

**GOODHUE COUNTY  
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES (GCHHS)**



**REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION**

<b>Requested Board Date:</b>	March 19, 2024	<b>Staff Lead:</b>	Ruth Greenslade
<b>Consent Agenda:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<b>Attachments:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Action Requested:</b>	Approval Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Local Concurrence Letter		

**BACKGROUND:**

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) is required to obtain annual concurrence from local health departments and tribal officials regarding the general approach of the activities MDH will take towards achieving public health preparedness through the use of federal Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) funds. These strategies for the new PHEP five-year project period, 2024 - 2029 emphasize risk assessments, plan development and revisions, coordinated planning, training, exercises, data modernization, administrative and fiscal preparedness, and health equity. The new five-year project period begins July 1, 2024. The CDC has advised MDH that the budget period 1 (July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025) funding amounts will be issued once Congress has passed a federal fiscal year budget.

CDC requires the concurrence be sent on agency letterhead and signed by an authorized agency representative. Goodhue County Health and Human Services is a recipient of the PHEP funds and attached please find our county letter to meet this concurrent requirement. MDH requested the letter on 3/13/2024 with a due date of 4/3/2024.

**RECOMMENDATION:** HHS Department recommends approval as requested.



Goodhue County  
**Health and Human Services**

**Public Health Division**  
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Red Wing, MN 55066  
(651) 385-3200 • Fax (651) 267-4882

March 19, 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) five-year Project Period 5, July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2028, provides a detailed list of strategies and activities that state and local public health departments must accomplish during this time period. These strategies and activities are consistent with the ten principles in the newly introduced Response Readiness Framework (RRF) and the Strategies and Activities outlined in the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO).

The specific Community Health Board (CHB) Grant Duties for the five-year project period were developed through an iterative process with a work group of local public health representatives, review and discussions with the State Community Health Services Advisory Committee (SCHSAC) PHEP Oversight Work Group, and input and direction from the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) Division of Emergency Preparedness and Response. The work groups reviewed the NOFO and the RRF as part of their discussions. The discussions also included the requirements for the Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI), tiering grant duties to align with funding levels and CHB capacity, base expectations such as attending MDH - sponsored training and responding to Health Alert Network (HANs), and efforts to continue improving response readiness and ability to rapidly recover from incidents and events. Additionally, this year the work groups addressed aligning and complementing but not replicating work occurring with the state funded Response Sustainability Grant.

I certify that my Community Health Board – Goodhue County Health and Human Services (GCHHS) Board concurs with the general approach to public health emergency preparedness as outlined by MDH.

Sincerely,

Nina Arneson, MS  
GCHHS Director

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