CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

ARRA PROJECT STATUS UPDATE

Public Health Commitment to ARRA

In January, 2009, the Federal Administration announced the passage of the "American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009" (ARRA). At that time, the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) established an internal coordination and communication process to inform Commissioner Galvin and Deputy Commissioner Gyle of program funding opportunities and policy directives. In February 2009, the Governor's Office invited DPH to attend meetings of Governor's staff and selected agencies to review Connecticut activities. In addition to participating in the Governor's ARRA Workgroup meetings, DPH holds an internal coordination meeting every Wednesday afternoon to review current activities and develop strategies to comply with the Governor's directives.

ARRA DPH Reporting Protocols

The ARRA DPH Protocols, formally established in April, 2009, require all program staff to assure transparency, thoroughness, accuracy, and timeliness for DPH activities that are funded and/or required through the ARRA. The protocols are organized under 5 categories: Communications, Record Keeping, Reporting, Data Integrity, and Compliance. The detailed list of protocols is presented in the DPH Data Quality Plan, posted on the DPH Recovery website. The following Protocols were confirmed for the Quarterly Reports submitted to the US Office of Management and Budget, the Connecticut Office of Policy and Management, and the Governor's Office.

- ✓ All completed plans, applications, notice of awards, and periodic reports are posted to the DPH Recovery website by the Communications Office.
- ✓ DPH Program staff and the Chief Accountability Officers (CAOs) maintain paper and electronic: documents from federal funding agencies; program reports; contracts; loan agreements; monthly and quarterly reporting information for the length of the funding and program activity for a minimum of 3 years. These reports will be accessible at 410 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut for federal or state auditors and freedom of information requests.
- ✓ DPH Program staff verified and submitted all OMB reporting requirements to Chief Accountability Officers before October 1st and January 10th.
- ✓ The Fiscal Office accountants assigned to ARRA funded programs completed OPM and OMB fiscal reporting requirements.
- ✓ CAOs validated information to ensure consistency with source information; reasonable; and thorough.

- ✓ DPH Chief Accountability Officers submitted/uploaded complete quarterly reports for DPH to OMB through the federalreporting.gov on October 8, 2009 and January 15, 2010.
- ✓ All information was also uploaded to the CT OPM secured website and copied to the Governor's Office.

The ARRA supported programs administered by DPH as of December 31, 2009, are listed below with a summary description of the program, progress to date, expected activities for the next quarter in 2010.

ARRA Funded DPH Program ***Awarding Agency***	**DPH Program Responsibilities**	**Progress through Dec 2009**	**Expected Activities through 2010**
Healthcare Associated Infections – Ambulatory Surgical Centers (ASCs) *US Dept of Health and Human Services* *Centers for Medicare and Medicaid*	Complete 14 additional onsite inspections of ASCs in order to focus attention and regulatory oversight on prevention and control of infections. Utilizing the new CMS survey process, each survey will take approximately 46 surveyor hours.	✓ Application and Budget submitted to CMS on 9/15/09. ✓ Connecticut received the Notice of Grant Award on November 9, 2009. ✓ Conducted training.	➢ Expand Survey Protocols. ➢ Monthly and Quarterly reporting. ➢ Conduct surveys.
Healthcare Associated Infections (HAI): Planning and Prevention, Surveillance (Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity) *US Dept of Health and Human Services* *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*	Facilitate the development of an interim *Connecticut HAI Surveillance and Prevention Plan* to expand programs and include federal targets for HAI reduction specified in the 2009 DHHS Action Plan. Facilitate the development of a comprehensive state strategic HAI plan that will also include a plan for sustainability by finding potential funding streams and initiatives in private/public sectors to build HAI prevention programs. Assist prevention collaboratives seeking to prevent HAIs and drug-resistant organisms, such as	✓ Designated a Physician to be HAI Coordinator and program staff. ✓ Established and convened the HAI Advisory Committee to develop plans and protocols. ✓ Completed initial validation of data. ✓ Submitted 2010 (Interim) State HAI Plan.	➢ Hire strategic planning staff. ➢ Complete initial phase of strategic planning. ➢ Hire prevention collaborative staff. ➢ With financial and staffing assistance, sustain and expand hospital participation in HAI prevention collaboratives. ➢ Hire additional data validation staff. ➢ Complete and report on a second round of data validation. ➢ Train infection prevention staff performing HAI surveillance. ➢ Monthly and Quarterly

