those of reproductive status in zip codes 43223 and 43204 (results in 15 minutes)</p> <p><i>POC pregnancy testing will also be offered</i></p>                                                                                | <p>Train and check off all project team on ChemBio DPP-HIV Syphilis System</p> <p><a href="https://chembio.com/products/dpp-hiv-syphilis-usa/">https://chembio.com/products/dpp-hiv-syphilis-usa/</a></p>                                                                                                                                                                             | <p>Training records and lab check offs</p> <p>(CPH Lab Manager, in kind)</p>                                                                                                                                                               | <p>Increase on-site and rapid testing for syphilis (and HIV)</p> <p>Allows for rapid/simultaneous syphilis treatment</p>                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <p>Increase access to all Title X health services via the mobile unit among partner agencies/areas</p>                                                                                                                                                                                     | <p>Promote awareness of services and clinic locations/date/times locally:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Flyers</li> <li>Partner education sessions</li> <li>Lunch giveaway (kick off) event at each location using Freedom a la Cart (supports/employs HT survivors)</li> </ul> <p><a href="https://freedomalacart.org/about/">https://freedomalacart.org/about/</a></p> | <p>Data collected (April – Sept 2024) and trends:</p> <p># Visits</p> <p># Unduplicated Summary of services (STI panels, method starts, preg tests, positivity rates)</p> <p>Log of promotional materials</p> <p># lunches distributed</p> | <p><b>Increase access to reproductive health services</b></p> <p><b>Increase detection of syphilis cases and treat in the field to prevent congenital syphilis</b></p> <p><b>Increase detection of pregnancy to link to prenatal care</b></p> <p><b>Increase access to contraception</b></p> |
| <p>Link individuals seen with needed services outside of those offered, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Substance use disorder treatment</li> <li>Prenatal care</li> <li>Primary care</li> <li>Emergency services</li> <li>Social Work, SDH and Basic needs</li> </ul> | <p>Facilitate referral to other services using already established referral system and partners (MOUs with FQHCs, etc).</p> <p>Follow existing CPH policy re: follow up of referrals.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                             | <p># of referrals made and type of referrals</p>                                                                                                                                                                                           | <p>Increase access to SUD treatment and other health care and basic needs</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

|                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
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| Build trust and promote services and RH education by providing comfort and harm reduction supplies | Distribution of comfort packages (up to 1 per month) to individuals receiving services that include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Home pregnancy test</li> <li>• Condoms</li> <li>• OTC Levonorgestrel EC for advance need, if desired</li> <li>• Self-care kit (socks, shower wipes, hand warmers)</li> <li>• Educational materials – syphilis outbreak, STI and pregnancy prevention, local resources</li> </ul> | # of kits distributed, resources given<br><br># of individuals reached | Increase early pregnancy detection<br><br>Decrease syphilis and other STI transmission through harm reduction supplies<br><br>Increase knowledge of current syphilis outbreak<br><br>Increase trust among individuals that may have had negative healthcare experiences in the past |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

#### Project budget

| Item                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Justification                                                                             |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ChemBio DPP-HIV Test Kits<br>400 tests for \$6,000 (already have reader and controls)                                                                                                                                                                                       | POC syphilis test to allow for rapid diagnosis and treatment in field                     |
| Freedom a la Cart<br>100 Boxed Lunches @ \$15 x 4 Partner events = \$6,000<br><a href="https://freedomalacart.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/Catering_Menu_2023_December-1.pdf">https://freedomalacart.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/Catering_Menu_2023_December-1.pdf</a> | Community outreach and engagement to promote testing and services for those in local area |
| Comfort Kits<br>25 per month x 4 sites for 6 months @\$20 = \$12,000                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Harm reduction and other supplies<br>Includes educational materials and resource lists    |
| <b>Total: \$24,000</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                           |

*All personnel, mobile health, printing, and support services (marketing, lab, fiscal) will be provided in kind for this project. With the exception of the ChemBio test kits, all medical supplies will be covered through Title X funding.*