

DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES



This contract, number 2012-040152 (Contract), is entered into by and between the Department of State Health Services (DSHS or the Department), an agency of the State of Texas, and HIDALGO COUNTY (Contractor), a Government Entity, (collectively, the Parties).

1. **Purpose of the Contract.** DSHS agrees to purchase, and Contractor agrees to provide, services or goods to the eligible populations as described in the Program Attachments.
2. **Total Amount of the Contract and Payment Method(s).** The total amount of this Contract is \$433,127.00, and the payment method(s) shall be as specified in the Program Attachments.
3. **Funding Obligation.** This Contract is contingent upon the continued availability of funding. If funds become unavailable through lack of appropriations, budget cuts, transfer of funds between programs or health and human services agencies, amendment to the Appropriations Act, health and human services agency consolidation, or any other disruptions of current appropriated funding for this Contract, DSHS may restrict, reduce, or terminate funding under this Contract.
4. **Term of the Contract.** This Contract begins on 01/01/2012 and ends on 12/31/2012. DSHS has the option, in its sole discretion, to renew the Contract as provided in each Program Attachment. DSHS is not responsible for payment under this Contract before both parties have signed the Contract or before the start date of the Contract, whichever is later.
5. **Authority.** DSHS enters into this Contract under the authority of Health and Safety Code, Chapter 1001.
6. **Documents Forming Contract.** The Contract consists of the following:
 - a. Core Contract (this document)
 - b. Program Attachments:

2012-040152-001 Tuberculosis Prevention and Control - Federal
 - c. General Provisions (Sub-recipient)
 - d. Solicitation Document(s) N/A
 - e. Contractor's response(s) to the Solicitation Document(s) N/A
 - f. Exhibits

Any changes made to the Contract, whether by edit or attachment, do not form part of the Contract unless expressly agreed to in writing by DSHS and Contractor and incorporated herein.

7. **Conflicting Terms.** In the event of conflicting terms among the documents forming this Contract, the order of control is first the Core Contract, then the Program Attachment(s), then the General Provisions, then the Solicitation Document, if any, and then Contractor's response to the Solicitation Document, if any.

8. **Payee.** The Parties agree that the following payee is entitled to receive payment for services rendered by Contractor or goods received under this Contract:

Name: HIDALGO COUNTY
Address: HIDALGO COUNTY TREASURER 2810 S BUSINESS 281
EDINBURG, TX 78539-6243
Vendor Identification Number: 17460007176037

9. **Entire Agreement.** The Parties acknowledge that this Contract is the entire agreement of the Parties and that there are no agreements or understandings, written or oral, between them with respect to the subject matter of this Contract, other than as set forth in this Contract.

By signing below, the Parties acknowledge that they have read the Contract and agree to its terms, and that the persons whose signatures appear below have the requisite authority to execute this Contract on behalf of the named party.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES

HIDALGO COUNTY

By: _____
Signature of Authorized Official

By: _____
Signature

Date

Date

Bob Burnette, C.P.M., CTPM

Printed Name and Title

Director, Client Services Contracting Unit

Address

1100 WEST 49TH STREET
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78756

City, State, Zip

(512) 458-7470

Telephone Number

Bob.Burnette@dshs.state.tx.us

E-mail Address for Official Correspondence



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES

CERTIFICATION REGARDING LOBBYING

CERTIFICATION FOR CONTRACTS, GRANTS, LOANS AND COOPERATIVE

AGREEMENTS

The undersigned certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief that:

- (1) No federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or an employee of any agency, a member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any federal contract, the making of any federal grant, the making of any federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.
- (2) If any funds other than federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with this federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.
- (3) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by Section 1352, Title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

Signature

Date

Print Name of Authorized Individual

2012-040152

Application or Contract Number

HIDALGO COUNTY

Organization Name

CONTRACT NO. 2012-040152
PROGRAM ATTACHMENT NO. 001
PURCHASE ORDER NO. 0000378932

CONTRACTOR: HIDALGO COUNTY

DSHS PROGRAM: Tuberculosis Prevention and Control - Federal

TERM: 01/01/2012 THRU: 12/31/2012

SECTION I. STATEMENT OF WORK:

Throughout the Contractor's defined service area of Hidalgo, the Contractor shall develop and provide: (1) basic services and associated activities for tuberculosis (TB) prevention and control; and (2) expanded outreach services to individuals of identified special populations who have TB and/or who are at high risk of developing TB.

