Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant

Federated States of Micronesia

Providing Better Care for Diabetes Patients

One in three residents in the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) has diabetes. In 2013, three in four FSM states declared a state of emergency because of the rising rates of chronic diseases and the challenges in addressing them, such as limited resources and access to care. A Non-Communicable Disease (NCD) Step Survey confirmed that NCDs pose a significant threat to health to FSM residents. FSM used a major portion of its Preventive Health and Health Services (PHHS) Block Grant funds to increase its ability to track health services and provide coordinated care for people dealing with chronic diseases, particularly diabetes.

In 2014, FSM’s public health workforce trained in new ways to manage chronic diseases and reach more patients with timely care. FSM introduced a Chronic Care Model, patterned after CDC’s coordinated care approach. The model uses a multi-pronged plan for care that includes self-management, organization of healthcare and community linkages, and effective communication among patients, families, and healthcare teams. The FSM Department of Health and Social Affairs also began training public health workers to improve care for chronic disease patients in major hospitals and island clinics throughout FSM.

During the trainings, public health staff members learned how to work across health organizations and share information to improve patient care. They also learned how to use the chronic disease electronic management registry, which tracks the number and types of services provided.

In 2014, FSM tracked the care provided to more than 2,600 diabetes patients. These patients received more than 1,300 flu and pneumococcal vaccines, along with 110 foot examinations. Nearly 600 of the patients received an A1C blood test, which measures a person’s average blood sugar level over 8–12 weeks and helps providers treat patients more effectively and prevent potentially life-threatening complications.

As a result of PHHS Block Grant funding, 133 staff members are now trained and ready to implement the Chronic Care Model and provide essential care to diabetes patients in FSM.
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What is the PHHS Block Grant?
The Preventive Health and Health Services (PHHS) Block Grant provides flexible federal funding to 61 states, tribes, and US territories. These grantees use the funding to meet vital public health needs within their jurisdictions that align with national priorities—the Healthy People (HP) 2020 objectives.

Block Grant Investment Across the Nation

In fiscal year 2015, the 61 grantees received about $126 million from the PHHS Block Grant to support critical programs and services. Most funds (85%) supported HP 2020 objectives in 10 key areas: 1) Public Health Infrastructure, 2) Education and Community-Based Programs, 3) Injury and Violence Prevention, 4) Nutrition and Weight Status, 5) Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention, 6) Environmental Health, 7) Immunization and Infectious Diseases, 8) Emergency Medical Services, 9) Oral Health, and 10) Physical Activity.

Public Health Infrastructure was the most funded area (26% of total funding); 43 grantees directed funds toward public health systems assessment, health improvement planning, accreditation, quality improvement, laboratory services, and other infrastructure activities. Education and Community-Based Programs was the second-most funded area (21% of total funding); 29 grantees directed funds toward community-based primary prevention services, worksite health promotion programs, and culturally appropriate community health programs.

Grantees also directed funds toward supporting local organizations working to improve community health (27% of total funding) and reduce health disparities (23% of total funding).

Please visit [www.cdc.gov/phhsblockgrant](http://www.cdc.gov/phhsblockgrant) for more information.