

## DRAFT: LPHA Funding Opportunity to Prevent Youth Substance Abuse

CDPHE is excited to announce the possibility of community funding to implement evidence-based youth substance abuse prevention strategies. Pending legislative approval, CDPHE will provide non-competitive funding for local public health agencies (LPHAs) beginning July 2016. Additional competitive funding will be available beginning January 2017.

### Where do the funds come from?

- CDPHE requested ongoing funding from the marijuana tax cash fund for youth substance abuse prevention, including marijuana, opioids (including heroin or prescription drugs), and alcohol. Initially, approximately \$3.5 million will be available to LPHAs.

### What activities will be included in the grants?

- At the request of the Governor's office, funding will be used to implement local evidence-based youth substance abuse prevention strategies using the *Communities that Care* model.

### What is Communities that Care?

- [\*Communities that Care \(CTC\)\*](#) is an evidence-based approach for communities to form or partner with existing coalitions, identify prevention priorities and effective strategies to address those concerns, and to mobilize the community to implement the strategies.
- CTC uses a shared risk and protective factor approach. You can learn more about what this means from CDC's [\*Connecting the Dots\*](#).
- CTC is very similar to the public health approach, but this model provides significant support, training and structure.
- CDPHE and an advisory committee will provide community coalitions with regional trend data on the impact of risk and protective factors, as available, and a menu of evidence-based strategies for implementation. The menu will include evidence-based substance abuse prevention strategies supported by SAMHSA and the CDC, among others.



### Who is involved in CTC from my community?

- Common champions for *Communities that Care* coalitions have included the police chief/sheriff, publisher of local newspaper, superintendent of schools, hospital director, executive director of a children's initiative, county commissioner, chief juvenile judge and mayor.
- CDPHE will ask that coalitions also include any community partners funded by the Colorado Department of Education Substance Abuse Professionals in Schools grants, Office of Behavioral Health, Tony Grampas Youth Services, and Division of Criminal Justice Juvenile Justice programs.

### How do you define community?

- The CTC model is designed to affect change at a local level: organizing coalitions to select and implement programs and change systems or policies that impact youth substance abuse locally. Depending on the population size and the types of decision makers within the community, CTC could be implemented within a neighborhood or across a county. The CTC process requires a full-time coordinator in each community to engage these partners to affect change.
- LPHAs may select the geographic area to implement the CTC process: one or more neighborhoods, cities, or counties. In some circumstances, a regional coalition could implement the CTC model if the members are well positioned to implement change across communities. If LPHAs choose to partner or regionalize for fiscal purposes, a region may select to intervene only in smaller geographic communities within their region.

### Who is eligible for the funding?

- CDPHE will offer noncompetitive contracts to LPHAs that selected Substance Abuse/Mental Health as a burden in their community health assessments or public health improvement plans.
- If the funding is approved, LPHAs can begin work in July 2016.
- LPHAs can collaborate with other LPHAs, if desired (see note about CTC above).
- LPHAs can pass-through the funding to substance abuse prevention partners, if they feel this is more appropriate for implementation in their area.
- LPHAs that are not eligible for noncompetitive funding (i.e. did not select MH/SA in assessment or plan) can apply for competitive funding during the RFA process early Fall 2016.

### How much money will be available to communities?

- Minimum funding levels: LPHAs can request funding for one full-time staff and operational expenses, totaling ~\$90,000 annually.
- Maximum funding levels: LPHAs can request funding for up to 4 or 5 full-time facilitators to work in multiple communities, a support staff, operating & program expenses, totaling ~\$500,000 annually.
- Funding will last 5 years (4.5 years for the competitive grants) to support prevention implementation.
- The Department will provide nearly \$6M initially (~\$3.5M to LPHAs and ~\$2.5M competitive) and more than \$8M ongoing for grants to local public health agencies and to additional community partners across the state.

### What does the timeline look like?

- 3/15/16 - In preparation for approval, LPHAs that qualify for non-competitive funding inform CDPHE of their interest by completing this form: <http://goo.gl/forms/INPFsQXPh6>. CDPHE will then be in touch to develop scopes of work and budgets. LPHAs will submit this information in the form:
  - Agency that will operate as the fiscal agent
  - Number of “communities” intended to be served, and the geographic boundaries each
  - Brief description of substance abuse AND/OR mental health priorities highlighted in the assessment or plan
  - Likely total budget request
  - Likely budget breakdown, including the number of FTE that will be requested to operate the grant and implementation dollars needed in the first year
  - Extenuating circumstances in the community (i.e. existing CTC coalition with a facilitator, assessment and plan in place, therefore funding would be needed for implementation)
  - Whether or not funds will be used to “pass-through” to another local organization
- **3/17/16 - NEW DATE.** Budget hearing with the Joint Budget Committee (JBC) of the Colorado Legislature to determine if CDPHE’s request for funding will move forward. If the JBC votes to approve this funding, then the process will need to move quickly in May and June. You can read more about CDPHE’s budget requests on the [Office of State Planning and Budget’s website](#).
- 4/30/16 - CDPHE staff approve scopes of work and budgets.
- May - If this funding passes as part of the state budget (long bill) for next year, CDPHE and LPHAs will route contracts for signature and approval.
- 7/1/16 - Funding for LPHAs begins.
- Early fall - CDPHE releases a Request for Applications (RFA) for additional communities and partners outside of LPHAs, or those LPHAs that did not qualify/did not receive non-competitive funding, to address youth substance abuse prevention within their communities.
- 30 days later - Applications submitted by communities.
- 11/30/16 - CDPHE approves scopes of work/budgets for additional communities to implement CTC.
- 1/1/17 - Funding for additional communities begins.

### Still have questions?

Contact Ali Maffey, program manager with the Retail Marijuana Education Program, to learn more.

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