

Oregon Health Authority MacDonald

Request: Authorization to apply for a federal grant of up to \$250,000 per year, for a maximum amount of \$750,000, over a three-year grant period through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities.

Recommendation: Approve the request.

Discussion: The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) requests authorization to apply for federal grant funding for the Documentation and Use of Follow-up Diagnostic and Intervention Services Data through the Maintenance and Enhancement of the Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Information System Cooperative Agreement.

In accordance with state statutory requirements, each newborn child receives a newborn hearing screening test within one month of the date of birth in Oregon hospitals and birthing centers that have more than 200 live births per year. For births occurring in hospitals and birthing centers with fewer than 200 live births per year, OHA must provide the parent or guardian of the newborn child with information regarding the importance of newborn hearing screening tests. The Public Health Division's Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) program administers these activities and helps ensure infants diagnosed with hearing loss receive early intervention services no later than six months of age. To help accomplish its mission, the EHDI program manages a newborn hearing screening test registry and tracking system.

This grant opportunity represents funding from the CDC for EHDI grantees to invest in the following two program categories:

- 1) Core activities – This category improves the capacity of current EHDI information systems to collect complete, accurate, and valid data on follow-up hearing screening, diagnostic testing and early intervention services. Core activity funding represents an existing, on-going source of federal revenue for the state's EHDI program and this proposal reflects Oregon's renewal for this category of grant funding. The federal grant opportunity allows up to \$150,000 to be awarded to grantees each year of the grant period to support core activities.
- 2) Optional expanded activities – This category intends to further strengthen and expand the capacity of EHDI programs and their existing systems to capture, report, analyze, and use individual level data. Optional expanded activity funding reflects additional competitive funding for EHDI programs beyond core funding. The federal grant opportunity allows up to \$100,000 to be awarded to grantees each year of the grant period to support optional expanded activities.

The state EHDI program proposes to accomplish the grant objectives by aligning the state's data system with national functional standards, implementing training and technical assistance for program partners, promoting coordination and collaboration for tracking and monitoring, and providing information to stakeholders about the prevalence of hearing loss, trends, and effective strategies. The competitive grant application is due no later than March 6, 2017 and the grant is expected to be awarded on June 1, 2017, with the grant period ending June 30, 2020. The federal grant does not require state matching funds or maintenance of effort.