

## E. Public Input

//2008/ The 2007 Wisconsin Title V MCH Services Block Grant Application is found on the DHFS website at [http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/DPH\\_BFCH/BlockGrant/](http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/DPH_BFCH/BlockGrant/). The public and interested parties in MCH and CYSHCN related services are encouraged to provide input via the website at [http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/DPH\\_BFCH/PublicInput.asp](http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/DPH_BFCH/PublicInput.asp). The web public input section relates to the top 10 priority needs that emerged from the needs assessment. Four questions were asked:

- What are your comments or suggestions regarding the newly defined "Top 10" priority needs;
- Do you have suggestions for specific performance measures to address these needs? (e.g. Percent of women who use tobacco during pregnancy);
- Other comments; and
- List of options which best describe you.

From July 2006 through submission of the grant in July 2007, we provided the 2007 block grant application as a template and asked for public input through the DHFS website, from our partners around the state including all local health agencies, the five regional public health offices, MCH statewide projects, and the Regional Centers for CYSHCN; at advisory meetings (i.e. MCH Advisory, WAPC); community meetings (i.e. Black Health Coalition and Great Lakes Intertribal Council); and conferences and meetings involving families of CYSHCN (i.e. Circles of Life Conference). The information was gathered by state MCH program staff and shared at our staff meetings. The information from all the MCH partners and meetings along with the 20 comments from the DHFS webpage were incorporated into the writing of our 2008 grant application or as a point of reference for future planning as well as an evaluation of how we are doing communicating and meeting our state priorities and performance measures. The input received validated the need for the defined priorities and individuals offered suggestions on topics such as: oral health, mental health, contraceptive services, and health disparities. //2008//

***//2009/ The "call for submissions" distribution plan used this year is the same as last year. A total of 21 comments were received through the DHFS website. The input received again validated the need for the aforementioned priorities. In addition, the following areas of need were emphasized: infant mental health awareness and provider training; dental health access and affordability issues (especially in rural areas); adequate and appropriate nutrition and obesity and overweight, highlighting the rising problems with food insecurity; and alcohol use among pregnant women. Advocates and Benefits Counseling for Health (ABC for Health) provided input emphasizing the need for a statewide infrastructure to assist families with children and youth with special health care needs to connect to both health care coverage and medical services. Two additional venues were used to gather public input this past year, the statewide Reproductive Health and Family Planning trainings and the MCH Regional Forums that were held in each of the five health regions in the state. //2009//***