

Tony Evers  
Governor

Karen E. Timberlake  
Secretary



**State of Wisconsin**  
Department of Health Services

**DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

1 WEST WILSON STREET  
PO BOX 2659  
MADISON WI 53701-2659

Telephone: 608-266-1251  
Fax: 608-267-2832  
TTY: 711 or 800-947-3529

April 13, 2022

Brian Wolf, Assistant Chief  
Racine Fire Department  
810 8<sup>th</sup> Street  
Racine, WI, 53403

Dear Assistant Chief Wolf,

Thank you for submitting an application in response to the *Mobile Integrated Health for COVID and Stroke*. The review committee has recommended your application for funding for the period of March 1, 2022 – February 28, 2023.

The review panel noted strengths and weaknesses from your application as shown below.

Application Strengths

- The need for this program is clearly established by providing Racine's statistics surrounding the increase in Racine Fire Department's (RFD) call volume, stroke and COVID hospital admissions, COVID vaccination rates, and the poverty level of its municipality.
- The application does an exemplary job highlighting RFD Mobile Integrated Health (MIH) project's high level of qualification, strong partnerships, and record of success, which demonstrate preparedness and capacity to incorporate *MIH for COVID and Stroke* into their existing program.
- The additional efforts of the MIH team meeting with patients prior to discharge and the post-MIH visit referrals to other services, such as community resources and behavioral health, speak directly to the MIH crew's mission in providing quality, effective care and making sure patients feel safe and properly cared for. This follow-up with patients, clinical and community partners, illustrates the comprehensive nature of the work being proposed and provided.
- The potential challenges pertaining to COVID related concerns such as the fear of infection and its politicization are addressed by the crew wearing appropriate personal protective equipment at all home visits and having consistent COVID messaging and informational resources readily available and obtainable for the patients
- The organizational structure of RFD's MIH team, including hospital partners, is well outlined, describing different members of the team's roles and respective tasks, showing an efficient workflow.

Application Weaknesses

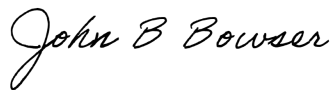
- The application states eligible MIH participants are "patients that have had a stroke or have COVID-19 health disparities..." It is important to follow the protocol of this project, that the patient receiving MIH care must be a stroke patient recently discharged to home.

- The first at-home MIH visit that is outlined in the application does not include obtaining the required data deliverables provided in Attachment A of the GFO. This data set is necessary for the reporting of this grant.
- The goal of mitigating and preventing future problems relative to COVID is well documented but the degree to which stroke prevention interacts with these efforts could be fleshed out more. A focus on stroke is a major goal of the project. This will be a part of the monthly calls, allowing for ongoing opportunities to discuss these activities.

**The award amount allocated for participation in this project is \$30,000 and represents 100 patients seen for the performance period of March 1, 2022 – February 28, 2023.** Please note that this is based on the reimbursement structure described in the Grant Funding Opportunity (GFO).

We look forward to working with you in the coming months on the *Mobile Integrated Health for COVID and Stroke* project. Chandler Hansen, Outreach Specialist, and Kyleen Maccoux, Quality Improvement Specialist, will be contacting you in the next week to discuss next steps in more detail. You may also contact me at [john.bowser@dhs.wisconsin.gov](mailto:john.bowser@dhs.wisconsin.gov) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John B Bowser". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first letters of each name being capitalized and prominent.

John Bowser, PhD  
Director, Wisconsin Coverdell Stroke Program  
Division of Public Health  
Wisconsin Department of Health Services