Contractor shall provide the services outlined above in compliance with the following:

- DSHS Standards of Performance for the Prevention and Control of Tuberculosis, available at <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/IDCU/disease/tb/publications/SOP-2008-final.doc>;
- DSHS Standards for Public Health Clinic Services, available at <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/qmb/dshsstndrds4clinicservs.pdf>;
- DSHS TB Policy and Procedures Manual, available at <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/idcu/disease/tb/publications/>;
- American Thoracic Society (ATS) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) joint statements on diagnosis, treatment and control of TB available at <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5211a1.htm>;
- Diagnostic Standards and Classification of Tuberculosis in Adults and Children, (American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine, Vol. 161, pp. 1376-1395, 2000) <http://ajrcem.atsjournals.org/cgi/reprint/161/4/1376>;
- Treatment of Tuberculosis, (ATS/CDC/IDSA), 2003 available at http://www.cdc.gov/tb/pubs/mmwr/Maj_guide/default.htm;
- Targeted Tuberculin Testing and Treatment of Latent TB Infection (LTBI), Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, Vol. 49, No. RR-6, 2000, available at <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/PDF/rr/rr4906.pdf>;
- Updated: Adverse Event Data and Revised American Thoracic Society/CDC Recommendations Against the Use of Rifampin and Pyrazinamide for Treatment of Latent Tuberculosis Infection – United States, 2003, MMWR 52 (No. 31) <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5231a4.htm>;

- Controlling Tuberculosis in the United States, MMWR, Vol. 54, No. RR-12, 2005 <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5412a1.htm>;
- Guidelines for the Prevention and Treatment of Opportunistic Infections Among HIV-Exposed and HIV-Infected Children at <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/rr/rr58e0826.pdf>;
- Guidelines for Prevention and Treatment of Opportunistic Infections in HIV-Infected Adults and Adolescents at <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/rr/rr58e324.pdf>; and
- Updated Guidelines on Managing Drug Interactions in the Treatment of HIV-Related Tuberculosis at http://www.cdc.gov/tb/publications/guidelines/TB_HIV_Drugs/default.htm.

Contractor shall comply with all applicable federal and state regulations and statutes, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Texas Tuberculosis Code, Health and Safety Code, Chapter 13, Subchapter B;
- Communicable Disease Prevention and Control Act, Texas Health and Safety Code, Chapter 81;
- Screening and Treatment for Tuberculosis in Jails and Other Correctional Facilities, Health and Safety Code, Chapter 89;
- Texas Administrative Code TAC, Title 25, Part 1, Chapter 97, Subchapter A, Control of Communicable Diseases; and
- Texas Administrative Code TAC, Title 25, Part 1, Chapter 97, Subchapter H, Tuberculosis Screening for Jails and Other Correctional Facilities.

Contractor shall perform all activities under this Renewal Program Attachment in accordance with Contractor's final, approved work plan (attached as Exhibit A), and detailed budget as approved by DSHS. Contractor must receive written approval from DSHS before varying from applicable policies, procedures, protocols, and the final approved work plan, and must update its implementation documentation within forty-eight (48) hours of making approved changes so that staff working on activities under this contract knows of the change(s).

DSHS reserves the right, where allowed by legal authority, to redirect funds in the event of financial shortfalls. DSHS will monitor Contractor's expenditures on a quarterly basis. If expenditures are below what is projected in Contractor's total Program Attachment amount, Contractor's budget may be subject to a decrease for the remainder of the Contract term. Vacant positions existing after ninety (90) days may result in a decrease in funds.

Because of the inherent time to complete treatment for tuberculosis disease and latent tuberculosis infection in relation to the period of this Renewal Program Attachment, required reporting under this Renewal Program Attachment will show results for work performed under previous Program Attachments.

