

DEPT/AGENCY: 10132 CONSERVATION OF HEALTH

LINE ITEM	DESCRIPTION	2020/2021 ACTUAL EXPENDED	2021/2022 RTM APPROP.	2021/2022 ADDITIONAL/ TRANSFERS	ACTUAL EXPEND & ENCUMB AS OF 1/1/22	2022/2023 DEPT/ AGENCY REQUEST	Department Request \$ Increase	Department Request % Increase
SERVICES								
52075	LEDGE LIGHT HEALTH DIST.	139,197	142,882		142,282	148,126	5,244	3.67%
SUBTOTAL		139,197	142,882	0	142,282	148,126	5,244	3.67%
DEPARTMENT TOTAL		139,197	142,882	0	142,282	148,126	5,244	3.67%

November 15, 2021

Town of Waterford
First Selectman Robert Brule
15 Rope Ferry Road
Waterford, CT 06385

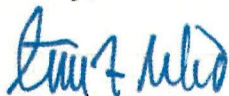
First Selectman Brule:

At their November meeting, the Board of Directors of Ledge Light Health District approved my proposal to keep the FY23 member contributions at the current per capita rate of \$7.59. Based on the population reported to us by the Department of Public Health, the Town of Waterford FY23 contribution to the District will be \$148,126. A detailed draft budget document for FY23 is attached for your review. We have also included a report on our activities and the services offered to Waterford residents.

As you are aware from previous years, the FY23 budget will not be formally approved until April, 2022, following a public hearing.

On behalf of our staff and board, I would like to express our gratitude for supporting the District through the appropriation of a percentage of your Corona Virus Relief (CRF) and American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds. These contributions are crucial to the success of our COVID response and contributed to our ability to keep our budget flat for FY23.

Sincerely,



Stephen Mansfield MPH, REHS
Director of Health

**Ledge Light Health District
Budget FY2023**

Projected Revenue **\$3,910,145**

Per Capita Rate	\$7.59	FY2023	
Municipality	Population	Contribution	
East Lyme	18,645	\$141,516	\$1,159,820
Groton	38,445	\$291,798	
Ledyard	15,420	\$117,038	
Lyme	2,352	\$17,852	
New London	27,376	\$207,784	
North Stonington	5,152	\$39,104	
Old Lyme	7,615	\$57,798	
Stonington	18,288	\$138,806	
Waterford	19,516	\$148,126	
Total Population:	152,809		
 State Per Capita			 \$397,303
Environmental Health Fees			\$391,300
Food Service		\$225,000	
Cosmetology		\$17,700	
Lodging and Pools		\$16,100	
Septic/Well		\$130,000	
Other		\$2,500	
 Training/Consulting/Other Services			 \$10,000
Interest			\$5,000
 Grants			 \$1,846,462
Block Grant	\$42,905		
Gasp-SPF	\$125,000		
Gasp-LPC	\$7,000		
Immunization	\$100,000		
LPC-DFC	\$125,000		
LPC-LPC	\$3,907		
PHEP R4	\$342,650		
Yale-JCOIN	\$50,000		
ELC	\$500,000		
OHS-HIC	\$200,000		
New SUD grant	\$75,000		
CAP	\$200,000		
Other	\$75,000		
 G&A			 \$100,260
Other	\$12,000		
R1	\$54,000		
R4	\$34,260		

Projected Expenses**Personnel Services**

Employee Salary-Core	\$1,252,156	\$3,910,145
Benefits/Payroll Taxes-Core	\$512,228	\$3,088,331
Employee Salary-Grants	\$980,702	
Benefits/Payroll Taxes-Grants	\$343,246	

