


 POSITION PAPER FOR AGENDA ITEM

TO:	Cumberland County Commissioners
FROM:	Liz Blackwell-Moore
DATE:	3/1125
SUBJECT:	Proposal in response to the Maine Health Access Foundation's RFP for Systems Improvement and Innovation Response Grant

Requested Action:

Authorize the County Manager to submit a proposal to the Maine Health Access Foundation in response to the FY 2025 Systems Improvement and Innovation Response Grant.

Background & Purpose of Request:

The Maine Health Access Foundation (MeHAF) released a Request for Applications for the FY 2025 Systems Improvement and Innovation Response Grant. The purpose of the Systems Improvement and Innovation Responsive Grants (SIIRG) program is to address policies, practices and perceptions that create disproportionate barriers to health and access to care for some groups of people relative to others by making changes at a system and/or organizational level. The target grant period runs from June 1, 2025-May 31, 2026 with up to \$50,000 awarded per year.

Cumberland County Public Health submitted a Letter of Inquiry in February and was chosen by MeHAF to submit a full proposal for consideration. The grant funds will be used by Cumberland County Public Health to support the implementation of an existing community action plan for improving systems and services for justice involved people who use drugs in Cumberland County Maine. Specifically, these funds will be used for hiring a part time project coordinator (0.5 FTE) for two years. The Coordinator will be housed within Cumberland County Public Health. The Behavioral Public Health Manager, who has been organizing and providing backbone support for the initiative, will continue to lead the initiative and will supervise the Project Coordinator. There is a 10% required percentage of cash or in-kind support (which in this case equals \$5000 per year). This requirement will be met with an in-kind contribution of 0.25 FTE of the Behavioral Public Health Manager, Brandon Irwin which is funded through the Opioid Settlement funds. The purpose of this Position Paper is to inform the Commissioners of the plan to apply for the MeHAF - SIIRG funding and receive authorization to submit.

Funding Amount and Source: \$100,000 over 2 years from Maine Health Access Foundation

Attachments: Staff memo on MEHAF SIIRG grant RFP

Agenda Item Number: _____ Date on Agenda: _____

Result

Mover: _____ Seconder: _____

Vote Tally:

Vote Result:

Roll Call Vote if Meeting Remotely:

Chair of Board, Date