

For Information

DATE: April 29, 2011

REPORT TITLE: **ONE TIME FUNDING FOR THE HEALTHY BABIES HEALTHY CHILDREN PROGRAM**

FROM: Janette Smith, Commissioner of Health Services
 David L. Mowat, MBChB, MPH, FRCPC, Medical Officer of Health

OBJECTIVE

To inform Regional Council of one time funding received from the Ministry of Children and Youth Services for the purpose of strengthening the role of Public Health Nurses in the Healthy Babies Healthy Children program.

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- The Ministry of Children and Youth Services is providing 100 per cent one-time funding of \$283,000 for the Healthy Babies Healthy Children program.
- Staff gapping will be reduced resulting in increased service delivery to at risk families in 2011.
- The Regional Chair and program staff continue to advocate for increased base funding for Healthy Babies Healthy Children.

DISCUSSION

1. Background

The report titled, Healthy Babies Healthy Children Funding Update, (Regional Council, January 13, 2011) highlighted the funding challenges the program has been experiencing since a provincial funding freeze was imposed in 2007. As outlined in that report, the program requires an additional \$665,961 just to maintain 2007 service levels.

The Regional Chair and program staff continue to advocate for the appropriate level of funding for Healthy Babies Healthy Children service delivery in Peel.

2. Implications for One Time Funding

As outlined in Appendix I, the Ministry of Children and Youth Services has provided \$283,000 as one time funding to hire, train and develop additional Public Health Nurses to improve access and timeliness of service within the Healthy Babies Healthy Children program. Without this funding, at risk clients would have to wait longer for service. This funding will allow for earlier assessment of their families' needs with brief intervention and referral to community services as required.

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The specific service levels that will be increased during 2011 as a result of this funding are in-depth assessments and high-risk home visits:

	In-Depth Assessments	High-Risk Home Visits
Without One-time Funding	1,482	4,446
With One-time Funding	1,662	4,986
One-time Increase In Service Level	180	540

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The 2011 Healthy Babies Healthy Children budget constraints require the program to gap 7.4 Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) to meet the provincial Ministry of Children and Youth Service funding. This additional one time funding will provide temporary budget relief and allow Peel Health to hire the equivalent of six casual Public Health Nurses for six months to address ongoing service demands in 2011. This funding reduces our effective gapping requirement in the current year to 4.4 FTE.

The one-time grant is a positive indication that the Ministry of Children and Youth recognize the funding shortfall and we will continue to lobby to ensure the program is adequately funded in Peel.

CONCLUSION

Receipt of this funding allows us to reduce staff gapping requirements with no additional cost to the Region of Peel taxpayer. As a result, more high risk families in Peel will receive service.



Janette Smith
Commissioner of Health Services



David L. Mowat, MBChB, MPH, FRCPC
Medical Officer of Health

Approved for Submission:


D. Swarc, Chief Administrative Officer

For further information regarding this report, please contact Anne Fenwick at extension 2449 or via email at anne.fenwick@peelregion.ca

c. Legislative Services
 Manager, Financial Support Unit (FSU)

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APPENDIX I

Ministry of Children and Youth Services

Ministère des Services à l'enfance et à la jeunesse

Early Learning and Child Development Branch

Direction de l'apprentissage et du développement des jeunes enfants

Strategic Policy and Planning Division
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March 25, 2011

Dr. David Mowat
Medical Officer of Health
Regional Municipality of Peel
Public Health Department
44 Peel Centre Drive, 4th Floor
Brampton, ON L6T 4B5

Dear Dr. Mowat:

I am pleased to inform you of the approval of one-time funding in the amount of \$283,000 to support training and development to further strengthen the role of public health nurses within the Healthy Babies Healthy Children Program.

Based on our recent conversation with Anne Fenwick, Director of Family Health, we anticipate receiving correspondence from you detailing the breakdown of use of the above one-time funds.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call Hamida Bhimani, Program Consultant at 416-325-8347.

Sincerely,

Stacey Weber, Manager, Early Years Programs Unit
Early Learning and Child Development Branch

- c: Anne Fenwick, Director, Family Health
- Stephen VanOfwegen, Director, Business Information Systems
- Dominika Paczkowska, Financial Analyst, Public Health Department
- Olga Mirzoian, Financial Analyst, MCYS