Non-Personnel Operating Expenses

Facilities, Utilities and Vehicles		\$102,100
Utilities	\$10,000	
Maintenance	\$48,800	
Security	\$600	
Telephone & telecommuni	\$11,000	
Data Connection	\$7,500	
Vehicle Repair/Fees	\$3,000	
Vehicle Fuel	\$4,000	
Auto/Mileage Reimbursem	\$10,000	
Auto Insurance	\$7,200	
Supplies and Equipment		\$74,000
Office Supplies	\$8,000	
IT Supplies	\$50,000	
Program Supplies	\$7,500	
Postage, shipping, delivery	\$5,000	
Equip rental & maintenanc	\$3,500	
Professional Services		\$62,500
Accounting fees	\$13,500	
Legal fees	\$3,500	
IT Consulting Fees	\$20,000	
Medical Consulting Fees	\$3,000	
Other Professional Service	\$2,500	
Insurance Agency Fee	\$20,000	
Other Administrative Costs		\$60,700
Membership dues - organi	\$2,500	
Staff development	\$12,000	
Community Outreach and	\$2,500	
General Liability Insurance	\$13,000	
Property Insurance	\$2,400	
Public Officials Insurance	\$1,700	
Employment Practices Insu	\$3,200	
Umbrella Insurance	\$1,600	
Square fees	\$10,000	
Meeting expenses	\$4,300	
CHIP implementation	\$7,500	
Grant Non-Personnel		\$522,514

Ledge Light Health District

Ledge Light Health District (LLHD) serves as the local health department for the municipalities of Ledyard, East Lyme, Lyme, Groton, Waterford, Old Lyme, Stonington, North Stonington, and New London. The LLHD team, comprised of experts in administration and finance, environmental health, communicable disease prevention, and health education & community outreach, work cooperatively to promote healthy communities and ensure that healthy opportunities are available to everyone.

Environmental Health

Regulated Establishments

LLHD inspects food service establishments to ensure they are compliant with the Connecticut Public Health Code (PHC) and are following good food safety practices. These establishments are inspected based on the risk associated with their level of food preparation activities; Class III establishments (those with extensive hot holding, cooling, preparation, etc.) are required to be inspected three times each year, while Class I establishments only require inspections annually. We work with these local businesses to implement comprehensive food safety practices and provide cost-effective foodservice education programs. Our *Café* program provides our establishments and volunteers with food safety instruction that fulfills the “designated alternate” requirement of the PHC. *Café* classes are scheduled on an as-needed basis for volunteer groups, temporary event staff, and persons who do not normally engage in food preparation. Our ServSafe® Certified Food Protection Manager (CFPM) classes are geared toward foodservice managers and employees who desire more comprehensive instruction that fulfills the PHC requirement for a CFPM to be onsite at Class III and IV establishments. When the FDA Food Code is implemented, which is likely to be in the coming year, the CFPM requirement will also apply to Class II establishments. LLHD inspects temporary events where food is served to assure proper food safety practices are being followed. We also inspect public pools, cosmetology, day care and lodging establishments to ensure these entities are taking measures to protect the public health. We visit residential and commercial properties in response to complaints or concerns raised by the public. Our online complaint reporting system provides residents the opportunity to submit their concerns electronically. LLHD is also responsible for assuring that our coastal and inland waterways are safe for recreational activities. We work with our local shellfish commissions and the Connecticut Department of Aquaculture to assure that our waters are safe for shell fishing and conduct weekly inspections and water sampling at bathing beaches.

Land Use

Our environmental land use staff of five sanitarians conduct soil testing, plan reviews, groundwater monitoring and construction inspection activities for building lots served by onsite septic systems and/or wells. In addition to new lot reviews, we oversee the review of lot line changes, residential and commercial additions, accessory structures (sheds, decks, pools, and detached garages), and changes in use (residential to commercial or an increase in the number of bedrooms). LLHD also conducts the site location review, permit approval, site inspection and water test review for private and public drinking water wells, irrigation wells and geothermal wells.

Communicable Disease Prevention

LLHD holds annual free flu vaccination clinics for all ages. We provide education to the public and organizations about infection prevention and control practices and investigate reports of communicable and/or infectious diseases such as tuberculosis or food borne illnesses. These investigations may include conducting partner follow-up, delivering direct observed therapy (to ensure patients are taking their medications as required), implementing control measures, and providing general support to the affected individual and their families.

LLHD provides support to schools and long-term care facilities during reported outbreaks to help prevent the spread of illness. We also provide yearly educational opportunities for infection control personnel in long term care facilities and schools. We meet with Infection Preventionists from area Long Term Care facilities to provide education and guidance.

In October, LLHD held its 10th annual *Drive-Thru to Beat the Flu* exercise in Groton, where we provided free flu shots to more than 150 residents in a drive-thru scenario. Throughout the District, we strive to provide flu vaccinations to individuals who may otherwise “fall through the cracks”. We visit homeless shelters, soup kitchens, schools, adult education centers, community meal settings and other locations where underserved populations may gather.

