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Director and State Public Health Officer

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency  
California Department of Public Health



GAVIN NEWSOM  
Governor

October 24, 2022

Dr. Stephanie E. Cohen  
STD Controller  
San Francisco Department of Public Health  
25 Van Ness Avenue, Suite 345  
San Francisco, CA 94103

**RE: Additional General State Funding for Fiscal Years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024**

Dear Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) Controller and/or STD Program Staff:

This letter is to notify you that additional state general fund local assistance dollars for the STD Prevention and Collaboration Grant were appropriated with the passage of the 2021 and 2022 State Budget Act ([Assembly Bill 178](#), Chapter 45, Statutes of 2022). Based on the funding formula previously discussed with the California STD/HIV Controllers Association, the STD Control Branch has determined that an additional \$386,274.00 will be added to your grant agreement, number 19-10971, making the revised agreement total \$1,365,222.00 in ongoing STD Prevention and Collaboration Grant state general funds, starting in the current state fiscal year. There will be no further rollover of funds from previous fiscal years – requests from stakeholders to carry forward funds were not approved.

The additional funding should be used to continue the STD prevention and control activities outlined in your grant agreement within your jurisdiction. However, LHJs may want to adjust their grant activities and budget based on new required activities and new flexibility included in the State Budget Act, which are described further below.

**New Required Activity**

Health and Safety Code Section 120511 now requires LHJs receiving STD Prevention and Collaboration Grant funds to include at least one identified activity in their Scope of Work (SOW) to facilitate expanded access to STD clinical services, including, but not limited to, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer-identified populations, including those who face confidentiality barriers in using their health coverage to receive STD testing, treatment, and related care. Please indicate which new or existing activity in your SOW will meet this requirement by sending an email to your Regional Capacity Building Coordinator with a Cc to your grant manager [Adriana.Cervantes@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:Adriana.Cervantes@cdph.ca.gov).



## **New Flexibility in Use of STD Prevention and Collaboration Grant Funds**

The State Budget Act (Senate Bill 184, Chapter 45, Statutes of 2022) amended [Health and Safety Code Section 120511](#) to include several new, important types of flexibility in how STD Prevention and Collaboration Grant local assistance funds may be spent.

### **A. Use of In-Kind Support to Support Community-Based Organization (CBOs)**

No less than 50 percent of STD Prevention and Collaboration Grant funds allocated to the LHJ must be provided, *[new language follows in bold] or used to support activities in partnership with*, CBOs or nonprofit health care providers, provided that there are CBOs or nonprofit health care providers in the jurisdiction that can conduct the activities and provide these services. This new language formally allows LHJs to offer in-kind support, such as staffing, testing supplies, and other supports, in lieu of entering into a formal LHJ subcontract with a CBO, such as but not limited to when subcontracting is not feasible. Please track these supports to ensure that a combination of direct and/or in-kind support totals at least 50 percent of the annual STD Prevention and Collaboration Grant.

### **B. Delivery of Integrated Services**

STD Prevention and Collaboration Grant funds may now be used for *integrated services for STDs, viral hepatitis, HIV, and drug overdose, to the extent they improve health outcomes for people living with, or at risk for, STDs* provided they are consistent with grant activities approved by the STD Control Branch. This new language formally allows grantees to, for example, integrate HIV and HCV testing into existing syphilis testing activities in priority settings in which integrated testing and preventive services are recommended, such as drug treatment programs, emergency departments, jails, homeless encampments, syringe service programs, and other street outreach settings.

### **C. Provision of Material Supports**

STD Prevention and Collaboration Grant funds may now be used for *material support, to enable clients to overcome barriers and facilitate adherence to testing and linkage to care and treatment. Enablers include, but are not limited to, sleeping bags, tarps, shelter, clothing items, and hygiene kits, to people living with, or at risk for, STDs* for purposes consistent with grant activities approved by the STD Control Branch. This new language formally allows Grantees to purchase the kinds of material supports that STD program clients experiencing homelessness often request during street outreach without these materials being counted towards the maximum allowable amount for incentives for an individual within a budget year.

All proposals for material support must be submitted to the STD Control Branch for review prior to purchase and project implementation, must contain justification for use and accompanied by a targeted distribution plan tracking/reporting/outcome log. When using material support to achieve the goals and objectives outlined in the SOW, the Grantee must adhere to the provisions in Exhibit E, STD Local Assistance Funds – Standards and Procedures, 3, H.

Edits to the grant agreement document to reflect the new activities and uses of funds outlined above can be approved as part of this amendment process (e.g., by adding a description of integrated services or materials supports into an existing activity in the LHJ's SOW or by adding an innovative project under Part II Activity H in the SOW and including a description of the innovative activities to be conducted).

The grant amendment documents have been prepared by the STD Control Branch, Business Operation Support Section (BOSS) and approved by CDPH – Contracts Management Unit. This grant amendment is to increase the annual amount for FYs 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 by \$193,137.00 and these funds must be expended during the same fiscal year in which they are appropriated.

**In an effort to expedite this grant amendment through the approval process, we request that the following items be returned no later than **11/28/2022** via email at [STDLHJContracts@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:STDLHJContracts@cdph.ca.gov) with a Cc to [Adriana.Cervantes@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:Adriana.Cervantes@cdph.ca.gov).**

**1. Original copies of the Grant Agreement (CDPH 1229A)**

Signature page only (page five of the grant agreement) must bear original or digital signatures.

- Please note that due to the continued presence of COVID-19, CDPH is accepting digitally signed grant agreements and electronic submittals. Therefore, until further notice, any documents received electronically will be considered original copies.
- When submitting the grant documents electronically, please ensure electronic submittals are “clean and legible,” preferably scanned in color with minimum 300x300 resolution.

**2. One copy of the Board Resolution/Order/Motion, ordinance, or other similar document authorizing execution of the agreement.**

LHJs may exercise their delegated authority to accept and implement this grant amendment and future amendments to support the continuation of STD prevention and control activities.

- **If your next board meeting is scheduled after 11/28/2022, please submit a Letter of Intent to add this amendment to your next board meeting.**
- When you have the documents authorizing the execution of the agreement, please send us a copy of the Board Resolution/Order/Motion or ordinance.

**3. Contractor Certification Clause (CCC 042017)**

**4. Budget for fiscal years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024**

**5. Budget Justification for fiscal years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024**

Upon final approval of the grant agreement documents, you will receive an executed copy. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact [Adriana.Cervantes@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:Adriana.Cervantes@cdph.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



Kathleen Jacobson MD,  
Chief STD Control Branch