



**Date:** September 15, 2008

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## **Oregon to receive \$1.5 million for pandemic influenza planning**

The Oregon Public Health Division (OPHD) announced today that it has been selected to receive \$1.5 million in competitive federal pandemic influenza preparedness grants for three demonstration projects that will serve as models for programs nationwide.

The funding is a portion of \$24 million made available for projects in 62 states and territories through the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Division of State and Local Readiness, Coordinating Office for Terrorism Preparedness and Emergency Response.

"Oregon is very fortunate to have been successful in all three of its grant proposal submissions," said Mike Harryman, Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program (PHEP) director. "These three projects will help ensure that Oregon is ready to respond in the event of a pandemic or other major communicable disease outbreak."

Multnomah County Health Department will receive \$1,034,066 to develop a system to ensure delivery of essential health services if a pandemic occurs. Lane County Public Health will receive \$260,371 to design and implement an emergency planning mentoring program for community based organizations serving homeless populations. The OPHD Office of Disease Prevention and Epidemiology will receive \$228,848 to improve the electronic exchange of pandemic influenza data with the CDC and among public health laboratories throughout the northwest region.

Proposed demonstration projects had to address preparedness modeling in one of seven areas, including:

- Use of public engagement as part of the public decision-making process;
- Electronic laboratory data exchange to support pandemic influenza surveillance;
- Integration of state-based immunization information systems to track pandemic influenza countermeasures;
- Development of statewide Public Health Information Network (PHIN)-compliant electronic mortality reporting systems;
- Collaborative planning among healthcare providers to ensure the delivery of essential services during a pandemic influenza outbreak;
- Development of interventions that promote preparedness for pandemic disease among identified vulnerable populations; and
- Distribution and dispensing of antiviral drugs to self-isolated or self-quarantined persons in a pandemic influenza event.

The PHEP will provide oversight for all three Oregon projects. The PHEP is responsible for all health and medical emergency planning, response and recovery in Oregon.

For more information, visit: [www.oregon.gov/DHS/ph/preparedness/](http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/ph/preparedness/)

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