

STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

Delegation of Authority for Purchase of Service Contracts

Date:	April 23, 2010
То:	Board of Health
From:	Medical Officer of Health
Wards:	All
Reference Number:	

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek delegated authority to conclude service agreements for the Diabetes Prevention Strategy program and the Dental Care to Street Youth and Low Income Adults program.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Medical Officer of Health recommends that:

- (1) City Council authorize the Medical Officer of Health to award, amend and execute, on an ongoing annual basis, purchase of service contracts for the Diabetes Prevention Strategy Program (Appendix B), and the Dental Care to Street Youth and Low Income Adults program (Appendix C), within the approved budget and in accordance with established provincial criteria and fee structures; and
- (2) The Board of Health include these service contracts in its annual report to the Executive Committee on the purchase of service contracts that have been awarded under the delegation of authority.

Financial Impact

This report has no financial impact beyond what has already been approved by Council in the 2010 Operating Budget for Toronto Public Health (TPH). Appendix A attached summarizes the service contracts by program for 2010.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

Purchase of service agreements with community agencies represent an effective way of increasing community access to service (geographically, culturally and to difficult to reach populations), expanding the range of services provided and creating service delivery efficiencies.

COMMENTS

TPH currently has service contracts with partner agencies that support service delivery in the community for the Diabetes Prevention Strategy program, and the Dental Care to Street Youth and Low Income Adults program.

Diabetes Prevention Strategy:

The TPH Diabetes Prevention Strategy is funded 100 per cent by the Ministry of Health Promotion. The purpose of the project is to deliver a program aimed at reducing the risk factors related to Type 2 diabetes in communities where there is an increased risk for developing Type 2 diabetes.

TPH is implementing the project in two communities within the City of Toronto. Using a thorough methodological process, the core project team was able to select the two communities.

Due to the nature of the project (population based health promotion strategies to reduce the risk of developing diabetes), TPH is partnering with Community Health Centers (CHC) in each of the selected communities to ensure that participants can be referred onto appropriate health care services if needed.

TAIBU Community Health Centre and Rexdale Community Health Centers are the partners who will receive funds to hire and supervise a community outreach worker(s). These community outreach workers will be integral to the planning, implementation and evaluation of the TPH Diabetes Prevention Strategy Pilot Project. TAIBU Community Health Centre and Rexdale Community Health Centre are the only community health centres located in their respective areas (see Appendix B).

As the administrative lead for the Diabetes Prevention Strategy, it is necessary for the Medical Officer of Health to award and execute the purchase of service agreements. Specific amounts of these contracts are based on the terms and conditions outlined in the funding agreement established with the Province.

Dental Care to Street Involved Youth and Low Income Adults program

In 2008 City Council approved the addition of \$77,450 to the TPH budget to fund four agencies that use volunteer dental professionals to provide dental services to street youth and low/no income adults who are unable to pay for dental care in the private sector.

These agencies are: SHOUT, Evergreen Youth Services, Parkdale Partners for Oral Health and Scarborough Urban Health Outreach dental clinic.

Low/no income adults are not eligible for the Toronto Public Health dental program. Street involved youth generally do not seek care in main stream organizations. They prefer to seek care at agencies that provide other supportive services for them.

The four agencies who currently receive funding through a purchase of service contract with Central Toronto Community Health Centres use these funds to purchase dental supplies, repair dental equipment and provide honorariums for some volunteer dental professionals. These funds assist with keeping the clinics operating and attracting volunteers.

Agencies who provide free dental care to these residents are also funded by charitable donations. It is important for the City to continue to assist with funding these agencies so this service can be maintained.

Conclusion:

Purchase of services from community agencies are an effective and efficient way to provide essential public health services. They build on existing service infrastructure in the community, facilitate community partnerships, support continuity of service to clients, and maximize service efficiencies.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

Dr. David McKeown Medical Officer of Health

ATTACHMENTS

Appendix A Toronto Public Health – 2010 Service Contracts Appendix B Diabetes Prevention Strategy Program Service Contracts Appendix C Dental Care to Street Youth and Low Income Adults Program Service Contracts

TORONTO PUBLIC HEALTH – 2010 SERVICE CONTRACTS				
PROGRAM	FUNDED BY:	AMOUNT (\$)		
Diabetes Prevention Strategy Program	100 % Province	140,000		
Dental Care to Street Youth and Low Income Adults	100% City	77,450		
TOTAL		217,450		

Appendix A

Appendix B

Diabetes Prevention Strategy Program Service Contracts

Agency	2010 Proposed Contract Amount (\$)
Rexdale Community Health Centre	70,000
TAIBU Community Health Centre	70,000
Total	140,000

Appendix C

Dental Care to Street Youth & Low Income Adults Program Service Contracts

Service Agency	2010 Contracts (\$)
Central Toronto Community Health Centres	77,450