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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

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Lori A. Shibinette
Commissioner

Lisa M. Morris
Director

February 4, 2020

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
and the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Authorize the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health Services, Bureau of Informatics, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance program to accept and expend other funds in the amount of $39,666 from the Alzheimer's Association, University of New Hampshire's Institute on Disability and University of New Hampshire's Office of Occupational Health to fund the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance program effective upon approval by Governor and Council through June 30, 2020 and further authorize the funds to be allocated as follows. 100% Other funds.

05-95-90-900510-86670000 HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES, DEPT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, HHS: DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH, BUREAU OF INFORMATICES, (BRFS) BEHAVIORIAL RISK FACTOR SURVEILLANCE

SFY 2020

Class/Object	Class Title	Current Modified Budget	Increase (Decrease) Amount	Revised Modified Budget
000-403096	Federal Funds	$563,165	$0	$563,165
005-401716	Other Funds	$21,834	$39,666	$61,500
	General Funds	$0	$0	$0
Total Revenue		$584,999	$39,666	$624,655
010-500100	Personal Serv - Perm	$68,952	$0	$68,952
020-500200	Current Expense	$100	$0	$100
039-500188	Telecommunications	$100	$0	$100
041-500801	Audit Fund Set Aside	$321	$0	$321
042-500620	Additional Fringe Benefits	$7,192	$0	$7,192
060-500601	Benefits	$42,738	$0	$42,738
070-500709	In State Travel	$250	$0	$250
080-500179	Out-of-State Travel	$4,000	$0	$4,000
519-500360	Behavior Risk Factor Survey	$461,346	$39,666	$501,012
Total Expenses		$584,999	$39,666	$624,665

EXPLANATION

The additional funds would be used to supplement the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) federal funding for conducting 6,000 telephone health interviews annually implemented under the New Hampshire Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (NH BRFSS) Program.

The NH BRFSS is a statewide, random telephone survey of adults that has been conducted annually in New Hampshire for the past twenty years. The survey period begins in January of each year and continues for the next twelve consecutive calendar months without interruption.

The objective of the NH BRFSS is to measure the prevalence of specific health risk behaviors among New Hampshire citizens as well as to understand their knowledge of both the health risks and health benefits that can be influenced by individual behavior. The telephone survey provides information about health related behaviors at the state and county levels as well as for the Cities of Manchester and Nashua.

Information is also collected about the prevalence of health conditions such as asthma, diabetes and cardiovascular disease. No personally identifiable information is collected. Participation in the survey is voluntary.

The information from the survey is used by the Department of Health and Human Services to identify high-risk segments of the population and to plan, implement and evaluate strategies and activities to promote health and prevent disease. This information is also used to inform policy makers and the public to assist with setting health program priorities. The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey is the only comprehensive source of data for measuring general health status, behavior, prevention and screening in the adult population in New Hampshire.

Funds are budgeted as follows:
Class 519 – The funds included here will be used towards the contracted survey and data collection activities.

In response to the anticipated two-part question, "Can these funds be used to offset General Funds?" and "What is the compelling reason for not offsetting General Funds?" the Division offers the following information: These funds may not be used to offset General Funds as they are specifically granted to the State for the purpose of providing the services described above.

These funds will not change the program eligibility levels. No new program will be established with the acceptance of these funds.

Area served: Statewide

Source of funds: These funds are 100% Other – Operating Grants Local Funds.

Attached are copies of the letters of commitment of funds from the three organizations. A smaller amount was added to the operating budget, as the funds were not anticipated at this higher

level at the time the budget was developed. This request is to accept the difference from what was budgeted, $21,834, to what is being awarded, $61,500, for a total of $39,666.

