



COLLIN COUNTY

Collin County Health Care Services
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TO: Health Care Board of Trustees
FROM: Candy Blair, Health Care Administrator
DATE: June 16, 2020
RE: Renewal Application—FY 2021 Texas DSHS Grant for TB Prevention and Control (Federal Funds)

Attached for approval is the application for federal funds from the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS). The grant is designated for the provision of tuberculosis (TB) prevention and control efforts in our county. DSHS recently issued a letter indicating the county's opportunity to renew its current TB Federal contract in the amount of \$114,386. The renewal contract period begins on 1/1/2021 and extends through 12/31/2021. Consequently, our county submitted a budget and Inter-Local Application to meet the state's deadline of 6/22/2020. The County match as required by the state is \$22,877. We will meet the match obligation by using existing employee salary and fringe benefits. The Federal TB grant has been renewed every year for several years, and the FY2021 allocation reflects level funding for the upcoming fiscal year.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), if left untreated, each person with active TB disease will infect on average between 10 and 15 people every year. But people infected with TB bacilli will not necessarily become sick with the disease. The immune system "walls off" the TB bacilli which, protected by a thick waxy coat, can lie dormant for years. When someone's immune system is weakened, the chances of becoming sick are greater.

- Someone in the world is newly infected with TB bacilli every second.
- Overall, one-third of the world's population is currently infected with the TB bacillus.
- 5-10% of people who are infected with TB bacilli (but who are not infected with HIV) become sick or infectious at some time during their life. People with HIV and TB infection are much more likely to develop TB.

The best way to stop transmission is to identify and isolate patients with infectious TB immediately and start effective TB therapy. Infectiousness declines rapidly after adequate therapy is started, as long as the patient adheres to the prescribed regimen. The overall goals for treatment of tuberculosis are (1) to cure the individual patient, and (2) to minimize the transmission of TB to other persons. Thus, successful treatment of tuberculosis has benefits both for the individual patient and the community in which the patient resides.

TB is a communicable disease caused by *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*. TB is spread from person to person through the air. When a person with pulmonary or laryngeal TB coughs, sneezes, speaks, or sings, droplet nuclei containing *M. tuberculosis* are expelled into the air. Depending on the environment, these tiny particles (1-5 microns in diameter) can remain suspended in the air for several hours. If another person inhales air containing droplet nuclei, transmission may occur.

Texas is ranked second in the top five leading U.S. States by number of TB cases. Collin County has outpaced Texas and the nation in population growth over the last several years and the demands for TB services in Collin County remain constant. In order to keep up with those demands and to continue to fulfill our assigned public health role, we will use this money to continue to fund TB staffing, purchase office supplies, travel for home visits, and meet other TB clinic needs.