

# Health Department CBAC

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TO: Chair Deborah Kafoury and County Board of Commissioners 2 pages  
FROM: Health Department CBAC  
DATE: March 3, 2016  
SUBJECT: Budget Advisory Committee (CBAC) Report & Recommendations

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As a newly organized Community Budget Advisory Committee (CBAC), we invested a great deal of time and energy into the creation of our values statement. The statement, below for your reference, informs our budget recommendations to the fullest degree. We strongly urge the inclusion of the recommended eight programs in the Executive Budget.

### Values Statement

#### **We are transformative leaders.**

Our work addresses the intersectional roots of oppression, and redefines systems of power. Change comes through both individual and collective transformation. As we do the work, we will practice the values and refine our skills as leaders.

#### **We offer expert knowledge.**

We are the experts on what is needed in our communities. By virtue of being community members, we are uniquely qualified to make recommendations that will be impactful and serve a greater vision. We offer a level of authority that is inherently a shift in power by amplifying the active and meaningful voices of the communities that Multnomah County serves.

#### **We uphold racial justice.**

We recognize that both the physical and mental health of people of color, and the survival and Wellbeing of communities of color, are matters of justice. As a government body, we recognize the trauma (both historic and present) that our communities suffer at the hands of government agencies; still, we seek to repair and restore a sense of safety and justice. By balancing scientific knowledge, practical experience, and the wisdom and beliefs of those we serve, we advance the critical process of healing.

#### **We operate with dignity and respect.**

We honor the humanity of those who participate in this work as well as the community members impacted by the work. We consider community partnerships essential in designing long term, effective solutions to public health challenges. We view numbers not only as necessary tools for designing equitable budgets and policies, but also as representations of real, tangible impacts on the day to day lives of our friends and neighbors.

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## **We believe in intercultural intelligence.**

We bring a diverse, multilingual, intergenerational approach to knowledge seeking. In evaluating equity, we seek the voices of those missing from the discussion. We hold self evident the wisdom of communities and value their judgments as equal to ours. In order to facilitate community participation to the greatest extent possible, we consider barriers to inclusion such as language, transportation, childcare, and food insecurity and strive to see the need for these crucial access tools reflected at the budget level. We are a malleable entity and realize that the best way to serve those that are to be impacted positively is to change as needs arise.

## **We hold ethics at the core.**

We build trust by investing time into our relationships, showing respect by being clear with our purpose, process and intent. We bring self awareness to ourselves as individuals and our body as a whole in ensuring congruence and a seamless integration of word and action. Serving ethically and consistently is a principle goal of ours as we seek to build a bridge of interconnectedness and interdependence between ourselves and those we serve.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Multnomah County Health Department Community Budget Advisory Committee recommends that the following programs be included in the Chair's budget Fiscal Year 20162017:

**# 40038 Health Promotion and Community Capacity Building**

**# 40011 STD/HIV/Hep C Community Prevention Programs**

**# 40037B Healthy Homes and Communities**

**# 40065 Mental Health & Addiction Services**

**# 40017 Dental Services**

**# 40074 Mental Health Residential Services**

**# 40004 Ambulance Services**

We strongly urge the inclusion of these eight programs in the Chair's budget, with prioritization of the STRYVE program, both STD programs, and all three onetime only program requests. Within the onetime only requests, we emphasize the importance of funding the Dental Program.

In making these recommendations, which are listed in order of priority, we have considered the Health Department's thoughtfulness and conservative proposals for these programs along with demonstrated resourcefulness and stewardship of funds. The funding of these much needed and effective programs will address disparities in service that lead to undue hardship for communities of color, low income communities, and people with behavioral health needs.