Preparedness Activities

LLHD works closely with municipal and regional partners to prepare for and respond to emergency situations. These activities include participation in the Millstone exercises, working with local partners to develop Continuity of Operations and Closed Point of Dispensing plans, and recruiting and training volunteer members of the Medical Reserve Corps. Because of the COVID pandemic, our participation in weekly preparedness activities has increased dramatically.

LLHD is a regional leader in emergency preparedness; Director Stephen Mansfield currently represents the public health sector on the Regional Emergency Preparedness Planning Team (REPT) and is the chair of the DEMHS Region 4 ESF-8 Group. In addition, he is the preparedness lead and a board member of the Connecticut Association of Directors of Health and represents local health on the DPH COVID Subcommittee.

Health Education & Community Outreach

LLHD engages and supports the communities we serve in health education, health promotion, and health policy development activities in a variety of ways. These efforts draw on scientific, evidence-based best practices to ensure that the programmatic processes involved make efficient use of available funding, while achieving measurable and desired changes in our population’s overall health and resilience. LLHD works diligently to secure external funding to support these activities and supplement our municipal members' contributions. LLHD continues to support public health projects initiated by other agencies by serving on a variety of coalitions, providing community outreach, educational presentations and materials to schools, healthcare providers, businesses and the community-at-large.

Regional Asthma Management Program – Breathe Well-Respira Bien

Asthma is the most common chronic disease of childhood and a leading cause of preventable hospital admissions for both children and adults. Asthma rates in CT are among the highest in the nation; there are approximately 50 deaths from asthma each year in our state. LLHD has a long history of participating in programs to help reduce the burden of asthma. Although asthma cannot be cured, it can be managed. Understanding medications and their use can prevent emergency situations. Breathe Well is a free program co-sponsored by Lawrence and Memorial Hospital, designed to help children and adults with asthma to manage their asthma better. A trained asthma educator and public health environmental specialist review medications and provide an in-home environmental assessment of asthma triggers.

Health Services Block Grant

The Connecticut Department of Public Health offers Local Health Departments/Districts the opportunity to participate in the Preventive Health Services Block Grant program. The grant is awarded for a three-year period. Funding levels are determined and adjusted annually using a per-capita formula. Each contract year, DPH outlines the programmatic options to advance the Healthy People 2020 objective. LLHD is currently using these funds to:

- Implement a Live Well with Diabetes Self-Management Program for adults living with diabetes, pre-diabetes and/or their support person(s).
- Provide a Train-the-Trainer Cook Well with Diabetes Program – a four-week cooking program for adults with diabetes for senior and recreation centers interested in implementing the program.

LLHD works collaboratively with local senior centers and parks and recreation departments to offer these programs in addition to Senior Resources Area Agency on Aging.

Immunization Action Program (IAP)

The IAP is a Connecticut Department of Public Health funded program aimed at reducing preventable and sometimes fatal diseases by increasing childhood immunization rates for the vaccines currently recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Over the next four years LLHD will provide professional development for healthcare providers, work to ensure that vaccine is provided by health care providers, reach out to children who have missed vaccine doses or need a vaccine provider, conduct community outreach and awareness campaigns, and enroll families into the statewide immunization registry, called CTWiZ. A SECT Immunization Partnership meets twice annually to guide program activities and assist in the promotion of childhood immunizations.

Overdose Action Team

The Overdose Action Team continues to advance the shared goals of increasing access to effective treatment for opioid use disorder, saturating the community with naloxone and reducing stigma. Through our work engaging with people in community settings and responding to calls to the phone line, our Recovery Navigators continue support their individual health goals. Stigma reduction work is primarily carried out through work to increase community understanding of substance use disorder and change the language used to discuss this chronic disease. The Overdose Action Team's work continues to serve as a model for other communities in Connecticut to take collective action to address this public health epidemic.

Community Health Assessment (CHA) and Improvement Plan (CHIP)

LLHD continues to work with the many community partners on the Health Improvement Collaborative of Southeastern Connecticut to monitor the health of our communities and take collective action to address prioritized health concerns. The Health Improvement Collaborative produced an updated Community Health Assessment and Community Health Improvement Plan, which are available on our website at <https://llhd.org/healthy-communities/health-improvement-collaborative-of-sect/community-health-needs-assessment-cha/>. The Community Health Improvement Plan includes goals and objectives around the prioritized health concerns which are: Access to Care; Black Health Across the Lifespan; Latinx Mental Health; Opioid Use Disorder and Overdose and Racism as a Public Health Issue. In addition, the Health Improvement Collaborative of Southeastern Connecticut continues to participate in the State Office of Health Strategy State Innovation Model Health Enhancement Communities work. The idea of Health Enhancement Communities is that communities would take collective action on “upstream” things that impact health – housing, food security, etc., and that action would result in documented savings in healthcare expenditures, a portion of which would be returned to the communities to continue the prevention work.

