

January 16, 2015

The Honorable Senator Richard Devlin, Co-Chair
The Honorable Representative Peter Buckley, Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Ways and Means
900 Court Street NE
H-178 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301-4048

Request to Apply – Competitive Grant – HRSA-15-070: Perinatal and Infant
Oral Health Quality Improvement Expansion Program, CFDA No. 93.110
(OHA-PH-01-15)

Dear Co-Chairpersons:

Nature of the Request

The Oregon Health Authority (OHA), Public Health Division requests approval to apply for a federal grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Maternal and Child Health Bureau - Division of Child, Adolescent and Family Health. The grant is for up to \$250,000 per year for 4 years, beginning August 1, 2015 through July 31, 2019, for a total of up to \$1,000,000.

The request for proposals was received on December 4, 2014 and the application is due on February 27, 2015. This grant funding requires no state matching funds. There is no federal requirement for maintenance of effort.

The goal of this grant is to reduce the prevalence of oral disease in both pregnant women and infants most at risk through improved access to quality oral health care. The intent is to integrate quality oral health services for pregnant women and infants most at risk for oral disease into the health care delivery system statewide.

Agency Action

The Public Health Division's Oral Health Program developed a project between 2009-2012, called First Tooth. First Tooth trained medical providers to conduct oral health screenings, risk assessments and fluoride varnish applications to high risk infants and toddlers during well-child visits with child health care providers. In collaboration with the Oregon Oral Health Coalition (OrOHC), this grant will enable the Division to expand these efforts to include services for pregnant women. The First Tooth program was transitioned to the OrOHC at the conclusion of the grant funding.

Oregon is uniquely positioned for this grant. Dental services were integrated into the Coordinated Care Organization (CCO) model in 2014, but many CCOs need guidance on how best to deliver services, particularly preventive services, to the highest risk populations.

This grant funding would support training and ongoing technical assistance to CCOs, as well as ensuring statewide coordination of efforts. Additionally, it would support expanding opportunities for access to direct oral health services; increase delivery of sustainable best practices, including ensuring competencies of primary care providers; and enhance statewide data sources..

At the conclusion of this grant, CCOs will implement more effective preventive oral health services to pregnant women and infants, ultimately this will reduce health care costs and benefit child development. This grant aligns with existing projects and brings together a collaborative of oral health stakeholders such as the Oregon Oral Health Coalition, Multnomah County Health Department, OHA Division of Medical Assistance Programs, the Health Transformation Center, the OHA Child Health Director, the Early Learning Division, Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Center, and Oregon Health & Sciences University – Community Dentistry. The grant requires establishing a Project Advisory Board that must include representatives from Early Head Start, WIC, Home Visiting, American Academy of Pediatrics, American Academy of Pediatric Dentists, American Dental Association, and American College of Nurse-Midwives, as well as other key state specific partners.

One new limited duration Operations and Policy Analyst 3 position will be requested for the grant activities. Two other existing positions will be repurposed to fulfill other parts of the grant requirements to facilitate collaboration among community partners, CCOs and OHA; and to oversee the data and evaluation requirements.

Action Requested

OHA requests approval to apply for the federal grant described in this letter.

Legislation Affected

None.

Additional Information

For additional information from OHA, please contact Cate Wilcox at cate.s.wilcox@state.or.us or at 971-673-0299.

Sincerely,



Kelly Ballas
Chief Financial Officer

CC: Ken Rocco, Legislative Fiscal Office
George Naughton, Department of Administrative Services
Linda Ames, Legislative Fiscal Office
Kate Nass, Department of Administrative Services