



COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
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TO: Al Robinson, Chair
Ways & Means Committee

THROUGH: Robert E. Guenzel
County Administrator

FROM: Ellen J. Clement
Public Health Director

DATE: May 19, 1999

SUBJECT: Ratifying the Signature of The County Administrator On The Grant Application To The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation For The Communities in Charge: Financing and Delivering Health Care For The Uninsured initiative in the amount of \$148,500 for the period January 1, 2000 through December 31, 2000

Board Action Requested:

It is requested that the Board of Commissioners ratify the signature of the County Administrator on the grant application to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation For The Communities in Charge: Financing and Delivering Health Care For The Uninsured initiative in the amount of \$148,500 for the period January 1, 2000 through December 31, 2000.

Background/Discussion:

The County Administrator has signed an application prepared by the Public Health Department in response to a Request For Proposal from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) to support the development of a collaborative plan between Washtenaw and Livingston County for financing and delivering health care for the uninsured.

Inadequate access to health care services has been shown to be directly related to lower health status and increased health problems. Improving access to health care for the uninsured population, therefore, has been identified as a key objective in both Washtenaw and Livingston County to directly impact the health status of the uninsured in both Counties.

This grant funding will enable the creation of the Community Health Access Consortium (CHAC) as the structure for bringing together a broad range of health and human service partners to improve access to health care through redesigning the delivery and financing of health care services to the low-income uninsured population.

Washtenaw County, through its Health Improvement Plan (HIP), and Livingston County, through its Healthy Livingston Plan have demonstrated leadership in mobilizing their respective communities to address critical health issues, including improving access to health care. Under the umbrella of these bodies, the CHAC membership will include representation from health systems, hospitals, and health plans, physicians' organizations, human service agencies, the business community, consumers and other key stakeholders. Washtenaw County's Public Health Department will be the lead agency in the CHAC and Ellen Clement, Washtenaw County's Health Officer, will serve as the CHAC Chair.

The initial plan targets enrollment of 40% of the estimated uninsured population, or approximately 20,000 individuals, into a system that provides health insurance and, as a result, access to health care previously unattainable to this population.

Impact on Human Resources:

None at this time. If a grant is awarded a resolution requesting modification of Public Health positions will be prepared for Board of Commissioner approval.

Impact on Budget:

No additional General Fund appropriation to Public Health is requested at this time. If the grant is awarded a resolution will be brought back to the Board of Commissioners for approval,

amendment of the budget, and authorization of delegate contracts.

Impact on Indirect Costs:

None at this time. If grant is awarded a resolution requesting modification of the existing Public Health budget will be prepared for Board of Commissioner approval.

Impact on Other County Departments or Outside Agencies:

The Public Health Department will actively collaborate with Livingston County, and with key health and human service agencies in both Counties.

Conformity to County Policies:

This action is in conformance with County policies.

Attachments/Appendices:

Signed Grant Application

A RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE SIGNATURE OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR ON THE GRANT APPLICATION TO THE ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON FOUNDATION FOR THE COMMUNITIES IN CHARGE: FINANCING AND DELIVERING HEALTH CARE FOR THE UNINSURED INITIATIVE FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$148,500 FOR THE PERIOD OF JANUARY 1, 2000 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2000;

WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

June 9, 1999

WHEREAS, the County Administrator approved the submission of a grant application prepared by the Public Health Department to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) for grant funding to support the development of a community plan for financing and delivering health care for the uninsured in an amount of \$148,500 for the period of January 1, 2000 through December 31, 2000; and

WHEREAS, access to health care for the uninsured has been identified as a key objective in both Washtenaw and Livingston County's health assessment and improvement plans; and

WHEREAS, this RWJF Grant offers funding that will enable collaboration between Washtenaw and Livingston County to create a Community Health Access Consortium (CHAC) to integrate existing and develop other potential health and human service resources in both counties in order to develop new strategies to organize and deliver health care services to the uninsured; and

WHEREAS, the CHAC, under the umbrella of Washtenaw County's Health Improvement Plan (HIP) and Livingston County's Healthy Livingston Plan, will be a broad based consortium with members from health systems and health plans; local health departments; county human service agencies; physicians' organizations; civic organizations and the business community; consumers and other key stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, the Washtenaw County Health Department is designated as the lead organization under this RWJF initiative and Ellen Clement, Washtenaw County Health Officer will serve as the CHAC Chair; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that 11.6 percent of the project service area, or more than 50,000 individuals, currently do not have health insurance; and

WHEREAS, the initial plan developed would enroll 40%, or 20,000 of these uninsured individuals, after this first planning year; and

WHEREAS, this matter has been reviewed by Corporation Counsel, Finance, Human Resources, the County Administrator's Office and the Ways and Means Committee

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby ratifies the signature of the County Administrator on the application to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation for The Communities in Charge: Financing and Delivering Health Care For The Uninsured initiative in an amount of \$148,500 for the period January 1, 2000 through December 31, 2000, as on file with the County Clerk

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners takes this action with the understanding that if the grant is awarded it will be brought back to the Board for appropriation of grant funds, amending the budget, authorizing delegate contracts and position modifications.