

Public Health Infrastructure Grant (PHIG)  
Options for Funding Request to KDHE  
February 2025

The following options have been identified for discussion by the KALHD Board. This document is to guide discussion and does not reflect any decision on priorities or potential next steps and is not a funding request.

**Option 1. Sustain Registration Fee for KALHD Mid-Year Meeting**

Beginning in 2022, KALHD received funding from the Kansas Immunization Program (KIP) to cover registration costs for LHD's to attend this event.

2022 = 69 registrations  
2023 = 67 registrations  
2024 = 71 registrations  
2025 = TBD (budgeted in current KIP grant)

This option would request funds to continue that for the 2026 and 2027 MYM in the amount of **\$50,000** (\$25,000 annually).

**Option 2. Sustain Registration Fee for Kansas Association of Counties (KAC) Conference**

Beginning in 2022, KALHD received funding from the Kansas Immunization Program (KIP) to cover registration costs for LHD's to attend this event.

2022 = 28 registrations  
2023 = 39 registrations  
2024 = 25 registrations

This option would request funds to continue that for the 2025 and 2026 KAC conferences (2027 will occur after the November 2027 end of PHIG grant funding) in the amount of **\$34,000** (\$425 x 40 persons x 2 conferences).

**Option 3. Sustain the Kansas Public Health Leadership Series provided by WSU.**

KDHE has forecast changes to their Medicaid contract with Wichita State University that may take effect later this year. Negotiations are ongoing and if Medicaid funding for the PHLS will be able to continue is at best unclear.

KALHD could propose to KDHE prioritizing PHIG funding to sustain PHLS in the amount of to provide for two additional cohorts of LHD participants in calendar year 2026 and 2027.

**Cost to be determined.**

**Option 4. New funding for first time LHD Administrator attendance at the MYM.**

A review of data from MYM 2022-2024 identified twenty-five (25) LHD's who have not attended the MYM during those years. Consistent with the MYM Planning Team and KALHD Board efforts

to conduct outreach to the administrators of these LHDs to ensure they know they are invited and welcome at the MYM, we could request funds to provide a scholarship for the 2025 MYM.

- Funds would be awarded to the LHD (the organization not to individuals to reduce administrative activities) to reduce or eliminate the need to use local funds for travel costs which can be a barrier to attendance.
- A LHD would be eligible for this scholarship one year only to provide a bridge to allocating funds in future budgets for the MYM.
- LHDs who have attended in the past three years would not be eligible.
- Use limited to the Administrator or LHD personnel only
- Proposed scholarship amount of \$1,000. (also eligible for the registration cost of \$250 in option 1 for total of \$1,250)
- Paid by KALHD to the LHD after attending the MYM and submitted to KDHE for reimbursement from PHIG funds.
- If the LHD does not expend the full amount on travel costs for Administrator, they could send additional LHD staff to MYM or use the funds on other workforce related travel.

The budgeted cost for these scholarships would be **\$25,000** for 2025.

#### **Option 5. Expand attendance at MYM to one additional LHD staff member.**

Current KIP funding for registration costs at MYM is prioritized to the LHD Administrator to help ensure equal access to this event. There would be merits in expanding access to one designee per LHD (typically a next in charge presumably) as a strategy to increase the knowledge and skills of future leaders in our health departments.

In 2025 there is \$20,000 in KIP funding that was originally budgeted to a KALHD Immunization Symposium project that was canceled to reduce the meetings/events LHD's attend. A request can be submitted to KDHE to reallocate that funding for the 2025 MYM for this purpose. Then for the 2026 and 2027 MYM we could request KDHE to allocate PHIG funding to continue this opportunity.

Based on an additional 100 registrations x \$250 per registrant the annual cost would be \$25,000 annually.

This option would request funds to continue that for the 2026 and 2027 MYM in the amount of **\$50,000**.

#### **Option 6. New LHD Administrator Training**

This concept is based on KALHD history shared with me in which the University of Kansas Public Management Center received funding to train new local health department administrators. My understanding is that this was funded by the state and ended sometime around the 2008-2009 financial crisis, a time in which many state programs were reduced or eliminated.

This concept would resume this training with a university partner with agenda focused on public management skills to not overlap with PHLS. The goal would be to have distinct and complementary training that together would prepare administrators for their role.

Training would be in-person and could be held as an expansion of the MYM and Annual Meetings to reduce travel expenses and to provide the opportunity to attend within the first 6 months on the job. Funding would be required to develop curriculum, conduct the trainings, and cover cost of participation for each new administrator.

**Cost to be determined.**

#### **Option 7. New travel funding for LHD's to attend MYM and/or KAC conference.**

As an addition to other options to cover registration costs for these events, this option would provide scholarships to offset the use of local taxpayer funds, fee revenue or grant funds for travel associated with these events. This option would be made available to one participant (administrator or if not attending their designee) per LHD.

- Funds would be awarded to the LHD (the organization not to individuals to reduce administrative activities) to reduce or eliminate the need to use local.
- Use limited to the Administrator or LHD personnel only.
- Proposed scholarship amount of \$1,000.
- Paid by KALHD to the LHD after attending the MYM and submitted to KDHE for reimbursement from PHIG funds.
- If the LHD does not expend the full amount on travel costs for Administrator, they could send additional LHD staff to MYM or use the funds on other workforce related travel.

This funding would be used for the 2025, 2026 and 2027 KALHD MYM and the 2025 and 2026 KAC Conference. At \$1,000 per attendee and a projected 100 MYM and 40 KAC attendees annually. Or \$100,000 per MYM and \$40,000 per KAC conference.

The budgeted cost for these scholarships would be **\$380,000.**

#### **Option 8. KALHD Costs to Administer these Options.**

If KALHD were to apply for and receive PHIG funding for some or all of these options, it would be reasonable to cover a portion of the administrative costs for the operation of KALHD with PHIG funds. Funds would pay a portion of personnel costs, office equipment/supplies, communications, travel, etc. at a projected amount of \$3,000 per month for a period of 30 months (June 2025 through November 2027).

The budgeted cost would be **\$90,000.**

## Available PHIG Funding

Base Funding Available	<u>\$651,228.53</u>
KALHD Previously Approved Recommendations	
KBH Training	\$33,000.00
Sedgwick Co Reaccreditation	\$11,200.00
Reno Co Reaccreditation	\$23,200.00
Wyandotte Co Reaccreditation	\$8,400.00
Shawnee Co Reaccreditation	\$33,600.00
Projected Balance	<u>\$541,828.53</u>
Options	
Registration for KALHD MYM	\$50,000.00
Registration for KAC conf	\$34,000.00
PHLS	tbd
First time LHD attendance MYM	\$25,000.00
One additional LHD staff at MYM	\$50,000.00
New Administrator Training	tbd
Travel Costs for MYM/KAC	\$380,000.00
KALHD Administrative Costs	\$90,000.00
Subtotal of Options	<u>\$629,000.00</u>
Projected Balance after Options	<u>-\$87,171.47</u>