

Hearing Screening Assistive Technology**FY2002 Request: \$100,000**
Reference No: 34044**AP/AL:** Appropriation**Project Type:** Equipment**Category:** Health/Human Services**Location:** Statewide**Contact:** Larry Streuber**House District:** Statewide (HD 1-40)**Contact Phone:** (907)465-1870**Estimated Project Dates:** 07/01/2001 - 06/30/2006**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

Provides funds to purchase a limited number of high-end (cost-wise) hearing devices for loan to families of infants and toddlers diagnosed as hard of hearing.

Funding:	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004	FY2005	FY2006	FY2007	Total
MHTAAR	\$100,000						\$100,000
Total:	\$100,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$100,000

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - underway	<input type="checkbox"/> On-Going
0% = Minimum State Match % Required		<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Bill	

Operating & Maintenance Costs:

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Project Development:	0	0
Ongoing Operating:	0	0
One-Time Startup:	0	
Totals:	0	0

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:

This is the first year of the project.

Project Description/Justification:**Project Description:**

Maternal, Child and Family Health is requesting \$100.0 to purchase of a number of high quality digital hearing aids for infants with identified hearing impairments. The hearing aids will be loaned for periods of six months to infants whose families can not acquire them through other sources. Many insurance companies are unwilling to pay for digital hearing aids, despite the fact that digital amplification has become the audiological standard of care. High quality amplification allows infants to hear their parents and the other sounds of their world right from the start, thereby increasing the likelihood that they will develop normal language, cognitive, and socio-emotional skills. The six month loan period allows the family time to adjust to having a child with a hearing loss, audiologists to become familiar with the specific needs of the child, and families to secure funding for future amplification.

Results: This recommendation supports the Council's desired result that people are healthy and benefit from the full range of needed health care services, which is compatible with the Comprehensive Plan and the Trust's guiding principles. The need for these services was consistently reinforced during the State Plan planning process.

Indicators: Screening and Immunizations.

Performance Measures:

- ◆ Number and percent of newborns screened for hearing loss or deafness prior to discharge from the hospital
- ◆ Number and percent of infants screened as positive for hearing loss who receive audiological evaluations by three months of age
- ◆ Number and percent of infants with diagnosed hearing loss who are connected to early intervention resources by six months of age

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- ♦ Percent of families who are satisfied with the services they receive

Grant or Contract Type: Loaner Program