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	Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA), in hospitals. Continue and expand validation to ensure the reliability of the HAI surveillance data.		reporting.
Healthcare Associated Infections Vaccine Study (HAI-Vacc) *US Dept of Health and Human Services* *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*	Conduct study of the 13-valent conjugate pneumococcal vaccine (PCV13) that will replace the current 7-valent vaccine (PCV7. An efficacy study is necessary to understand the impact of this vaccine on invasive pneumococcal disease.	✓ Collaborated with CDC and other EIP sites to develop the study protocol. ✓ Developed and pilot tested appropriate instruments and enrollment procedures. ✓ Developed appropriate, secure data systems that allow for collection and electronic transmission of data.	➢ Submit study protocol to DPH Human Investigations Committee for review and approval. ➢ Conduct a parallel study of efficacy using controls matched by date of birth and zip code. ➢ Monthly and Quarterly reporting.
Healthcare Associated Infections (HAI): Innovations in the Surveillance of Multidrug-Resistant Organisms and Healthcare-Associated Infections (Emerging Infections Program) *US Dept of Health and Human Services* *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*	Participate in a national network of Emerging Infection Program sites that will perform enhanced surveillance projects to gain critical knowledge needed to more effectively track and prevent healthcare associated infections in this state and the nation. This participation will include identifying key questions for study, developing protocols, implementing the protocols and gathering data, analyzing	✓ Joined the national EIP-HAI project steering group ✓ Joined three national EIP-HAI surveillance workgroups (national HAI prevalence project, data validation project, dialysis centers project). ✓ Collaboratively developed a national protocol for assessment of the burden of HAIs in acute care hospitals across the nation.	➢ Hire an epidemiologist to facilitate continued and expanded participation in the project. ➢ Coordinate participation of state hospitals in a pilot of the upcoming national HAI prevalence survey. ➢ Develop protocols to streamline and validate (ensure the reliability of) HAI surveillance data. ➢ Monthly and Quarterly reporting.

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	the data, and reporting the findings and making recommendations.		
Immunizations – Rotavirus Vaccine *US Dept of Health and Human Services* *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*	CDC is providing Connecticut with more than $2 million worth of rotavirus vaccine as an in-kind allocation. This is equivalent to more than 26,000 doses that will be administered in a two-dose series to more than 13,000 children, aged 2-8 months of age. DPH will coordinate the ordering, safety and security of vaccine for healthcare providers.	✓ Notified Immunization Providers in July, 2009 that rotavirus vaccine was available to order directly from the CT Immunization Program. ✓ Received and verified orders in August, 2009 and submitted them to the third-party administrator, McKesson Corp. ✓ Providers began vaccinating children in September, 2009. ✓ Rotavirus vaccine was distributed to providers as follows: September -- 2,143 doses (worth $178,393) October – 2,595 doses ($216,026) November – 2,326 doses ($193,646)	➢ Monthly and Quarterly reporting. ➢ Continued administration to distribute vaccine to providers.

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Immunization Registry *US Dept of Health and Human Services* *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*	Replace the Department's outdated, DOS-based immunization registry with a web-based registry and tracking system. This will serve as a tool to increase immunization coverage in children and adults and thus protect them from vaccine-preventable diseases. The new system will allow the Immunization Program to readily monitor vaccination trends, link vaccination rates to vaccine-preventable disease occurrence, monitor vaccine uptake, and link data with other child-based systems.	✓ Completed contractual requirements to contract with a vendor for temporary data entry workers and initiated documentation for CT Dept of Information Technology required before contracting with a vendor to build registry and tracking system. ✓ Established Project Team.	➢ Submit required documentation for CT Dept of Information Technology approval of design, construction, and implementation. ➢ Populate the registry with birth certificate records from Vital Records and by membership data from Managed Care Organizations. ➢ Monthly and Quarterly reporting.
State Primary Care Office (PCO) *US Dept of Health and Human Services* *Health Resources and Services Administration*	Support the Connecticut Primary Care Office's activities for the delivery of services. Enhance the recruitment and retention efforts for public health and healthcare in the areas of Connecticut identified as lacking adequate numbers of health professionals or having significant populations that lack access to primary care services.	✓ Connecticut received the Notice of Grant Award on September 17, 2009. ✓ Participated in Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) designation training ✓ Participated in Application Submission and Processing System (ASAPS) training. ✓ Provided information to clinicians and sites interested in participating in this initiative.	➢ Continue to provide technical assistance to sites interested in participating in the program. ➢ Formalize recruitment and retention efforts in HPSAs. ➢ Monthly and Quarterly reporting.
Women, Infants, and Children	Expend Special Supplemental	✓ Received $1,362,164 in April,	➢ There are no additional

