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**CITY OF DANBURY**  
**155 DEER HILL AVENUE**  
**DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810**

**DAVID W. ST. HILAIRE**  
**DIRECTOR FINANCE**

**(203) 797-4652**  
**FAX: (203) 796-1526**

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**M E M O R A N D U M**

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**DATE:** 09/20/11  
**TO:** HON. MARK D. BOUGHTON VIA THE CITY COUNCIL  
**FROM:** DAVID W. ST. HILAIRE, DIRECTOR OF FINANCE *DWS*  
**RE:** UNION SAVINGS BANK FOUNDATION-HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

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Attached for your review is a resolution that will allow the City of Danbury Health and Human Services Department to apply for and accept funding from the Union Savings Bank Foundation.

This funding, not to exceed \$10,000, will be used to support oral health care services at the three school-based health centers and will be utilized during the 2011/2012 school year. There is no local match required.

The City Council is respectfully requested to consider this resolution at its next meeting.

DWS/sk

cc: M. Bonjour  
S. Leroy



# RESOLUTION

CITY OF DANBURY, STATE OF CONNECTICUT

\_\_\_\_\_ A.D. 2011

**RESOLVED** BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DANBURY

**WHEREAS** the Union Savings Bank Foundation has made an opportunity available to the City of Danbury Health and Human Services Department to apply for grant funding; and

**WHEREAS** the amount requested of \$10,000 will be used to support oral health care services at the three school-based health centers and will be utilized during the 2011/2012 school year; and

**WHEREAS** there is no local match required.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Mark D. Boughton, Mayor, or Scott T. Leroy, Director of Health, as his designee, is authorized to apply for and accept this funding and execute on behalf of the City of Danbury all contracts, agreements or amendments and to take all actions necessary to effectuate the purposes thereof.



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**CITY OF DANBURY**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES**  
**SCHOOL BASED HEALTH CENTERS (SBHC)**

155 DEER HILL AVENUE  
DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810

**Melanie S. Bonjour**  
**Clinic Administrator**

(203) 797-4625  
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**IMPACT STATEMENT**

**2011 Union Savings Bank of Danbury Foundation Grant Request**  
**Amount Requested: \$ 10,000**

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**Program Impact**

If awarded, the \$10,000 grant from the Union Savings Bank of Danbury Foundation will enable the School-Based Health Centers located at Danbury High School, Broadview Middle School and Rogers Park Middle School to support the provision of preventive, hygiene and restorative oral health care services at its three public school locations. Children served through this program will be youth ages 11 to 20 years, currently enrolled in one of the three public schools and who have been identified as experiencing dental pain and/or who have untreated dental decay.

The funding will provide for direct service hours of a sub-contracted dental assistant, dental hygienist and Dentist to provide on-site care for children who are identified as having severe dental decay, lack of a dental provider and/or who are in pain or report missed days of school due to oral health care problems.

Oral disease in children is five times greater than the incidence of asthma. Nationally, caries are seen in 48% of 4-year olds and 80% of 17 year olds. Approximately 51 million school hours per year are lost because of dental related illness. Tooth decay (dental caries) affects children in the United States more than any other chronic infectious disease. Tooth decay and other oral diseases that can effect children are preventable. The combination of screening, dental sealants, hygiene services and flouride has the potential to nearly eliminate tooth decay in school-aged children.

**Fiscal Impact**

This grant is available through the Union Savings Bank of Danbury Foundation. One-time funding totaling \$10,000 is being requested to support the services of a part-time licensed Dentist, registered Dental Assistant and for the purchase of miscellaneous dental supplies. No local match is required.

If the requested funds are not awarded, the program will not be offered unless other funding sources are secured.

**Anticipated Grant Lifetime**

The proposed grant is a one time request to be utilized during the 2011-2012 school year.

**Purpose of Organization**

*Please limit your response to the visible space provided. If more room is required, submit an additional Word document.*

The City of Danbury Health and Human Services Department is lead administrative agent for three School-Based Health Center (SBHC) sites located in Danbury High School, Broadview Middle and Rogers Park Middle School. The SBHCs are fully licensed, comprehensive primary health care facilities located on school grounds providing a range of physical, mental health and dental services to children ages 11 - 20 years.

Serving students since the Spring of 1994 with the opening of the high school site, the Mission of the SBHCs is: To provide access to high quality comprehensive physical and mental health services while being accessible, confidential, culturally sensitive, and developmentally appropriate. The SBHC is built upon mutual respect and collaboration between the school and the health provider to promote the health and educational success of school aged children as responsible participants in their health care, while encouraging the role of parents and other family members.