Contractor shall provide a complete and accurate annual narrative report, in the format provided by DSHS, demonstrating compliance with the requirements of this Renewal Program Attachment. That report shall include, but is not limited to, a detailed analysis of performance related to the performance measures listed below. A progress report of activities in January through December 2012 shall also be submitted in a format provided by DSHS. The narrative program report shall be

sent to the Department of State Health Services, Tuberculosis Services Branch, Mail Code 1939, PO Box 149347, Austin, Texas 78714-9347 via regular mail, or by fax to (512) 776-7787, and sent by e-mail to charles.wallace@dshs.state.tx.us and mitra.kookma@dshs.state.tx.us. Contractor shall maintain the documentation used to calculate performance measures as required by the General Provisions Article VIII “Records Retention” and by the Texas Administrative Code Title 22, Part 9 Chapter 165, §165.1 regarding the retention of medical records.

Report periods and due dates are as follows:

PERIOD COVERED	DUE DATE
January 2011– December 2011	March 1, 2012
January 2012 – May 2012	July 1, 2012

Contractor shall send all initial reports of confirmed and suspected TB cases to DSHS within seven (7) working days of identification or notification. Any updates to initial DSHS Report of Cases and Patient Services Forms (TB-400) (e.g., diagnosis, medication changes, x-rays, and bacteriology) and case closures shall be sent within thirty (30) days of when a change in information in a required reporting field occurs to DSHS at PO Box 149347, Mail Code 1939, Austin, Texas 78714-9347.

Contractor shall send an initial report to DSHS of contacts on all Class 3 TB cases and smear-positive Class 5 TB suspects within thirty (30) days of identification using DSHS’ Report of Contacts Form (TB-340 and TB-341). Any new follow-up information (not included in the initial report) related to the evaluation and treatment of contacts shall be sent to DSHS on the TB-340 and TB-341 at intervals of ninety (90) days, 120 days, and two (2) years after the day the Contractor became aware of the TB case.

Electronic reporting to DSHS for Class 3 TB cases, smear positive Class 5 TB suspects, and their contacts may become available during the term of this Renewal Program Attachment. Once notified of this option by DSHS, Contractor may avail itself of this option if it adheres to all the electronic reporting requirements (including system requirements) provided at that time.

Contractor will determine and report annually the number of persons which receive at least one (1) TB service, including but not limited to: tuberculin skin tests, chest radiographs, health care worker services, or treatment with one or more anti-tuberculosis medications.

Contractor shall monitor and manage its usage of anti-tuberculosis medications and testing supplies furnished by DSHS in accordance with first-expiring-first-out (FEFO) principles of inventory control to minimize waste for those products with expiration dates. On a monthly basis, the Contractor shall perform a count of its inventory of anti-tuberculosis medications and tuberculosis testing supplies furnished by DSHS and reconcile the quantities by product and lot number found by the direct count with the quantities by product and lot number listed in the electronic inventory management system furnished by DSHS. All these tasks shall be performed by the Contractor using the designated database and the designated procedures.

Contractor shall evaluate and monitor Class B immigrants and when needed place them on

appropriate prophylaxis for successful completion of treatment. Immigrant notifications shall be obtained through the Electronic Disease Notification (EDN) system. The TB Follow-up Worksheet in EDN shall be completed for all immigrants whose notification was obtained through EDN.

Contractor shall evaluate refugees and other at-risk clients referred by the Refugee Health Program for further clinical evaluation and when needed place those refugees on appropriate prophylaxis and monitor them for successful completion of treatment. The TB Worksheet in EDN shall be completed on refugees and other at-risk clients who are reported through EDN.

