

February 10, 2014

The Honorable Deb Peters
The Honorable Fred Romkema
Joint Committee on Appropriations
500 East Capitol Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501

Dear Senator Peters and Representative Romkema:

As requested in your memo dated Dec. 11th, 2013, please find below, written summary responses to the supplemental questions.

1. What activities are you going to eliminate, initiate, or significantly change?

Initiate:

- Enhance local West Nile virus prevention and mosquito control programs. Funds will be provided to city and county mosquito control programs to re-start or enhance their mosquito control efforts. Many local control programs have cut back significantly on their efforts over recent years and some have even stopped completely. This funding will be used to reinvigorate mosquito control efforts across the state and help prevent human West Nile virus infections.
- Continue the Rural Experiences for Health Profession Students (REHPS) program which provides first and second year medical, PA, NP, and pharmacy students with experience in a rural setting with the ultimate goal of increasing the number of medical professionals who practice in rural and frontier communities in South Dakota. Two healthcare students (one pharmacy and one physician/PA/NP student) are paired together in a community for a four-week rotation. The students receive a stipend while in the community.
- Initiate the placement of automatic chest compression equipment (LUCAS™2), in every hospital and ambulance service in the state. The Department of Health recently received \$3.7 million in funding over three years from The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust to purchase this lifesaving equipment that can increase survival rates from sudden cardiac arrest. Grant funds will also support training and evaluation.

Significantly change:

- The WIC Program, federally funded by USDA, is in the final phase of implementation of a new management information system, South Dakota WIC Information Technologies (SDWIC-IT). This system has moved the WIC program from a paper chart to an electronic chart, provides online nutrition education to remote locations, increases overall workflow and efficiency of clinic operations, and enhances data collection for program monitoring and evaluation.

2. What initiatives for improving efficiency of operations are planned in FY15?

The Office of Health Protection electronic licensure and inspection system significantly improves the efficiency of operations in the regulation of food service, lodging, and campground facilities. Paper files will be replaced with electronic files, microfilming paper documents will be eliminated, and the ability to track and monitor inspection frequency and quality will be enhanced. The new system also allows owners and operators to apply for and renew licenses online and provides operators inspection results at the time of the inspection. The electronic system will also allow consumers to search for and view recent inspections over the internet.

3. What are the standards of performance or metrics by which you judge the success and efficiencies of your agency's outcomes?

The DOH 2020 plan outlines department goals and objectives as well as key performance measures which allow the DOH to monitor progress towards these goals. Specific program staff have been assigned the responsibility for each of the plan's 13 objectives. A copy of the DOH 2020 Initiative is included on pages 4-5 of the budget presentation.

4. What funds from FY14 are planned to be applied to FY15 activities? Are these amounts in addition to amounts contained in the Governors FY15 budget?

The Governor's budget recommendations include the use of FY14 general funds for the Rural Healthcare Recruitment Assistance Program FY15 payment. (SB31)

5. What are your plans regarding amending the FY14 General Bill?

HB1040 includes an increase of \$2,000,000 other fund authority for the Corrections Healthcare shortfall, a transfer of \$1,500,000 for a Corrections Healthcare reserve and \$100,000 general funds for the Safe Sleep/Cribs for Kids program.

6. What programs and services offered by your agency have been, or will be affected by federal budget reductions due to the Budget Control Act of 2011 or other actions by the federal government? Were General Funds and/or Other funds used to support the continuation of these programs?

Federal fund reductions were minimal to the Department, no general funds or other funds were used to supplement the reductions.

Sincerely,



Doneen B. Hollingsworth
Secretary, Department of Health