Council Direction:
Not Applicable

Information:

The Family Health Division has received additional 100% funding for five programs:

1. **Best Start Initiative - Postpartum Mood Disorder Depression (PPMD) Component**

   **Funding** = $ 166,667 which includes funding for 1.0 FTE PHN
   **Goal:** To promote early identification of women with PPMD and ensure timely barrier-free access to service and support.

   This initiative has four main components that are PHN-led:
   - Expansion of current training programs for health professionals and community agency staff to identify mothers at risk for PPMD and use of the Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale (EPDS) to screen women.
   - Specific engagement of physicians to increase the identification of PPMD and ensuring early intervention is provided. This strategy will include the provision of relevant PPMD resources that physicians can provide to their patients.
   - The PPMD PHN will follow-up with the physicians of all clients registered in the Healthy Babies, Healthy Children Program who score positive on the EPDS to ensure appropriate supports are in place.
   - Educational initiatives targeted to potential child-bearing couples and their families.
2. **Best Start Initiative to Augment the Healthy Babies, Healthy Children (HBHC) Program**  
   **Funding** = $41,270.00 for 0.5 FTE PHN

At its September 18, 2006 the Board of Health received report PH06026 entitled ‘Staffing Reductions to the Healthy Babies, Healthy Children Program’ (PH06026). At that meeting, the Board of Health approved a reduction of 0.5 FTE PHN time from gapping to stay within the 2006 approved Healthy Babies, Healthy Children (HBHC) Program budget. The Board of Health also directed Public Health Services to make a final determination by January 1, 2007 if the permanent staffing reduction would come out of public health nurse or family home visitor complement of the approved (HBHC) Program budget. With the provision of the 0.5 FTE PHN funding from Best Start, no permanent staffing or service reductions will need to be implemented.

3. **Children’s Hospital of Eastern Ontario**

   **Funding** = $20,000.00 for 0.4 FTE Child & Youth Worker for one year with the opportunity to apply for a second year for the same amount  
   **Goal:** To support the implementation of Child & Adolescent’s Trauma Treatment Program in other children’s mental health counselling centres.

Child & Adolescent Services applied for funding from the Children’s Hospital of Eastern Ontario, Provincial Centre of Excellence for Child and Youth Mental Health. This Centre is funded and mandated by the Province to support research and program evaluation in children’s mental health. Funding secured for Hamilton will support a study comparing the effectiveness of models of treatment for children across several children’s centres in Ontario. The funding received will backfill one staff member, allowing her to work with other Children’s Mental Health Programs to utilize the Trauma Treatment model.

4. **Ontario Neurotrauma Foundation - Shaken Baby Syndrome Prevention Initiative**

   **Funding** = $41,270.00 for 0.5 FTE Public Health Nurse  
   **Goals:** To increase parental understanding of the risks of shaking a baby and reduce the incidence of Shaken Baby Syndrome

One PHN will be the lead for implementing this program in Hamilton. This will involve submitting reports and attending monthly teleconferences with others implementing the program in other sites in the province. PHNs will attend a two hour training session and then incorporate the 15 minute intervention into their visits. The program will be delivered to parents in Hamilton by Family Health Division staff, beginning with long-term high-risk families in the HBHC program. Support will be provided for one year and then if the initiative is deemed beneficial to clients, it will be integrated into existing practice for all HBHC clients.
5. St Joseph's Centre for Ambulatory Health Services – Babies Best Start Program

**Funding** = $80,574.00 for 1.0 FTE Public Health Nurse

**Goals:** To promote healthy pregnancies and the healthy growth and development of infants during their important first year of life.

St. Joseph's Centre for Ambulatory Health Services has requested to second a public health nurse to provide service through their Baby's Best Start Program (BBS). This is a program for pregnant women and mothers with babies under one year of age. The groups focus on nutrition and health education to promote healthy pregnancies and the healthy growth and development of infants during their important first year of life. There are five BBS programs running each week, year round in three community locations. The Family Health Division has similar secondment agreements with other community agencies and these are very successful partnerships.

**Summary**

The Family Health Division has received funding for a total of 3.0 PHNs and 0.4 FTE Child & Youth Worker for 2007. This funding will be used for four purposes: 1) to offset budget shortfalls in HBHC; 2) to support an evaluation of trauma treatment for young people; 3) to implement two new programs (Postpartum Mood Disorder initiative and Shaken Baby Prevention) intended to improve the health of children and families in Hamilton; and, 4) to support existing community partnerships (e.g. Babies Best Start).

Elizabeth Richardson
Medical Officer of Health

---

1 Actual costs incurred for professional development, mileage, parking, and cell phone are cost recovered through the secondment agreement.