SECTION II. PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

The following performance measures will be used to assess, in part, Contractor's effectiveness in providing the services described in this Renewal Program Attachment, without waiving the enforceability of any of the other terms of the contract or any other method of determining compliance:

1. Cases, and suspected cases, of TB under treatment by Contractor shall be placed on timely and appropriate Direct Observed Therapy (DOT). If data indicates a compliance rate for this Performance Measure of less than 90%, then DSHS may (at its sole discretion) require additional measures be taken by Contractor to improve that percentage, on a timeline set by DSHS;
2. Newly diagnosed TB cases that are eligible* to complete treatment within 12 months shall complete therapy within 365 days or less;
**Exclude TB cases 1) diagnosed at death, 2) who die during therapy, 3) who are resistant to Rifampin, 4) who have meningeal disease, and/or 5) who are younger than 15 years with either miliary disease or a positive blood culture for TB.*
If data indicates a compliance rate for this Performance Measure of less than 85%, then DSHS may (at its sole discretion) require additional measures be taken by Contractor to improve that percentage, on a timeline set by DSHS;
3. TB cases with initial cultures positive for Mycobacterium tuberculosis complex shall be tested for drug susceptibility and have those results documented in their medical record. If data indicates a compliance rate for this Performance Measure of less than 97.4%, then DSHS may (at its sole discretion) require additional measures be taken by Contractor to improve that percentage, on a timeline set by DSHS;
4. Newly-reported cases of TB with Acid-fast Bacillus (AFB) positive sputum culture results will have documented conversion to sputum culture-negative within 60 days of initiation of treatment. If data indicates a compliance rate for this Performance Measure of less than 45%, then DSHS may (at its sole discretion) require additional measures be taken by contractor to improve the percentage, on a timeline set by DSHS;

5. Newly-reported TB cases shall have an HIV test performed (unless they are know HIV-positive, or if the patient refuses) and shall have positive or negative HIV test results reported to DSHS according to the schedule provided herein. If fewer than 80% of newly reported TB cases have a result of an HIV test reported, then DSHS may (at its sole discretion) require additional measures be taken by Contractor to improve that percentage, on a timeline set by DSHS;
6. Newly-reported suspected cases of TB disease shall be started in timely manner on the recommended initial 4-drug regimen. If fewer than 93% of newly-reported TB cases are started on an initial 4-drug regimen in accordance with this requirement, then DSHS may (at its sole discretion) require additional measures be taken by Contractor to improve that percentage, on a timeline set by DSHS;
7. Newly-reported TB patients with a positive AFB sputum-smear result shall have at least three contacts identified as part of the contact investigation that must be pursued for each case. If data indicates a compliance rate for this Performance Measure of less than 90%, then DSHS may (at its sole discretion) require additional measures be taken by Contractor to improve that percentage, on a timeline set by DSHS;
8. Newly-identified contacts, identified through the contact investigation, that are associated with a sputum AFB smear-positive TB case shall be evaluated for TB infection and disease. If data indicates a compliance rate for this Performance Measure of less than 81.5%, then DSHS may (at its sole discretion) require additional measures be taken by Contractor to improve that percentage, on a timeline set by DSHS;
9. Contacts, identified through the contact investigation, that are associated with a sputum AFB smear-positive case and that are newly diagnosed with latent TB infection (LTBI) shall be started on timely and appropriate treatment. If data indicates a compliance rate for this Performance Measure of less than 65%, then DSHS may (at its sole discretion) require additional measures be taken by Contractor to improve that percentage, on a timeline set by DSHS;
10. Contacts, identified through the contact investigation, that are associated with a sputum AFB smear-positive case that are newly diagnosed with LTBI and that were started on treatment shall complete treatment for LTBI as described in Targeted Tuberculin Testing and Treatment of Latent TB Infection (LTBI), Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, Vol. 49, No. RR-6, 2000, and according to the timelines given therein. If data indicates a compliance rate for this Performance Measure of less than 45%, then DSHS may (at its sole discretion) require additional measures be taken by Contractor to improve that percentage, on a timeline set by DSHS;
11. Newly-reported TB patients that are older than 12-years-old and that have a pleural or respiratory site of disease shall have sputum AFB-culture results reported to DSHS according to the timelines for reporting initial and updated results given herein. If data indicates a compliance rate for this Performance Measure of less than 89.5%, then DSHS

may (at its sole discretion) require additional measures be taken by Contractor to improve that percentage, on a timeline set by DSHS; and

12. All reporting to DSHS shall be completed as described herein under Section I above and submitted by the deadlines given.

