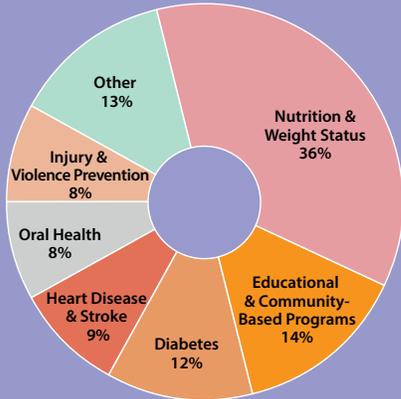


Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant

Tennessee

How Tennessee Invested PHHS Block Grant Funding

Total FY 2015 Funding: \$2,231,280



Jail Outreach Program Prevents Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome

Babies with neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS) are born addicted to illegal or prescription drugs that their mothers took while pregnant with them. After these babies are born, they can suffer from drug withdrawal symptoms. In 2013, about one-third of Tennessee babies with NAS were born in the East Region. Tennessee used Preventive Health and Health Services (PHHS) Block Grant funds to support a jail outreach program in this region for women who are sent to jail for drug-related charges. The program's objective is to help these women avoid having a baby with NAS.

Tennessee's East Region Health Office (ERHO) learned that many women who were addicted to drugs were getting pregnant even though they didn't want to have a baby. Within the region, four in five women in jail for drug charges were not using any type of birth control.

ERHO partnered with local agencies in Cocke and Sevier Counties to start a jail outreach program that teaches female inmates about NAS and how they can prevent it by avoiding unwanted pregnancies. ERHO helps these women learn about birth control and provides them with contraception if they want it. Health educators offer female inmates information about many types of birth control, including voluntary long-acting reversible contraceptives (VLARCs). VLARCs are fertility control methods that last for a long time, like intrauterine devices (IUDs) or implants, and work without the need to take pills or shots regularly. A woman can stop using VLARCs at any time if she decides to have a child.

During the program's first six months (January–June 2014), 110 women attended the educational sessions on preventing NAS, and 68 were referred to the health department for family planning. In one year, the number of babies in Sevier County with NAS dropped by more than 90%. Building on this success, the program continued and expanded to 20 other Tennessee counties.



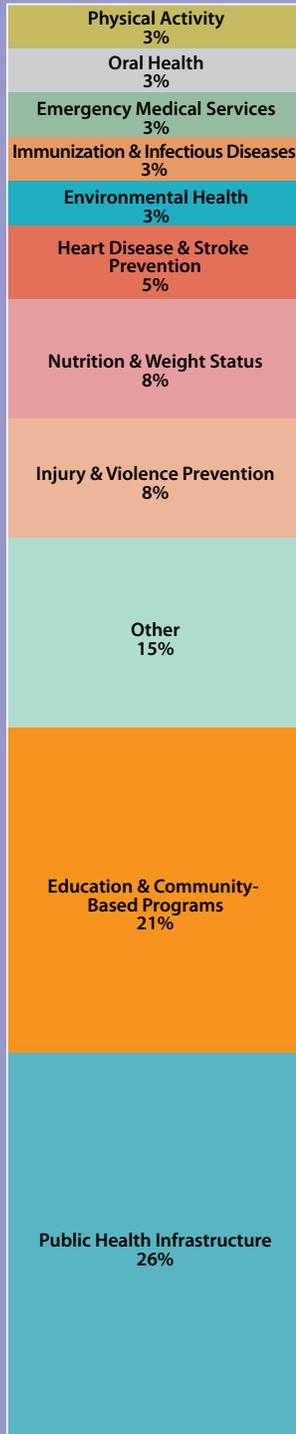
PHHS Block Grant is helping women in Tennessee learn about preventing neonatal abstinence syndrome.



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Office for State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Support

Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant

2015 Top-Funded Health Areas



Excludes all non-discretionary funding: administrative costs (up to 10%), direct assistance, and funds set aside for sexual violence (rape prevention).

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).