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(WIC) *US Department of Agriculture* (USDA)	Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) funds for food expenditures to address the increased cost of food and increasing number of clients applying to receive WIC food benefits provided by State WIC Program.	2009 for increased costs and clients for food vouchers. ✓ Spent funds for food vouchers for over 4,000 new clients in April, 2009. ✓ COMPLETED PROJECT	ARRA funds to continue the Program expansion.
Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) – Management Information Systems *US Department of Agriculture* (USDA)	To provide for the necessary modifications to the Connecticut Statewide WIC Information System (SWIS) for the successful implementation of the required changes to the existing WIC food packages serving approximately 62,000 clients.	✓ Received Notice of Award on October 21, 2009. ✓ Contracted with Information Technology consultant to prepare necessary documents for the DoIT SDM process. ✓ Contracting for Consulting Group to support Phase I of Women, Infants and Children (WIC) System Modernization Project.	➢ Submit required documentation for CT Dept of Information Technology approval of design, construction, and implementation. ➢ Complete Feasibility Analysis including business requirements and alternative solutions analysis ➢ Monthly and Quarterly reporting.
Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Fund *US Environmental Protection Agency*	Principal forgiveness loan programs to assist public water systems for capital improvement projects which will proceed quickly to construction, create jobs, promote economic growth, and generate long term benefits from the infrastructure investment.	✓ Announced available funding to all public and private drinking water companies in Connecticut. ✓ Received and reviewed applications from over 40 water companies. ✓ Ranked all applications according to ARRA, EPA, and DPH criteria. ✓ Held a public forum for water companies' application.	➢ Continued technical and engineering assistance for public water projects. ➢ Monthly and Quarterly reporting. ➢ Due to the extensive projects and various progress levels, the update is presented below.

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		✓ Verified 13 priority public water system infrastructure projects. One project withdrew request for ARRA assistance, leaving 12 verified public water projects.	

PWS Name	Base City of PWS	Project Name	Estimated Total ARRA Financial Assistance	Estimated Project Completion Date	Status
CTWC - GALLUP WATER SERVICE, INC.	PLAINFIELD	DWSRF - interconnection to Harrington MHP	$ 249,086	6/30/2010	DPH authorization to award construction contract issued on 12/10, Final loan agreement sent out to CTWC for signature on 12/31. DPH met with CTWC on 12/14 to review ARRA Sub-recipient reporting requirements.
BARLOW MOUNTAIN & SCOTLAND ELEM SCHOOLS	RIDGEFIELD	DWSRF - water main extension for consolidation	$1,426,870	2/23/2010	Project under construction. Loan agreement was executed on 12/29. and OTT closed on the IFO on 12/31. DPH met with Ridgefield on 12/8 to go over ARRA Sub-recipient reporting requirements.
PUTNAM WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY	PUTNAM	DWSRF - Park St. Well Field Expansion	$2,542,717	8/16/2010	DPH authorization to award construction contracts issued on 12/10, Comments on draft loan agreement received from Putnam's Bond Council on 12/21 and under review by CGMS and OTT. Putnam submitted 2 change orders on 12/11 for gravel well contract totaling approx. $250K to deepen and widen wells - change orders have been reviewed and approved by DWS and the one >$100K was transmitted from DWS to DPH Commissioner for signature on 12/17. DPH met with Putnam on 12/14 to review ARRA Sub-recipient reporting requirements.
BROOKFIELD MUNICIPAL BLDGS	BROOKFIELD	DWSRF water main - Silvermine Road	$1,886,184	6/30/2010	Project under construction. Loan agreement was executed on 11/24. DWS site visit performed on 11/20 with DPW. DPH met with Brookfield on 12/17 to review ARRA Sub-recipient reporting requirements. Per OTT, loan agreement will be amended in January 2010 to add $195K to loan agreement for change order #2 + associated work to hang water main on bridge over railroad tracks on Silvermine Road. Change Order #2 was reviewed by DWS and was transmitted from DWS to the DPH Commissioner for

