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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

Lori A. Shibinette
Commissioner

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Director

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March 30, 2022

The Honorable Karen Umberger, Chairman
Fiscal Committee of the General Court and

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

REQUESTED ACTION

Pursuant to the provisions of RSA 14:30-a, VI, authorize the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health Services to accept and expend federal funds from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), in the amount of $120,120 effective upon Fiscal Committee and Governor and Executive Council approval through June 30, 2023 and further authorize the allocation of these funds in the account below. These funds will be used for the Department to support a community-based surveillance wastewater testing to understand the burden of COVID-19 in those communities that have sewer systems. This is an allowable use of ARP FRF funds under Section 602 (c)(1)(A) to respond to the public health emergency or its negative economic impacts. 100% Federal Funds.

05-095-094-940010-24650000[1] HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES, DEPT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, HHS: NEW HAMPSHIRE HOSPITAL, NEW HAMPSHIRE HOSPITAL, ARPA DHHS FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS

[1] All direct program costs will be accounted for using activity 00FRF602PH9523A and all administrative and indirect costs will be accounted for using activity 00FRF602PH9523Z. Accounting classifications may be subject to technical changes at the discretion of the Department of Administrative Services' Division of Accounting Services.

CLASS OBJ	CLASS TITLE	Current Modified Budget	Increase/ (Decrease) Amount	Revised Modified Budget
000-400338-16	Federal Funds	$ 57,124,593	$ 120,120	$ 57,244,713
	General Fund	$ -	$ -	$ -
	Total Revenue	**$ 57,124,593**	**$ 120,120**	**$ 57,244,713**
010-500100	Personal Services Perm Class	$ 245,500		$ 245,500
020-500200	Current Expenses	$ 1		$ 1
030-500301	Equipment New/Replacement	$ 1		$ 1
040-500800	Indirect Costs	$ 2,121,473		$ 2,121,473
041-500801	Audit Fund Set Aside	$ 35,795	$ 120	$ 35,915
042-500620	Additional Fringe Benefits	$ 8,733		$ 8,733
046-500462	Consultants	$ 1		$ 1
047-500240	Own Forces Maintenance (Bldg-Grnds)	$ 1		$ 1
048-500226	Contract Repairs: Bldg, Grounds	$ 1		$ 1
059-500117	Temp Full Time	$ 98,792		$ 98,792
060-500601	Benefits	$ 180,751		$ 180,751
102-500731	Contracts for Program Services	$ 42,662,320	$ 120,000	$ 42,782,320
103-502507	Contracts for Operational Services	$ 11,771,224		$ 11,771,224
	Total Expenses	**$ 57,124,593**	**$ 120,120**	**$ 57,244,713**

EXPLANATION

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the New Hampshire Division of Public Health Services (DPHS), the University of New Hampshire (UNH) and local communities have begun to develop methods to track the presence of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, in local wastewater samples.

Wastewater samples are collected to understand the burden of COVID-19 in communities that have sewer systems. This data helps public health officials monitor COVID-19 trends over time and monitor for emergence and distribution of variants. Samples are reflective of the presence of COVID-19 in the community wastewater system and cannot be tracked back to individual households. Based on national data, wastewater surveillance for COVID-19 leads clinical reporting of cases by approximately seven (7) days.

Since August 2020, UNH has coordinated the sampling and characterization of SARS-CoV-2 biomarkers in UNH Durham dorm samples, select communities and the New Hampshire Hospital. This request for ARPA funds will allow New Hampshire to partner with UNH to expand the program this Spring to a minimum of twenty local communities prior to the potential of increased cases of COVID-19 in the Fall 2022. DPHS anticipates additional funding in the Fall of 2022 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to provide ongoing support for testing and data analysis. DHHS will consult with the Department of Environmental Services to ensure sampling locations and methods are appropriate.

Funds will be budgeted as follows:

Class 041 – The funds will be used to pay for audit fund set aside per State requirement.
Class 102 – The funds will be used to pay for the contract with the University of New Hampshire for testing.

Area served: Statewide

Source of Funds: These funds are 100% Federal.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Lori A. Shibinette
Commissioner