



COMMISSIONERS COURT COMMUNICATION

REFERENCE NUMBER _____

PAGE 1 OF 7

DATE: 08/20/2024

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF REVISED NOTICE OF AWARD FROM THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024 WOMEN, INFANTS AND CHILDREN LOCAL AGENCY FUNDING FOR EMPLOYEE RETENTION STIPEND

***** CONSENT AGENDA *****

COMMISSIONERS COURT ACTION REQUESTED

It is requested that the Commissioners Court approve a revised Notice of Award (NOA) from the Texas Department of Health and Human Services (DSHS) for FY 2024 Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Local Agency Funding, Contract, #HHS000806700001, for an Employee Retention Stipend.

BACKGROUND

Historically, Tarrant County Public Health (TCPH) has received annual funding from DSHS through various grant agreements to perform essential Public Health services in support of the Public Health WIC Program.

The WIC Program is to provide nutrition education, supplemental healthy foods, breastfeeding support and education, referrals to healthcare and other social services to low-income pregnant, breastfeeding, postpartum women, infants, and children up to age five who are at nutritional risk.

Over the last two (2) years Texas WIC staff have managed multiple crises. Despite all the crises, staff has remained steadfast in providing exceptional services to the participants in our communities. Staff retention is crucial to the WIC program as WIC is a highly complex program, and it takes a new staff member approximately six (6) months to become proficient providing WIC services. Texas WIC staff have continued to provide exceptional services exemplified in customer services scores. Staff of this caliber are hard to find in the workforce and they are the heart of the WIC program. It is imperative that there is retention of the very skilled workforce that makes up Texas WIC.

Texas WIC is providing additional funding to Local Agencies for a one (1) time retention stipend to each eligible WIC employee. Employee stipend funding is reflected on the revised FY 2024 NOA funding letter.

On July 18, 2023, the Commissioners Court, through Court Order #141285, approved FY 2024 WIC Local Agency Grant NOA in the amount of \$7,584,093.00 for the term of October 1, 2023 through September 31, 2024.

On June 18, 2024, the Commissioners Court, through Court Order #143318, approved FY 2024 WIC Local Agency Grant Revised NOA in the amount of \$7,899,531.00 for the term of October 1, 2023 through September 31, 2024.

SUBMITTED BY:	Public Health	PREPARED BY: APPROVED BY:	Michelle Cummings Dr. J'Vonnah Maryman
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REFERENCE NUMBER: _____ DATE: 08/20/2024 PAGE 2 OF 7

With approval, funding will increase by \$453,894.00 for a total contract amount of \$8,353,425.00 for the period of October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024. In addition, the \$403,894.00 in increased funding will be allocated for eligible WIC employees to be awarded the stipend through a one (1) time bonus as outlined by Texas WIC.

FISCAL IMPACT

The award for this stipend from the grant is not to exceed \$403,894.00.

NOA includes \$50,000 allocated towards Admin funding.

This grant does not require a grant match.

Indirect cost is allowed.

There is no operating subsidy for this grant.

All associated costs will be paid from grant fund allocation in F0060-2024.