

Board of Health for Madison and Dane County
Resolution #2023 – 34

Authorization to Accept Funds from the National Association of County & City Health Officials to Support Evaluation of Harm Reduction Strategies

Public Health Madison and Dane County (PHMDC) proposes the acceptance of an estimated \$38,000 of funding, if awarded, from the National Association of County & City Health Officials (NACCHO) to support the Substance Use Prevention & Harm Reduction Unit in evaluation efforts.

Public Health's Syringe Services Program (SSP) provides low-barrier access to sterile supplies for safer substance use, overdose prevention tools, safe syringe disposal, overdose recognition and response training, and access to services for HIV, substance use disorders, and behavioral health needs.

The proposed NACCHO funding would allow PHMDC to conduct a robust evaluation of the effectiveness of safer smoking supply distribution as a harm reduction and overdose prevention strategy. Specifically, to evaluate if distribution of these supplies expand program reach, reduce injection drug use and frequency, and increase access to services by communities of color disproportionately impacted by fatal overdoses. At the end of the project an evaluation report will be released to contribute to the national evidence base on harm reduction strategies. PHMDC is one of few SSP's nationally distributing and collecting data on smoking supplies and is uniquely situated to share results with the field.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Health for Madison and Dane County on behalf of Public Health Madison and Dane County authorizes the Director of Public Health, or their designee, to enter into and sign an agreement with the National Association of City and County Health Officials for the Substance Use Prevention & Harm Reduction program evaluation efforts; and

BE IT FINALLY, RESOLVED, that the Board of Health for Madison and Dane County on behalf of Public Health Madison and Dane County authorizes the Director of Public Health, or their designee, to accept and expend an estimated amount of \$38,000, should it be awarded and adjust the Public Health Budget accordingly.

Drafted by: Julia Olsen and Kaileen Mayoh
Introduced: 11/01/2023
Action: