



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF
COMMUNITY HEALTH

NOTICE OF DIRECT AWARD

STATE OFFICE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE
AND
IMMUNIZATION

GEORGIA IMMUNIZATION GRANTS PROGRAM

POSTING DATE: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1, 2011
INQUIRY CLOSING DATE: MONDAY, JUNE 6, 2011

ARNITA E. WATSON, GRANT MANAGER
GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH
OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT AND GRANTS ADMINISTRATION
2 PEACHTREE STREET, NW, 35TH FLOOR
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-3159
TEL: (404) 651-6184 E-MAIL: awatson@dch.ga.gov

DIRECT AWARD JUSTIFICATION

GEORGIA IMMUNIZATION GRANTS PROGRAM

AGENCY BACKGROUND	<p>The Georgia Department of Community Health (DCH) was created in 1999 by Senate Bill 241 to serve as the lead agency for health care planning and purchasing issues in Georgia. DCH is the single state agency for Medicaid and insures over two million people in the State of Georgia, maximizing the State's health care purchasing power, coordinating health planning for State agencies and proposing cost-effective solutions for reducing the number of uninsured.</p> <p>Within DCH, the Division of Public Health (DPH), State Office of Infectious Disease and Immunization are responsible for disease control and prevention. Vaccine-preventable disease levels are at or near record lows. Even though most infants and toddlers have received all recommended vaccines by age 2, many under-immunized children remain, leaving the potential for outbreaks of disease. Many adolescents and adults are under-immunized as well, missing opportunities to protect themselves against diseases such as Hepatitis B, influenza, and pneumococcal disease.</p>
PROGRAM BACKGROUND	<p>The Georgia Immunization Program is 100 percent federally-funded by the Vaccines for Children grant by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention. This program seeks to provide a means to increase immunization coverage across the state of Georgia. Through collaboration with community based organizations, the Georgia Immunization Program improves chances of increasing immunization rates for all Georgians while decreasing the incidence of vaccine-preventable diseases.</p>
PROGRAM OVERVIEW	<p>The work of the Immunization Program is carried out through the efforts of trained State staff and through partnership and collaboration with medical organizations, other state agencies, and community coalitions.</p> <p>The Georgia Immunization Program plan to achieve the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reach 500 people through the outreach efforts during the three month project period.• Increase the number of first-time flu vaccination recipients by 5% or 100 people whichever one is higher.• Increase the number of previous flu vaccination recipients that get their immunizations earlier in the flu season by 8% or 150 people whichever is higher.• Reduce barriers to first-time flu vaccination such as fear, anxiety, rumors and misinformation by 65% of forum participants' report of knowledge and attitude change.• Increase opportunities for immunization through innovative locations, venues, partnerships and approaches.
AWARD JUSTIFICATION	<p>The Georgia Department of Community Health intends to award Community Health and Social Services Inc. (CHASS, Inc.) \$249,505.57 to complete a rapid assessment to gain understanding as to why African Americans in Georgia, with specificity in the Atlanta regional areas, did not vaccinate against H1N1 as other racial groups, and why overall child flu immunization rates are declining.</p> <p>DCH presents this funding as a direct award in that Community Health and Social Services Inc. (CHASS, Inc.) meet the federal grant requirements. This is the result of an emergency where there is no time for a competitive process to serve this critical purpose with the consequence of loss funding.</p>
AWARD(S)	TOTAL DIRECT AWARD FUNDS AVAILABLE: \$249,505.57

TO SUBMIT INQUIRIES TO THIS DIRECT AWARD NOTIFICATION

Arnita E. Watson, Grant Manager at awatson@dch.ga.gov no later than 2:00 PM on Monday, June 6, 2011.