If the Contractor fails to meet any of the performance measures, the Contractor shall furnish in the narrative report, due March 1, 2012, a written explanation including a plan (with schedule) to meet those measures. This requirement does not excuse any violation of this Contract, nor does it limit DSHS as to any options available under the contract regarding breach.

SECTION III. SOLICITATION DOCUMENT:

Exempt - Governmental Entity

SECTION IV. RENEWALS:

DSHS may renew the Program Attachment for up to two (2) additional one-year terms, at DSHS's sole discretion.

SECTION V. PAYMENT METHOD:

Cost Reimbursement

Funding is further detailed in the attached Categorical Budget and if applicable, Equipment List.

SECTION VI. BILLING INSTRUCTIONS:

Contractor shall request payment using the State of Texas Purchase Voucher (Form B-13) and acceptable supporting documentation for reimbursement of the required services/deliverables. Vouchers and supporting documentation should be mailed or submitted by fax or electronic mail to the addresses/number below.

Claims Processing Unit, MC1940
Department of State Health Services
1100 West 49th Street
PO Box 149347
Austin, TX 78714-9347

The fax number for submitting State of Texas Purchase Voucher (Form B-13) to the Claims Processing Unit is (512) 776-7442. The email address is invoices@dshs.state.tx.us.

SECTION VII. BUDGET

SOURCE OF FUNDS: CFDA Funding #93.116

SECTION VIII. SPECIAL PROVISIONS:

General Provisions, **Article III. FUNDING, Section 3.06, Nonsupplanting**, is revised to include the following:

Funding from this Renewal Program Attachment shall not be used to supplant (i.e., used in place of funds dedicated, appropriated or expended for activities funded through this Renewal Program Attachment) state or local funds, but Contractor shall use such funds to increase state or local funds currently available for a particular activity. Contractor shall maintain local funding at a sufficient rate to support the local program. If the total cost of the project is greater than DSHS' set funding, Contractor shall supply funds for the remaining costs in order to accomplish the objectives set forth in this Program Attachment.

All revenues directly generated by this Renewal Program Attachment or earned as a result of this Renewal Program Attachment during the term of this Renewal Program Attachment are considered program income; including income generated through Medicaid billings for TB related clinic services. Contractor shall use this program income to further the scope of work detailed in this Renewal Program Attachment, and must keep documentation to demonstrate such to DSHS's satisfaction. This program income may not be used to take the place of existing local, state, or federal program funds.

General Provisions, **Article IV. PAYMENT METHODS AND RESTRICTIONS Section 4.02, Billing Submission**, is hereby revised to add:

Quarterly Financial Status Reports (Form 269A) from Contractor shall be provided to DSHS in the format provided by the DSHS. These reports shall be mailed to Department of State Health Services, Attention: Accounting Section, Claims Processing Unit, Mail Code 1940, 1100 West 49th Street, PO Box 149347, Austin, Texas 78714-9347. These reports shall be submitted on a quarterly basis as follows:

PERIOD COVERED	DUE DATE
January, February March	April 30, 2012
April, May, June	July 31, 2012
July, August, September	October 31, 2012
October, November December	February 28, 2013

General Provisions, **Article XIII. General Terms, Section 13.15 Amendment**, is amended to include the following:

Contractor must submit all amendment and revision requests in writing to the Division Contract Management Unit at least ninety (90) days prior to the end of the term of this Program Attachment.

Categorical Budget:

PERSONNEL	\$280,752.00
FRINGE BENEFITS	\$91,020.00
TRAVEL	\$10,642.00
EQUIPMENT	\$708.00
SUPPLIES	\$34,005.00
CONTRACTUAL	\$0.00
OTHER	\$16,000.00
TOTAL DIRECT CHARGES	\$433,127.00
INDIRECT CHARGES	\$0.00
TOTAL	\$433,127.00
DSHS SHARE	\$433,127.00
CONTRACTOR SHARE	\$0.00
OTHER MATCH	\$0.00

Total reimbursements will not exceed \$433,127.00

Financial status reports are due: 04/30/2012, 07/31/2012, 10/31/2012, 03/01/2013

Equipment List Attached.