In the event that these Other funds are no longer available, General Funds will not be requested to support this program.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Shibinette

Lori A. Shibinette
Commissioner

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November 5, 2019

Kim C. Lim, PhD, MPH
BRFSS Coordinator
Bureau of Public Health Statistics and Informatics
New Hampshire Division of Public Health Services
29 Hazen Drive
Concord, NH 03301-6504

Dear Dr. Lim:

This letter is to convey the importance of collecting data from the Cognitive Decline Optional Module in the 2020 New Hampshire Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) survey. Subjective cognitive decline (SCD) – the measure collected by the Cognitive Decline Module – is one of the earliest warning signs of Alzheimer's and other dementias. In 2019, an estimated 25,000 New Hampshirites were living with Alzheimer's with another 7,000 projected to develop dementia in just the next six years. Collecting data from the New Hampshire BRFSS provides valuable information about the number and demographics of adults in the state aged 45 and older who are experiencing SCD and may be at an increased risk of later developing dementia. Data like these help guide public health interventions, programs, and services to reduce the future burden of dementia.

The Alzheimer's Association will support the cost of the Cognitive Decline Module as an Optional Module for the amount of $27,000 for the 2020 New Hampshire BRFSS. By accepting this funding, the New Hampshire Division of Public Health Services agrees to include the Cognitive Decline Module as an Optional Module and upload the data to CDC in accordance with Optional Module procedures. Please invoice the Alzheimer's Association through an email to John Shean (jshean@alz.org) by November 20, 2020.

Please feel free to call with any questions and thank you for your continued partnership.

Sincerely,

Robert Egge
Chief Public Policy Officer

Cc: Molly French, Director of Public Health

Institute on Disability/UCED

University of New Hampshire

NH Disability &
Public Health Project

10 West Edge Drive
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November 15, 2019

Kim C. Lim, PhD, MPH
BRFSS Coordinator
Bureau of Public Health Statistics and Informatics
New Hampshire Division of Public Health Services
29 Hazen Drive
Concord, NH 03301-6504

Dear Dr Lim:

The New Hampshire Disability & Public Health project uses annual data collected by the New Hampshire Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) to create and disseminate surveillance products related to the public health of people with disabilities in New Hampshire, in accordance with our CDC-funded workplans. Given that 1 in 4 adults in New Hampshire reports a disability, efforts to surveil and improve the health of this population by promoting their inclusion in state public health programs and initiatives is vital. The BRFSS includes 6 questions in the core survey that help us identify people with disabilities and monitor their status and outcomes, statewide and by public health region.

The New Hampshire Disability & Public Health project will provide $30,000 to support the cost of the core BRFSS and the selected optional modules for 2020. By accepting this funding, the New Hampshire Division of Public Health Services agrees to conduct the BRFSS and share the data in accordance with established data use agreement protocols. Please request these funds from the New Hampshire Disability & Public Health project no later than May 31, 2020 by emailing an invoice to Kimberly Phillips (Kimberly.Phillips@unh.edu).

Feel free to get in touch with any questions and thank you for continuing this important work.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Phillips, PhD
Research Assistant Professor

DPH
NH Disability & Public Health Project

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November 20, 2019

Kim C. Lim, PhD, MPH
BRFSS Coordinator
Bureau of Public Health Statistics and Informatics
New Hampshire Division of Public Health Services
29 Hazen Drive
Concord, NH 03301-6504

Dear Dr. Lim:

Please accept this letter as confirmation that the NH Occupational Health Surveillance Program (NH OHSP) at the Institute on Disability at the University of New Hampshire is committed to supporting the state added question on work-related injury on the 2020 NH Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (BRFSS).

NH has an important history in informing work-related injury prevention efforts through the surveillance of injury requiring medical attention and payer source through the NH BRFSS. The NH OHSP is also leading an effort to work with nine other states to conduct a multi-state analysis of work-related injury combined with other variables on the BRFSS, including industry and occupation and access to insurance.

Including the work-related injury question is especially important in 2020, as the state will be asking other questions on opioid use. Emerging research on workplace injury surveillance indicates an association between injury at work and opioid use. It will be critical to analyze these relationships in order to better target prevention efforts.

The NH OHSP will support the state added question for $4,500 for the 2020 NH BRFSS.

Thank you for your continued partnership.

Sincerely,

Karla Armenti

Karla Armenti, MS, ScD.

Principal Investigator, NH Occupational Health Surveillance Program