

DIVISION OF FAMILY & COMMUNITY HEALTH

Child & Family Services
Disease Prevention & Health Promotion



DATE:

07/11/2022

SUBJECT:

2022-2023 Prevention and Control of Sexually Transmitted Infections Request for Application

TO:

This letter extends to organizations and institutions that provide low or no-cost sexually transmitted infection (STI) services to under or uninsured individuals.

In 2021 and in the first quarter of 2022, South Dakota Department of Health (SD DOH) has observed an unprecedented increase in the number of STI cases. Our 2021 preliminary year-end-data shows 5-year median increases of 700% congenital syphilis, 1,101% syphilis, 93% gonorrhea, 8.4% chlamydia. Top risk factors reported are multiple sex partners, injection drug use (IDU), sex with an IDU, history of incarceration within previous 12 months and/or currently incarcerated.

The SD DOH asks providers to perform enhanced screening in select settings and populations. The Syphilis Healthcare Guidance document, *Reducing an unprecedented rise in syphilis rates by enhanced screening & Testing*, summarizes SD DOH syphilis prevention and control recommendations. This document and other STI information is posted on doh.sd.gov/STD in the Healthcare Providers section.

In response to the rising STI rates, SD DOH is replacing our current funding support to offer a *new* funding opportunity to organizations and institutions. The new funding opportunity should help support strategies that have a deliberate focus on the prevention and control of STIs within high-risk populations and to address any barriers individuals may face in eliminating the spread of STIs.

The enclosed Request for Application document outlines requirements and instructions on how to apply and submit an application. The application must be completed online on doh.sd.gov/STD. Please note that specific forms are required with your application submission.

Sincerely,

Bridget Dean
South Dakota Department of
Health STI Program Manager

Enclosure