Equipment List

Equipment Total: \$ 708.00

Item #	Equipment Description	Units	Unit Cost	Total
1	Wheel Chair with Removable Back	1	\$708.00	\$708.00

HIDALGO COUNTY WORK PLAN

2012-040152

1. During 2012, the Hidalgo County Health & Human Services Department (HCHHSD) purposes to continue to serve the area of Hidalgo County, with populations to be served; but not limited to: Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)/(AIDS) Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome; silicosis; chronic renal failure/hemodialysis; hematologic/ reticuloendothelial malignancy; head/neck cancer; immunosuppression; jejunoileal bypass; solid organ transplantation; radiographic evidence of old, untreated Tuberculosis (TB); injection drug use; close contacts to active highly infectious TB case (including children < 5 yrs old who are Tuberculosis Skin Test (TST negative); recent convertor (within last 2 years); gastrectomy; diabetes mellitus (insulin requiring or poorly-controlled); recent immigrant (5< yrs) from endemic country; targeted communities such as underdeveloped colonias and housing projects with low income and newly immigrant population; Salvation Army homeless shelter; ESL (English as a Second Language) Program based out of public schools; Drug and Alcohol Counseling Centers; Dentention Center(754) and County Jail (1200 beds). The HCHHSD does not propose to subcontract TB services. The HCHHSD will continue to provide TB services to neighboring counties thru regional referrals and to Mexico thru the Bi-National Program.
2. The HCHHSD is under the jurisdiction of the County Judge and County Commissioners. The HCHHSD consists of seven comprehensive clinics that are located throughout the county and one centralized pulmonary clinic. The department has policies and procedures in providing client services, hiring personnel, professional and support staff training, quality assurance, and peer review (Attachment 1 Organizational Chart).

The HCHHSD continues to participate in research projects with the UT-Health and Science Center in San Antonio, TB consortium and Study 29; UT-Brownsville School of Public Health-Study on T-cell X- tend with T-spot and TB research program on Texas-Mexico border. University of Texas Brownsville (UTB) continues to work with and depend on the DSHS Regional TB Physician to conduct client assessments and follow ups. The HCHHSD also depend on the support of Texas Center for Infectious Disease (TCID) in the treatment of critical TB clients that are not able to receive the essential care locally.

The HCHHSD continues to utilize DSHS support for technical assistance, professional and support staff training, and service delivery policies for the TB program.

Historically, the HCHHSD has been supported by local funds to supplement the TB program (by 60%↑). The departments Chief Financial Officer and the County Auditor ensure that TB funds are expended appropriately as per DSHS Grant Management requirements. The TB Program collaborates and networks with local providers and hospitals to expand active TB surveillance, to identify and treat TB cases/suspects in a timely manner. The TB program consists of one pulmonary clinic in Edinburg. The TB Program staff currently consists of one TB Program Manager, one TB Registered Nurse (RN) Supervisor, two staff RN's, 5

LVN's, 7 Outreach Worker's and 3 Clerk's. The nurses assess, educate, treat and follow-up TB cases/suspects. The Outreach Workers are utilized to deliver Directly Observed Therapy (DOT) to TB cases/suspects. The complexity of the TB cases continue to rise. Thus, comprehensive nursing staff are utilized to assist with the Latent Tuberculosis Infection (LTBI) caseload. The barrier that still continues is the restrictive admission process of our critical TB cases to TCID. Department of State Health Services (DSHS) and Hidalgo County partnership is crucial to ensure appropriate treatment and follow-up of TB case/suspects.

