

Item Title: Additional Funds from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Specific Action Requested:

That the Board of Commissioners accepts and appropriates \$1,006,976 of revenues and expenditures into the Grants and Donations Fund from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Item Summary:

Purpose: In accordance with the North Carolina Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act, the Board of Commissioners must approve all amendments that increase the budget for a fund.

Background: On May 1, 2023, the Board of Commissioners accepted a grant of \$10,927,123 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and established 18 positions to strengthen Public Health infrastructure, workforce, and data systems used to promote and protect health in Wake County. The CDC has awarded additional funding to Wake County to expand these efforts.

This funding will provide support for core infrastructure improvements to the Public Health workforce for assessment and surveillance, community partnership development, organization capacities, policy development and support, accountability and performance management, emergency preparedness and response, and communication.

Infrastructure improvements such as hiring new staff, retaining existing staff, better addressing staff wellness, increasing, and improving training, and professional development opportunities will serve immediate needs to respond and improve public health outcomes that worsened or stalled during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Strategic Plan: This action supports Community Health and Wellbeing Goal 3: By 2029, 5% more residents asked will indicate low barriers to healthcare and behavioral health services, such as access to providers, insurance coverage, affordability and appointment wait times.

Fiscal Impact: This allocation provides an additional \$1,006,976 of annually renewed revenues and expenditures in the Health and Human Services Grants and Donations Fund. The Federal dollars will continue funding eight (8) FTEs and programmatic costs. No county funding is required. The current funding period is December 1, 2025 – November 30, 2026, however funding is renewed annually through

November 30, 2027. If there is no continuation after the funding period ends, the positions will be abolished.

Additional Information:

The CDC provides funding opportunities for state and local government public health agencies to protect the health and welfare of their respective communities through public health infrastructure, programs, and service investments. To assist public health departments and other public health partners in continuing their work, this funding will support strengthening public health capacity and systems related to workforce, foundational capabilities, data modernization, and support from national public health partners.

The Wake County Public Health Department recognizes history of underinvestment in the most economically and socially marginalized communities. This grant represents an opportunity to continue the support that Public Health has initiated and to enhance the involvement in serving these communities in a more equitable way.

To accomplish this, Public Health will build up community outreach and continue to enhance our efforts through the collaboration of Public Health and Social Services initiatives. Critical to this endeavor is hiring new staff, retaining existing staff, better addressing staff wellness, providing more and better training, and professional development opportunities. Public Health also aims to create community partnerships with the goal of better serving our historically marginalized populations, sustainable recruitment pipelines and public health brand recognition as an employer of choice. Success will be evaluated against current spending costs associated with turnover and employee satisfaction. CDC requires quarterly reporting in one of their systems and Public Health will use the same reporting structure established with the existing CDC grant.

In May 2023, CDC awarded Wake County \$10,927,123 with this additional allocation, the total funding will be \$13,948,051. To date, expenditures are \$3,339,455.

Public Health intends to utilize the additional grant funds as itemized below. All grant-related purchases, procurements, and fiscal transactions will be made to further the goals of the grant and in accordance with Wake County fiscal policies and procedures.

| Budget Category | Funds Received as of Novemeber 2025 | Additaional Allocation December 2025 | Total |
|----------------------|--|---|-------------------|
| Personnel Cost | 5,399,224 | 438,650 | 5,837,874 |
| Supplies | 128,095 | 1,000 | 129,095 |
| Travel | 144,088 | 8,020 | 152,108 |
| Contractual Services | 4,839,116 | 547,906 | 5,387,022 |
| Other | 2,430,552 | 11,400 | 2,441,952 |
| Grand Total | 12,941,075 | 1,006,976 | 13,948,051 |

Attachments:

1. Public Health Workforce Updated Organizational Chart
2. Notice of Award
3. Budget Memo – FY2026 Grants and Donations Fund