

CITY OF HAMILTON

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES Healthy Living Division

TO: Mayor and Members Board of Health	WARD(S) AFFECTED: CITY WIDE
COMMITTEE DATE: September 26, 2011	
SUBJECT/REPORT NO: Public Health School Asthma Project Budget (BOH11029) (City Wide)	
SUBMITTED BY: Elizabeth Richardson, MD, MHSc, FRCPC, Medical Officer of Health Public Health Services Department	PREPARED BY: Marie Verbickas (905) 546-2424 ext. 3548 Dana Martin (905) 546-2424 ext. 6683
SIGNATURE:	

RECOMMENDATION

That the 2011-2012 budget for the Public Health School Asthma Project (PHSAP) in the amount of \$103,200, which is 100% funded by the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care, be approved.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Public Health School Asthma Project is an evidence-based program with the goal of improving the well-being of children with asthma by providing education and support to schools and child care settings. Funding for 2011 - 2012 has been confirmed at \$103,200, which includes a 3% increase from the 2010 - 2011 base funding.

Alternatives for Consideration – See page 4

FINANCIAL / STAFFING / LEGAL IMPLICATIONS (for Recommendation(s) only)

Financial:

The project is funded 100 % by the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care and funds 1.0 FTE Public Health Nurse. The funding period is from April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012.

Year	Approved Annual Base Budget	One Time Grants
2009-2010	\$97,300	\$3,500
2010-2011	\$100,200	0
2011-2012	\$103,200	0

Staffing:

There are no staffing implications.

Legal:

There is an existing contractual agreement that governs the Public Health School Asthma Project that is signed by the Medical Officer of Health. The contract is reviewed annually by Legal Services staff, as part of the contract review process.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND (Chronology of events)

Asthma is the most common chronic disease in children. As many as one in five children in Ontario have asthma. It is a significant cause of hospitalization in children and work absenteeism for parents. Asthma accounts for more missed school days than any other childhood illness.

In 2000, following recommendations from an inquest into the death of a teen with asthma, the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care announced its Asthma Plan of Action. From 2002 to 2006, asthma education and resources were available to elementary schools in the four health units via the Public Health School Asthma Pilot Project (PHSAPP). This project produced many positive outcomes and was therefore deemed successful. As a result of the pilot project findings, the Ministry has continued to fund the Public Health School Asthma Project for four health units (Hamilton, Halton, Durham and Sudbury) since 2006.

Locally, the PHSAP Coordinator continues to collaborate with school administrators, teachers and superintendents of the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board and the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board, Affiliated Services For Children and

Youth, the Primary Care Asthma Program (PCAP) site at the North Hamilton Community Health Centre (NHCHC), and with staff from within Public Health Services and other City Departments. The Hamilton PHSAP Coordinator partners with the PCAP at NHCHC to provide asthma education to elementary school children in that community.

Regionally, the PHSAP Coordinator works closely with the coordinators from the other three participating health units, the Ontario Physical Health Education Association, the Ontario Lung Association, the Asthma Society of Canada and representatives from the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care, Health Promotion and Education.

In 2011-2012, plans are underway to explore opportunities to collaborate with early learning centres, childcare settings and Recreation Centres. The newly developed Creating Asthma Friendly Childcare manual will be made available to every childcare setting in Hamilton.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no corporate policy implications.

RELEVANT CONSULTATION

Public Health Services has consulted with Finance and Administration and the Senior Program Consultant at the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care regarding the preparation of the 2011–2012 Public Health School Asthma Project budget and work plan. The Senior Program Consultant at the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care approved the 2011 – 2012 budget and work plan.

ANALYSIS / RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

(include Performance Measurement/Benchmarking Data, if applicable)

The Public Health School Asthma Project continues to successfully address its objectives, which include the following:

1. To maintain three resources and two websites to support the uptake of PHSAP in Ontario elementary schools and child care centres.
2. To work with five to ten settings to enhance asthma awareness, asthma education and the creation of asthma friendly environments.
3. To implement 100% of the administrative activities to maintain and inform future direction of PHSAP.

4. Implement a plan to promote PHSAP and integrate asthma messages in collaboration with local, provincial and national partners
5. To attend a professional development opportunity to support implementation and improvement of the program
6. To participate at a minimum of one knowledge exchange event at the regional or provincial level.

ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION

(include Financial, Staffing, Legal and Policy Implications and pros and cons for each alternative)

The Board of Health could decide not to approve the Public Health School Asthma Project 2011-2012 budget. In doing so, the City of Hamilton Public Health Services would not receive 100% funding from the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care. Without funding, Public Health Services would not have the resources to implement the project in the City of Hamilton and would need to reduce staffing by 1.0 FTE Public Health Nurse.

CORPORATE STRATEGIC PLAN (Linkage to Desired End Results)

Focus Areas: 1. Skilled, Innovative and Respectful Organization, 2. Financial Sustainability, 3. Intergovernmental Relationships, 4. Growing Our Economy, 5. Social Development, 6. Environmental Stewardship, 7. Healthy Community

Intergovernmental Relationships

- Acquire greater share of Provincial grants (including those that meet specific needs)
- Maintain effective relationships with other public agencies

Social Development

- Residents in need have access to adequate support services
- People participate in all aspects of community life with out barriers and stigma

APPENDICES / SCHEDULES

N/A