The programs are supported by a mix of funding including State and local dollars, and limited Medicaid reimbursement. All services are available at no out-of-pocket costs to any student enrolled in one of the three public schools so as to remove inability to pay as a barrier to accessing care.

The City's SBHC's are three of seventy-five centers operating in Connecticut in inner city and suburban elementary, middle and high school settings. The SBHC's are staff by pediatric and adolescent health specialists, including a nurse practitioner, licensed clinical social worker, dental hygienist and dentist.

Adolescents are the only population in the U.S. that has experienced a rise in mortality and morbidity, and in CT, teens are the most underserved segment of the population.

Children and adolescents face unique barriers to accessing health care such as cost, lack of transportation, fears about confidentiality, and lack of knowledge about available services. SBHCs are designed to eliminate those barriers and meet the unique health care needs of this population.

Our SBHCs provide services when students need them, without the hassles of scheduling appointments sometimes weeks in advance. Thus, SBHCs can, and often do, intervene in situations before they rise to a crisis level or acute episode. In addition, our health centers assist students with chronic conditions by helping them to manage and monitor their diseases and to avoid acute episodes, thus lowering absenteeism among students.

In 2010, the City's SBHCs enrolled 4,196 students in its health centers, and met various health care needs of the patients through over 6,319 visits. Top five reasons for visits included:

1. Mental Health Disorders
2. Dental Exams\*
3. Dental Carries\*
4. Head Cold./Allergic Rhinitis
5. Health Education/STD

Unmet dental health care concerns was identified as the top reason for students seeking visits, however, due to provider hours, less patients were accommodated resulting in dental falling in place as # 2 and #3 in the list above. Nationally, dental pain is the major reason for school absenteeism.

In 2008, dental services, including preventive, hygiene and restorative services were added to the full range of medical and mental health services to address a very serious and increasing access to oral health care issue for the community's uninsured and underinsured children.



**Description of the Program in Need of Funding**

*Please limit your response to the visible space provided. If more room is required, submit an additional Word document.*

The City of Danbury Health & Human Services Department, on behalf of its SBHCs, is requesting \$10,000 in funding from the USB Foundation, to support the provision of preventive, hygiene and restorative oral health care services at its three public school locations.

The funding will provide for direct service hours of a sub-contracted dental assistant, dental hygienist and Dentist to provide on-site care for children who are identified as having severe dental decay, lack of a dental provider and/or who are in pain or report missed days of school due to oral health care problems.

Oral disease in children is five times greater than the incidence of asthma. Nationally, caries are seen in 48% of 4-year olds and 80% of 17 year olds. Approximately 51 million school hours per year are lost because of dental related illness. Tooth decay (dental caries) affects children in the United States more than any other chronic infectious disease. Tooth decay and other oral diseases that can affect children are preventable. The combination of screening, dental sealants, hygiene services and fluoride has the potential to nearly eliminate tooth decay in school-aged children.

Children from families with low incomes had nearly twelve times as many restricted-activity days (e.g., days of missed school) because of dental problems as did children from families with higher incomes.

In 2003, the Danbury Public School System was awarded five-year funding from the CT Health Foundation to increase access to dental services for HUSKY enrolled/eligible children in the Danbury Public School System.

While the oral health program made significant achievements in increasing access to preventive and restorative dental services to Elementary school-aged children, services for middle school and high school aged children have been virtually non-existent.

In direct response to the dire need for services for this age population, in 2008 the City of Danbury submitted a grant application to the CT State Dept. of Public Health and was awarded \$28,958.00 to support 4.5 hrs/wk dental care at two of the city's three SBHCs.

The very first patient receiving restoration care at the start of this pilot project is depicted in the following anecdote and not untypical of the patients we identified as requiring treatment at our middle school site:

"JB was a 11 year old middle school student who was identified by school staff as having many missed days of school due to self-reported dental pain. He was screened by the hygienist who immediately referred JB to the Dentist for treatment. Upon examining JB, the Dentist was alarmed at his condition and notified the SBHC staff that she was going to contact the State DCF for parental medical neglect. JB has seven teeth that were so decayed they required extraction. JB told the dentist that he had never been to the Dentist, and that his family all had little or no teeth. JB stated that he didn't want to miss any more school, that he liked coming to school and that he didn't want to end up without teeth like his family".

In the Fall of 2009, the City applied for and was subsequently awarded funding from the CT State Dept. of Social Services, through a Dental Improvement Initiative Project, to expand dental services to all three SBHC sites through a one-time award of \$233,018.

Dental hygiene services and follow-up restorative services were offered at each location one day per week.

During the 2010-2011 program year, the following services were carried out: (See Attached Word Document)