SUBJECT: Healthy Babies/Healthy Children (HBHC) 2007 Budget BOH07048 (City Wide)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the 2007 Healthy Babies, Healthy Children Program budget which is 100% funded by the Province be approved.

Elizabeth Richardson, MD, MHSc, FRCPC
Medical Officer of Health
Public Health Services

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Healthy Babies Healthy Children Program is a 100% funded prevention and early intervention initiative intended to improve the well being and long-term prospects of children. PHS received an increase to the base HBHC budget of $111,121 (an increase of $3.6%). In addition, Hamilton was one of six public health units in Ontario recently selected to receive an additional $133,333 funding enhancement to the base HBHC budget. This additional HBHC program enhancement was designed by the province to provide more intensive, targeted supports and appropriate referrals for high risk women and families during the prenatal to early postpartum period.
BACKGROUND:

The Healthy Babies Healthy Children (HBHC) Program is a 100% funded prevention and early intervention initiative intended to improve the well being and long-term prospects of children. HBHC consists of seven services:

1. Telephone Intake, Screening and Assessment
2. Universal Postpartum Program (Postpartum Telephone Assessments and Home Visits)
3. In-Depth Assessments for Families with Identified Risk Factors for Growth and Development
4. Public Health Nurse and Family Home Visitor Home Visits to At-risk Families
5. Referral and Linkage to Needs Based Supports and Services.
6. Service Co-ordination for High Risk Families
7. Early Identification of children at risk for poor development

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Each year MCYS also provides health units with the opportunity to apply for one-time grants to augment their HBHC budgets. PHS received the following grants:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>One-Time Grants</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2006</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Central-West Family Home Visitor Conference</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>$6,726</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursing Student Summer Internship Program</td>
<td>$65,000</td>
<td>$65,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overtime Costs for Postpartum Assessment Clinic weekend work</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chart Audit</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>$4,411</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$115,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>$76,137</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The Nursing Student Summer Internship Program is a very successful program the Family Health Division has implemented over the last three years allowing PHS to hire new nursing graduates, provide them with an extensive orientation, and have them do work in the postpartum program component of HBHC over the summer. This provides the new graduates with a comprehensive orientation and marketable job skills. It
provides the Family Health Division with a way to augment staffing complement over the summer months during peak vacation periods. Most of the new graduates have been hired into vacancies within the HBHC program, reducing orientation costs. The Central-West Family Home Visitor Conference was held for the first time last year. The planning committee has representatives from all the Central-West Health units. Although the money is flowed to PHS it is intended to subsidize the full cost of the conference (food, transportation, speaker etc.) for all participants. With the implementation of the Postpartum Assessment Clinic additional unexpected weekend overtime costs were incurred and this grant has provided sufficient funding to cover these costs for 2007.

**ANALYSIS/RATIONALE:**

The HBHC Program provides a much-needed service for pregnant women, postpartum mothers and their newborns, and families with young children. In the new draft Ontario Public Health Standards, the prenatal component of HBHC has been added into Reproductive Health (HBHC currently is only in Child Health) signalling the province’s continued commitment to this foundational program. The Family Health Division is currently reviewing these revised implementation standards, revisiting service targets, and examining local reproductive health data in order to strengthen the long-term home visiting model.

**ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION:**

A more comprehensive report will be coming to the October Board of Health meeting with:
- A detailed budget for the Nurse Family Partnership project
- An update regarding the Postpartum Assessment Clinic model
- Recommendations for strengthening the long-term home visiting model

**FINANCIAL/STAFFING/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:**

City of Hamilton Healthy Babies Healthy Children Program Budget 2002-2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% Increase in Total Budget</th>
<th>Total Approved Budget</th>
<th>Total Salaries &amp; Wages</th>
<th>Total Operating Costs</th>
<th>Contracts</th>
<th>Approved PHS FTE</th>
<th>FHV FTE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>7.9%</td>
<td>3,330,206</td>
<td>2,310,733</td>
<td>257,850</td>
<td>646,623</td>
<td>31.50</td>
<td>17.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td>3,085,752</td>
<td>2,219,970</td>
<td>230,159</td>
<td>635,623</td>
<td>31.50</td>
<td>18.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>2,979,933</td>
<td>2,124,075</td>
<td>222,258</td>
<td>633,600</td>
<td>32.00</td>
<td>18.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>7.8%</td>
<td>2,770,895</td>
<td>1,961,310</td>
<td>222,186</td>
<td>587,399</td>
<td>28.20</td>
<td>16.4</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

1 = Family Home Visitors
2 = Total of $11,000 for physician consultation and honorariums for volunteers who assemble Let’s Grow packages
3= Excludes one-time grants
POLICIES AFFECTING PROPOSAL:

HBHC is part of the Mandatory Health Programs and Services Guidelines (Child Health and Reproductive Health) for Boards of Health. The Board of Health is required to implement the HBHC Program in accordance with the Ministry of Health and MCYS guidelines which stipulate the requirements for the seven program components outlined in the background section of this report.

RELEVANT CONSULTATION:

Public Health Services has consulted with the Finance and Administration Division regarding the preparation of the 2007 HBHC budget. PHS has also consulted with Hamilton’s designated Program Consultant from the MCYS regarding this year’s budget.

CITY STRATEGIC COMMITMENT:

Community Well-Being is enhanced. ☑ Yes  ☐ No
Public services and programs are delivered in an equitable manner, coordinated, efficient, effective and easily accessible to all citizens.

Environmental Well-Being is enhanced. ☐ Yes  ☑ No

Economic Well-Being is enhanced. ☐ Yes  ☑ No

Does the option you are recommending create value across all three bottom lines?

☐ Yes  ☑ No

Do the options you are recommending make Hamilton a City of choice for high performance public servants?

☐ Yes  ☑ No