



Department of Health
 2021-23 Second Supplemental Budget Session
 Policy Level - CS - Cancer Supplemental

Agency Recommendation Summary

The Department of Health (DOH) requests funds to address a federal grant shortfall and the widening gaps in access to care and socio-economic and health disparities across the state. The pandemic created a large drop in cancer screenings, diagnoses, and treatment which can lead to adverse health outcomes and financial impacts. Funding would allow DOH to maintain existing services, enhance data systems, and increase work in addressing inequities around services related to cancer treatment.

Fiscal Summary

Fiscal Summary <i>Dollars in Thousands</i>	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2022	2023	2021-23	2024	2025	2023-25
Staffing						
FTEs	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Operating Expenditures						
Fund 001 - 1	\$0	\$1,323	\$1,323	\$0	\$0	\$0
Fund 001 - 2	\$0	(\$1,323)	(\$1,323)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Expenditures	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Revenue						
001 - 0393	\$0	(\$1,323)	(\$1,323)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Revenue	\$0	(\$1,323)	(\$1,323)	\$0	\$0	\$0

Decision Package Description

People who earn low incomes, are uninsured or underinsured have experienced increased difficulty in accessing affordable cancer screenings. Gaps in access to care across the state have widened during the COVID-19 pandemic and existing health and community support networks have struggled to address current challenges. Existing data systems are not adequate to facilitate the partnerships, data collection, monitoring, evaluation, and quality assurance activities that are necessary to help ensure that all people in Washington are connected to appropriate care regardless of where they live or their ability to pay. Over the last decade, population grew an additional million people. To address this growth as well as align with ongoing health transformation efforts, this request addresses this growth as well as current federal funding shortfall, improve necessary data systems, and cancer programming. The department requests funding for three programs to address [KSH(1) [KSH(2) [IM(3) these gaps and improve access to cancer screenings throughout the state.

1. **Breast, Cervical and Colon Health Program (BCCHP)**

The department's Breast, Cervical and Colon Health Program (BCCHP) provides funding for life-saving breast and cervical cancer screening and diagnostic testing for the state's most vulnerable populations, including clients with incomes at or below 250% of the Federal Poverty Level who are not eligible for Medicaid coverage. These funds will cover the direct clinical cost for uninsured and underinsured clients as well as client navigation, case management and program administration.

Over the last several years there has been a widening federal and private local funding gap leading to the inability to meet the needs of eligible people of Washington. There continues to be an estimated 64,000 people with income, age and insurance status eligible for this program. The programs overall funding has declined over the years and is now at a level that threatens program operation and sustainability. This program is challenged to meet existing and growing need. At historical funding levels BCCHP has only been able to serve less than a quarter of the estimated eligible population. The state's population has grown approximately a million people over the last decade. Over the last few years, regions of the state have had to routinely slow or stop cancer screening services before the end of the program year due to the lack of funds and in some cases had to rely on local dollars and hospital foundational funds have had to cover program overages. The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated delays in screening and diagnostic services that the program lacks funding to support. Funds will be used to provide screening, diagnostic, navigation, and case management services as well as program administration.

1. **Comprehensive Cancer Program**

Currently, cancer upstream prevention thru cancer survivorship heavily relies on community-based organizations to help the most vulnerable populations. The comprehensive cancer program focuses on community-based solutions to address patients' cancer journeys from prevention to survivorship. The program funds community organizations to perform vital services, such as helping patients navigate clinical care, cancer prevention education, and patient support programs at tribal health clinics. The comprehensive cancer program is the state's only source of funds to address HPV infections by encouraging vaccinations. Washington state is down 13% overall in number of vaccines administered compared to pre-pandemic levels. Based on studies, the National HPV Roundtable estimates that it may take 10 years to catch up on cancer preventing HPV immunizations. In addition, the federal funding has been significantly reduced and without state funds community organizations who support the comprehensive cancer work cannot continue.

1. **Washington State Cancer Registry Data Modernization**

The Washington State Cancer Registry (WSCR) receives, compiles, and reports information regarding cancer diagnoses that are sent from health care providers and facilities around the state. The cancer registry serves as a centralized information center for all cancer diagnoses and treatment without which cancer surveillance and informed policies, preventions, and interventions would not exist. State funding is necessary to modernize WSCR to a cloud-based platform to ensure efficiency and timely customer service to cancer researchers to support lifesaving studies. Improved data collection helps with improved decision-making capabilities and be able to communicate to external funding opportunities of the needs of the state when applying for grants.

