



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

Date: September 29, 2010

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

Subject: COUNCIL AUTHORIZATION TO APPLY FOR A 3-YEAR FEDERAL GRANT OF UP TO \$900,000 FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Recommendation:

Council authorization for the proper City officials to apply for a 3-year research grant award of up to \$900,000 for the period February 1, 2011 to January 31, 2014, from the U.S Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), to expand and test interventions for mental health problems among pregnant and postpartum women.

Previous Directives: None

Prepared or Submitted by: Becky McIntosh, Director of Planning & Administration
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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 (Check those that apply)

X Other financial impact (Explain) Funds available to the department to improve birth incomes among high-risk women would be increased by \$900,000 over 3 years.

Community Impact

City Goals: Healthy infants is one of the City's goals.

Background/Supporting Information Attached

Data collected through the current Twin Cities Healthy Start program and current HRSA prenatal screening research grant have documented that mental distress (depression, anxiety, posttraumatic stress) adversely impact many pregnancies, yet many pregnant women do not want traditional mental health care, which is typically psychotropic medication and/or individual therapy. Surveys and focus groups have revealed that they would prefer to address their mental health issues through supportive group interactions. The proposed research grant would be a partnership between the Department, Dr. Helen Kim, a psychiatrist and Director of the Women's Mental Health Program at Hennepin County Medical Center, and one or more Twin Cities Health Start program sites in Minneapolis.