



## COLLIN COUNTY

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**TO:** Collin County Health Care Board of Trustees

**FROM:** Candy Blair, Administrator, Health Care Services

**DATE:** December 6, 2021

**RE:** Application for Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) FY 2021-2025 Disease Intervention Specialist (DIS) Workforce Grant, Award Amount \$469,545.00. – New Funding

Attached is the FY 2021-2025 application for DSHS DIS Workforce Grant funds for a grant period that will begin upon contract execution through December 31, 2025. The total amount for Contract Term 1: January 1, 2022 – August 31, 2022 for this grant award is \$469,545.00. Due to the grant application being due 11/04/2021, the application was submitted to DSHS in a timely manner and needs approval.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) awarded Texas funding to increase capacity to conduct disease investigations, provide residents linkage to disease prevention and treatment, infection control, and response for sexually transmitted infectious diseases.

This new funding opportunity was offered to 14 Local Health Entities across the State of Texas and is a unique opportunity for local health departments. This award will also support response to public health threats to include spread of COVID-19. DSHS has indicated there is a possibility that this grant will receive continuous funding in future years to sustain this funding.

Local Health Department awards are “one-time” only and activities should not incur future reoccurring costs beyond December 31, 2025. No county match is required.

Upon contract execution, the Health Department will restructure the STD Program to enhance programming and disease intervention/surveillance capacity.

This funding will enable the Health Department to hire (1) Project Manager, (2) Disease Intervention Specialists, and (2) Epidemiologist positions until December 31, 2025.

The new Disease Intervention Specialist (DIS) positions will increase capacity for case management, disease surveillance, and counseling services within the county. This program requires DIS personnel with specific knowledge and training to meet program objectives.

I respectfully request that you approve this new funding.

CB/cj