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September 21, 2017

Council File: 17-0600-S26
Council Districts: All
Contact: Ricky Rosales, AIDS Coordinator
213-202-2763

Homelessness and Poverty Committee
Los Angeles City Council
Attention: Eric Villanueva, Legislative Assistant
Room 1010, City Hall

COMMITTEE TRANSMITTAL: REPORT BACK ON POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES AVAILABLE, INCLUDING MEASURE H, TO FUND THE AIDS COORDINATOR PROGRAM CONTRACTS IN CONSIDERATION OF POTENTIAL FEDERAL CUTS SUMMARY

On May 18, 2017, during consideration of the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Budget, the City Council instructed the Department on Disability to report back on potential budget sources available, including Measure H, to fund the AIDS Coordinator Program contracts in consideration of potential federal cuts (CF 17-0600-S26).

The Department on Disability conducted an assessment of various funding opportunities open to organizations focused on services for people living with HIV/AIDS or at risk for acquiring HIV and reviewed their eligibility criteria to apply for funding. The following is a summary of our findings.

Measure H:

- There is no specific HIV/AIDS carve out for funding in Measure H other than prioritizing people living with HIV. The only mention of HIV Positive people is to highlight the importance of confidentiality in Strategy E7 in reference to Strengthening the Coordinated Entry System.

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Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:

- Criteria includes: Health Centers, Community Based Organizations, Health Departments, Surveillance, and organizations that provide direct services. They also include partnerships with community based organizations for demonstration projects only. Local municipalities are not included in eligibility criteria.

National Institutes of Health:

- Criteria includes: Research Institutes, Health Departments, local governments with the capacity to implement research studies. The purpose of their funding is to support interdisciplinary research that includes laboratory research, clinical trials, physical and biological sciences, disease progression, treatment efficacy, comorbidities, transmission, HIV replication, pathogenesis, latency, immunity, and gene expression, and other areas of scientific inquiry that go beyond the capacity of the AIDS Coordinator's focus.

California Office of AIDS

- Resources are CDC pass through funds that go to local health departments and community based organizations.

California Department of Public Health

- Although local government is technically eligible, the funds are for direct service, thus we would be competing with local community based organizations for grants in order to act as "pass through" entity, in which we would need to request bids for organizations to receive funding for the services.
- Epidemiological and other research that the office does not have capacity to conduct without partnering and funding a principal investigator located at a research institute.

Foundations

- Bristol Meyers Squibb partners with nonprofit organizations to enhance community health.
- Gilead Sciences partners with organizations who provide direct services. In the past, the AIDS Coordinator's Office applied and was awarded \$100,000 from Gilead to implement HIV testing services in community clinic settings, but they no longer offer these types of opportunities to municipalities.
- Kaiser Family Foundation does not support "regranting" for funds for direct services.
- AIDS United supports direct services for syringe access (funding for vans, syringes, indirect costs, staffing)

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- Janssen Therapeutics supports direct patient education programs, public education events, and “grand rounds.” There is a possibility of finding funds here to support community events that are not capacity building events in which TA grants do not qualify funding. However, we would be competing with local community based organizations for funds.

RECOMMENDATION

The Department on Disability recommends that the Measure H workgroup prioritize programs that serve HIV-positive and HIV-negative individuals at risk, through set-aside funding for outreach, health education and other supportive programs through the AIDS Coordinator’s Office; and targeted funding for housing services in the Housing Opportunities for People With AIDS Program in the Housing and Community Investment Department.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact to the City’s General Fund as this funding would be pass-through funds from Measure H to the City’s network of service providers.



STEPHEN DAVID SIMON
Executive Director

NW: RR