					approval (signature) on 12/17.
EAST LYME WATER & SEWER COMMISSION	EAST LYME	DWSRF - System Wide Chlorine Disinfection	$955,879	5/30/2011	Loan agreement was executed on 12/29 and OTT closed on the IFO on 12/31. DPH met with East Lyme on 12/14 to review ARRA Sub-recipient reporting requirements.
TOLLAND WATER DEPARTMENT	TOLLAND	DWSRF- Consolidation (Absorption of Torrey Rd PWS)	$178,225	12/20/2009	Project under construction. Loan agreement has been signed by Tolland and the DPH Commissioner and was transmitted to DEP for Commissioner's signature on 1/4. DWS site visit performed on 11/17 with DPW. DPH met with Tolland on 12/17 to review ARRA Sub-recipient reporting requirements.
METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COMMISSION	HARTFORD	DWSRF- RF Automated Meter Reading Sys & Meter Repl - Phase II	$5,929,684	8/31/2010	Project underway. Loan agreement was executed on 12/29 and OTT has scheduled a closing on the IFO for 1/11. DPH met with MDC on 12/17 to review ARRA Sub-recipient reporting requirements.
WOODLAKE TAX DISTRICT	WOODBURY	DWSRF - new wells & associated work	$579,717	5/15/2010	DPH Authorization to award construction contract was transmitted from DWS to the DPH Commissioner for signature on 12/17. Loan agreement was signed by WLTD and transmitted from CGMS to DPH Commissioner for signature on 12/30. DPH met with WLTD on 12/8 to go over ARRA Sub-recipient reporting requirements.
NORWICH PUBLIC UTILITIES	NORWICH	DWSRF - Fitch Hill storage tank repair & paint	$371,829	1/12/2010	Project under construction. Loan agreement has been signed by Norwich and the DPH Commissioner and was transmitted to DEP for Commissioner's signature on 1/4. DWS site visit performed on 11/19 with DPW. DPH met with Norwich on 12/8 to go over ARRA Sub-recipient reporting requirements.
NORWICH PUBLIC UTILITIES	NORWICH	DWSRF - Fairview Res. storage tank repair & painting, pump station upgrades	$750,000	1/12/2010	Project under construction. Loan agreement has been signed by Norwich and the DPH Commissioner and was transmitted to DEP for Commissioner's signature on 1/4. CGMS received e-mail on 12/28 from Norwich Bond Council indicating requested revisions to loan agreement were not made, OTT reviewing revisions. DWS site visit performed on 11/19 with DPW. DPH met with Norwich on 12/8 to go over ARRA Sub-recipient reporting requirements.
MANCHESTER WATER DEPARTMENT	MANCHESTER	DWSRF- Hercules Dr Booster Pump Station	$667,449	9/30/2010	DPH Authorization to award construction contract was transmitted from DWS to the DPH Commissioner for signature on 12/17. Final loan agreement sent to Manchester for signature on 12/31.

METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COMMISSION	HARTFORD	DWSRF- Water Main replace Tower Ave. area Hartford	$1,719,860	7/31/2010	Project under construction, DPH letter approving pre-bid, post-bid and construction contract documents was transmitted from DWS to the DPH Commissioner on 12/23 for signature. Loan agreement has been signed by MDC and is being held by CGMS until final loan amount is determined. DPH expects to close on this loan after all other project loan amounts are finalized and the remaining ARRA funds are known. Total project cost is $3.2M. DPH met with MDC on 12/17 to review ARRA Sub-recipient reporting requirements.