COVID-19

Schools

LLHD continues to help assure that all our school systems are prepared to respond to cases of COVID among their students and faculty. We have met with numerous school officials to discuss scenarios and procedures associated with safely keeping students in school and developed and distributed a decision tree and guidance documents to help respond to cases or clusters of COVID. Although recommended policies and procedures have changed significantly as the pandemic has progressed, we are confident that we have provided our school systems with the most up-to-date, comprehensive guidance available.

Sector Guidance

Director Mansfield has participated in a DPH/DECD subcommittee whose purpose was to provide a public health perspective on the proposed and amended Sector Rules developed by the DECD. This group of six health directors met multiple times each week, usually after hours, to consider the implications of certain re-opening strategies, and how these decisions may affect the health of our communities. Getting a seat at this table was a hard-fought battle, as the initial re-opening committee did not contain any representatives from local public health. The Connecticut Department of Public Health worked closely with our group to help align the economic, public health and social implications of the Sector Rules. Our environmental and administrative teams have played a key role in the interpretation and enforcement of the Sector Rules; we have developed comprehensive policies and procedures to follow up on complaints of violations in restaurants, cosmetology establishments, etc. In recent months, the sector “rules” have been replaced by “guidance”, which has lessened the administrative burden associated with enforcement.

Contact Tracing

Mary Day continues to lead our contact tracing activities. We have utilized the Connecticut Department of Public Health’s contact tracing system and have been working in close partnership with DPH representatives to assure that our contact tracing efforts are the best they can be. Recently, the DPH contact tracing program has been reduced dramatically, leaving the majority of contact tracing activities to local health departments and

their community partners. We are confident that we will continue to be successful in our contact tracing efforts as we move into the winter, and are hopeful that the availability of vaccine for expanded populations will lessen the need for extensive contact tracing activities.

COVID Vaccinations

LLHD dedicated extensive resources to providing vaccinations to our residents during the initial stages of the vaccination campaign. As the demand for the vaccine lessened, we moved our efforts toward focusing on those populations with lower vaccination rates. Although the number of individuals that we vaccinated at each clinic was reduced dramatically, the logistics of this operation was complicated and labor intensive. LLHD continues to prepare for COVID mass dispensing activities associated with the COVID booster. We will continue to work with our many community partners to assure that everyone has equal access to the COVID vaccine.

COVID Funding

In cooperation with the Connecticut Association of Directors of Health, and with the support of our municipal and legislative partners, LLHD has been advocating for increased funding for local health departments, both in response to the COVID pandemic and due to the lack of adequate funding for core public health activities and responsibilities. Last year, we were notified that the per capita contributions from the state to local health districts and departments had been increased significantly. We owe a debt of gratitude to all of our legislators, municipal leaders and other supporters for helping to push this initiative forward.

LLHD also received a significant amount of COVID related funding from our nine municipalities. In Connecticut, a large portion of federal funding associated with the pandemic was directed to municipalities. At LLHD, we are fortunate to have a group of municipalities that values our organization and the work we do. This funding was associated with the American Rescue Plan and Corona Virus Relief funding, and provided us with a significant income stream that allowed us to purchase much needed supplies, hire additional contact tracers, community health workers and other staff to assist with our COVID response.

COVID and the Social Determinants of Health

COVID has certainly emphasized the need for our work to include action and advocacy to address barriers to health in systems such as employment and income, education, transportation, and food access. In conjunction with our partners on the Health Improvement Collaborative, we have participated in numerous activities focused on the “social determinants of health” including food distributions, connecting people with rent/housing relief, reducing barriers to COVID testing and vaccinations, and helping community members access food and other resources while under isolation/quarantine. This work is enriched by the ongoing efforts of the Health Improvement Collaborative to broaden and deepen capacity in our region to address Racism as a Public Health Issue. The Collaborative is offering regular education to its members and works with community partners to advocate for action to address systemic racism.