



# HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Fort Bend County, Texas

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January 25, 2018

The West Endowment  
Mr. William W Lloyd  
PO Box 491  
Houston, TX 77001 USA

Dear Mr. Lloyd,

Thank you for the opportunity to present the proposal for support of The Fort Bend County Clinical Health Services. **Fort Bend County Clinical Health Services is requesting a \$10,000 investment from the West Endowment to support the professional development of our staff in order to continue to provide quality care to our clients.**

Change is the new normal in public health. Learning to adapt to change, to be agile and proactive, is our challenge. Buzz phrases 5 years ago, including collective impact, developmental evaluation, community engagement, health in all policies, interprofessional education, and integrated clinical and community health, are now part of the public health lexicon. New phrases and roles, such as chief health strategist,<sup>1</sup> have emerged. "Defining while applying" new concepts in the midst of changing political foci and funding requires professionals to be prepared to not only work but also excel in shifting environments.

## Amount Requested

**\$10,000.00**

## Organizational Background

The Department of Health & Human Services is Fort Bend County's principal agency for protecting the health of county residents and providing essential human services, especially for those who are least able to help themselves. The Department includes six subordinate departments and three programs, covering a wide spectrum of activities.

Fort Bend County Clinical Health Services Department, one of the six subordinate departments, provides clinical services in the core public health areas of STD treatment; tuberculosis prevention, diagnosis and treatment; and provision of childhood and adult immunizations.

## Need for Professional Development

Health care professionals are overwhelmed by a proliferation of clinical information, resulting in a gap between available evidence-based clinical information and actual practice (Davis, 2011). Almost a decade ago, the IOM observed that an average of 17 years elapse between the discovery of a new treatment to the integration of that treatment into routine practice (IOM, 2003; Balas, as cited in IOM, 2003). Clinical information must be disseminated in a timely

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Veterans Service Office  
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manner, using new and innovative ways, to enable health professionals to keep pace with the rapid development of evidence-based information. The challenge is great because 10,000 to 15,000 scientific articles are published annually (Holmboe, 2011).

The Community Health Workers role provides outreach, information, referral to community resources, advocacy and other client support to promote health and help clients meet their plan of care. Ultimately, CHWs help to not only provide clinical services but to extend our reach to assist clients with accessing other vital social support wrap-around services and meeting the holistic needs of clients.

In order to meet the needs of the clients, CHWs need to have the most current understandings of trends in their field. In order to do this, the Clinical Health Services department is seeking funding to increase the availability of professional development to all employees.

The Mission of Clinical Health Services is to prevent, control and eliminate communicable diseases among the residents of Fort Bend County.

Thank you for taking time to consider this grant request. Please find the organizational budget and IRS determination letter attached.

Sincerely,

*Ngombe Bitendelo, RN*



HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

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