Assumptions and Calculations

Expansion, Reduction, Elimination or Alteration of a current program or service:

N/A

Detailed Assumptions and Calculations:

Breast, Cervical and Colon Health Program

\$1,200,000 in 2023 for direct services for cervical cancer screenings and breast cancer screenings through Washington state’s regional prime contractors. These prime contractors provide direct services, patient navigation services, and trainings for clinics, for nearly 30 years in Washington state.

Comprehensive Cancer

\$111,000 FY 2023 to support community-based organizations who provide community-based support. Activities include:

- HPV Statewide task force to improve rates for HPV immunizations in Washington state’s adolescent age groups. WA State is down 13% overall for HPV vaccines since the beginning of the pandemic. Based on studies, the National HPV Roundtable estimates it will take 10 years to catch up unless aggressive interventions occur. This vaccine prevents several cancers.
- Statewide Cancer Survivorship Provider work group working to provide education to providers on the needs of cancer patients as they transition out of specialty care and into primary care. There are an estimated 386,540 cancer survivors in Washington according to last estimate made in 2019.
- Sun safety interventions to address the very high rates of melanoma in the Puget Sound area. State rate is 53.2 cases of melanoma of the skin per 100,000. Spokane county has a rate of 14.6 per 100,000 and Jefferson County has a rate of 81.8 per 100,000. The National rate is 22.7 per 100,000. Partner with National, state and local LGBTQ organizations to address health care needs and cancer prevention activities.

Workforce Assumptions:

Workforce Assumptions FY23 Projections Only					
FTE	Job Classification	Salary	Benefits	Startup Costs	FTE Related Costs
-	-	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
-	FISCAL ANALYST 2	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
-	HEALTH SERVICES CONSULTANT 1	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
-		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

Strategic and Performance Outcomes

Strategic Framework:

This proposal aligns with the Governor's Results Washington Goal # 4 Healthy and Safe Communities by doing the following:

- increasing access to healthcare services
- ensuring culturally competent care for all patients
- increasing quality of life for those affected by cancer diagnoses and recovery by supporting community organizations to provide support for those recovering from cancers.

Performance Outcomes:

- **Breast, Cervical and Colon Health Program (BCCHP):** BCCHP expects these funds to maintain breast and cervical cancer screening and diagnostic services for 7,000 clients per year and reduce the burden of late-stage cancer. Regional prime contractors have established contractual relationships with Federally Qualified Health Centers and other healthcare providers and community serving organizations in their respective regions to provide the clinical services client navigation and support.
- **Comprehensive Cancer:** These funds will be used to continue to the state's partnership with community organizations that help serve focused populations at risk or suffering from cancer. Performance outcomes include:
 1. Increase the percent of adolescents, both male and female, aged 11 to 12 years that have completed the 2-dose HPV vaccination series from 29.1% to 55% by June 2023 and Decreased HPV related cancer diagnoses
 2. Increase BRFSS rate of CRC screening from 75% to 80% by June 2028.
 3. Increased age-appropriate cancer screenings by reducing structural barriers to increase community access to cancer screening services
 4. Increase Colorectal Cancer provider competency to deliver quality care and services to all, especially in Rural Communities and provide patient centered navigation services,
 5. Increase number of providers delivering Survivorship Palliative Care Services in Rural Communities
 6. Promote sun safety and awareness of UV Index particularly in the Puget Sound area,
 7. Tobacco cessation with a focus on cancer treatment center patients, and promoting healthy behaviors for cancer survivors.
- **Washington State Cancer Registry:** Modernizing WSCR will ensure Washington state's cancer data continues to remain a centralized information center for all cancer diagnoses and treatment. This information remains vital in understanding communities with cancer and provide insight into the social determinants of health that play a role in cancer incidence in communities. the importance of cancer registries lies in the fact that they collect accurate and complete cancer data that can be used for cancer control and epidemiological research, public health program planning, and patient care improvement. Ultimately, all these activities reduce the burden of cancer. Registry data is used to make important decisions that maximize the effectiveness of public health funds, such as the implementation of screening programs.

