



**Request for City Council Committee Action  
From the Department of Health & Family Support**

**Date:** February 3, 2010

**To:** PUBLIC SAFETY & HEALTH COMMITTEE  
**Referral to:** WAYS & MEANS/BUDGET COMMITTEE

**Subject:** REQUEST TO APPLY FOR A TWO-YEAR GRANT FROM THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH TO IDENTIFY WAYS TO REDUCE SUBSTANCE USE AMONG PREGNANT WOMEN

**Recommendation:**

Council authorization for the proper City officials to apply for a two-year research grant from the national Institutes of Health for an amount not to exceed \$275,000 for a project period to begin no sooner than December 2010. The proposed project aims to identify effective strategies to reduce alcohol and other drug use among pregnant women.

**Previous Directives: None**

**Prepared or Submitted by:** Becky McIntosh, Director of Planning & Administration  
Phone: x2884

**Approved by:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gretchen Musicant, Commissioner of Health

**Permanent Review Committee (PRC):** Approval \_\_\_\_ Not Applicable  X   
**Policy Review Group (PRG)** Approval \_\_\_\_ Date of Approval \_\_\_\_ Not Applicable  X

**Presenters in Committee:** Pat Harrison, Director of Research and Program Development

**Financial Impact**

X  Other financial impact; The City of Minneapolis would receive up to \$275,000.

**Community Impact**

City Goals: The proposed project addresses the City Goal of One Minneapolis by addressing racial/ethnic disparities in infant mortality (a City Sustainability Indicator).

**Background/Supporting Information:**

Project components include interviews with health care and social service providers to assess the rationale, clarity, and consistency of the messages they deliver with respect to the use of alcohol and other drugs during pregnancy; interviews with pregnant women, other women of child-bearing age, their partners and family members to elucidate reasons for continued substance use during pregnancy (such as unawareness of risks, disbelief/rejection of warnings, need to combat stress, partner/peer pressure and identify potential interventions to promote cessation among infrequent, nondependent pregnant substance users.