Equity Impacts

Community outreach and engagement:

This proposal focuses on equity by increasing access to healthcare services for marginalized communities. The clients served by this program face inequities in access to care given insurance status and income. In addition, the demographics of clients served indicate a diverse group of clients with languages preferred other than English or Spanish. According to survey results from 2017-2020, the Washington State Department of Health and Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) survey the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) reports that among women in Washington between ages 18-64, 9.9% reported no health insurance. In this age group, 36.3% of Latina women in WA reported being uninsured (compared with 5.6% of white women). 10.9% of Black women in this age group reported being uninsured, and 6.8% of Asian women. This highlights the continued inequity in insurance rates and barriers to accessing preventive health care for people from communities of color in Washington, that BCCHP directly alleviates with its program that supports care for people who otherwise would not receive cancer screening.

Disproportional Impact Considerations:

This proposal focuses on equity by working with community-based organizations to help increase access to healthcare services and cancer survivorship programs for marginalized communities. The program engages over 300 individuals from more than 100 institutions across Washington State. These programs also serve communities by bridging the community trust and healthcare clinical settings. These partnerships also include work with nontraditional partners which helps provide additional touch points and education for communities all over the state. In addition, comprehensive cancer program can help address health equity by addressing social determinants of health.

This effort will help to reduce cancer disparity gaps across the board by increasing the analysis of data and the overall impact that cancer has on a variety of populations. Cancer health disparity data is uncovered by utilizing statistics from the SEER Program because of the inclusion of specific racial and ethnic populations as well as gender, age, and geography. By modernizing WSCR to adopt the SEER Program, WSCR will reduce the percentage of cancer case data in which race or ethnicity is not identified, allowing for better geocoding of the data, and having more real time data so the registry can meet the necessary standards for 12-month data are all examples of how a conversion to the SEER DMS will impact WSCR data.

Target Populations or Communities:

People who live in communities with poor access to healthcare providers and facilities, people who earn low incomes, and communities of color historically have disproportionately been impacted by cancer burdens such as barriers to screening and cancer treatment. The solutions proposed in this request will contribute to narrowing health equity gaps by ensuring more people have access to needed screening services, supporting the agency's health strategies, and improving the efficiency of data collected by the agency via modernization improvements. The Cancer programs in Washington state have historically partnered and engaged with over 400 Federally Qualified Health Clinics, tribal organizations such as South Puget Intertribal Planning Agency (SPIPA), and community-based organizations such as the Migrant Seasonal Agricultural Worker Program, Utopia, the Queer and Trans Pacific Island group (QTPI), and Key Center who provides medical services in rural Western Washington to help improve access, navigate services, and educate priority communities and medical providers.

Other Collateral Connections

Puget Sound Recovery:

N/A

State Workforce Impacts:

N/A

Intergovernmental:

Comprehensive cancer has partnered with tribal clinics to try to improve cancer screening outcomes and develop strategic plans to support American Indian/Alaska Native (AIAN) communities

Tribal nations may benefit from the maintaining funding opportunity for direct cancer screening services.

Stakeholder Response:

The following organizations are anticipated to support this proposal:

- American Cancer Society
- American Indian Cancer Foundation
- BCCHP Medical Advisory Committee
- Federally Qualified Health Centers
- Foundation for Health Generations
- Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
- Health Promotions Research Center at University of Washington
- HOPE School
- Komen Breast Cancer Foundation
- Leaders of Women's Health
- Local Health Jurisdictions
- Seattle Cancer Care Alliance
- South Puget Intertribal Planning Association
- University of Washington ARC-NW
- University of Washington Office of Research
- University of Washington School of Medicine
- Washington Association of Community Health
- Washington Healthcare Access Alliance
- Washington State Tumor Registrars Association
- Washington Chapter of American Academy of Pediatrics
- Washington State Hospital Association
- Washington State University College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences

State Facilities Impacts:

N/A

Changes from Current Law:

N/A

Legal or Administrative Mandates:

N/A

Reference Documents

[Cancer - \(FY23 Supplemental\) FY23ver23.2.xlsm](#)

[Cancer - DP FY23 FINAL.docx](#)

IT Addendum

Does this Decision Package include funding for any IT-related costs, including hardware, software, (including cloud-based services), contracts or IT staff?

No

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