3. The HCHHSD will collect at least one TB service including but not limited to tuberculin skin test, chest radiographs, health care worker services or treatment with one or more anti-tuberculosis medications in 2012. This data continues to be collected manually thru daily tally sheets and Microsoft access program; and compile into monthly reports. TWICES is also utilized to access and report some of this data.
4. The TB nurses collect and tabulate data in state and county TB forms and submit to the TB Records Manager for tabulating and reporting. These activities are conducted daily. During 2012 the HCHHSD will conduct community surveillance to identify unreported cases of TB and individuals suspected of having TB infection by conducting: targeted screening of high risk population areas identified thru mapping of cluster cases in Hidalgo County; proactive surveillance activity to hospitals, labs, pharmacies, private providers, schools, and Veterinary Hospitals. Also, provide physician offices with information regarding TB case management, referrals of high risk individuals placed on treatment for LTBI, and referral of TB Suspects. Currently Microbiology Lab and local hospitals conduct acid-fast basilli smears and cultures for mycobacterium tuberculosis complex. The HCHHSD will continue to document outbreaks on the Incident Report EF 12-12104 (2/2005).
5. The TB nurses collect and enter the data in the appropriate TB forms, and in the TWICES Program daily. The data collected is reviewed by the TB Records Manager and the TB RN Supervisor for completeness, accuracy and timeliness. In addition, monthly case management reviews are conducted by the TB Program Manager, TB RN Supervisor, and TB nurse case managers to monitor compliance of TB Program standards, policies and procedures.
6. During 2012 the HCHHSD will coordinate with other health and human services providers in the service area to avoid duplication of services by: maintaining a record of clients referred; educating the Department of Human Service's to identify clients who are seeking assistance for TB; maintaining the pro-surveillance reporting system thru hospital infection control nurses at nine (9) local hospitals; private laboratories, private physicians, and university research projects.

The HCHHSD will continue to work with the following Hidalgo County community programs:

University of Texas- Pan American/Bachelors of Science in Nursing (BSN) nursing program; provide students with hands on experience in tuberculosis; El Milagro and Nuestra Clinica del Valle, who serve low income/undocumented clients; Salvation Army-homeless shelter; Avance- a community base organization that promote health wellness thru the use of promotoras; Drug and Alcohol Counseling Centers; East Hidalgo Detention Center (754 beds); Hidalgo County Jail (1200 beds); Family Doctors/Pulmonologist-refer TB suspects to rule

out tuberculosis; Local Hospitals (9)- McAllen Medical Center, Mission Hospital, Edinburg Regional, Rio Grande Regional, Heart Hospitals, Knapp Medical Hospital, Doctors Hospital at Rennaissance, Driscoll Children's Hospital, Corner Stone Hospital; and Life Care Hospital; Birth Center; Holy Family Services; Nursing Homes; Tropical Texas –MHMR; Texas Department of Human Services; Veterans Department Clinic; Rio Grande Food Pantry; Catholic Social Services; Housing Authority; Texas Interagency Council on Early Childhood Intervention (ECI) of Region 1; Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services, Valley Aid Council; TB Net; TB Cure; Hospice in McAllen, Tx., and Rehabilitation Centers.

While providing targeted testing at the community based organizations; the assigned high risk population nurse provides TB education on a monthly base. TB training and referral process is provided to local providers that are receiving TST solution from DSHS on a quarterly bases. The HCHHSD provides a yearly reportable condition seminar to local hospitals and local providers and are given TB educating and information on paper reporting of TB suspects/cases.

7. The HCHHSD has not had any changes in providing services to culturally diverse populations. The county is approximately 89 percent white Hispanic, 9 percent white/non-hispanic, and 2 percent other (Black, Asian, other). All of our clinic staff are bilingual (English/Spanish). If needed, additional interpretation services and language translation is available thru contractual services provided by the department. Also, the HCHHSD has strived to maintain all health facilities Americans with Disability Act (ADA) compliant. In addition, the HCHHSD clinics are accessible to provide TB services to contacts/cases/suspects and LTBI's as needed thru out the county. The TB nurses and outreach workers are accessible and travel to clients homes and/or other designated areas to provide TB client services. Service hours are 7:30 AM to 5:30 PM Monday thru Thursday & 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Friday however; TB staff are accessible after hours and weekends as the need arises.
8. During 2012 the HCHHSD will conduct management of TB cases and suspects with emphasis on provision of Directly Observed Therapy (DOT):
100% of cases/suspects reported to the Hidalgo County Health and Human Services Department will be evaluated for diagnosis and treatment; 90% of TB cases ordered TB drugs will complete course of recommended therapy; 90% of TB suspects/cases ordered TB treatment will be on DOT; longer treatment period for MDR cases may be required; consultation with experts is also required; DOT's will be administered by nurses and/or delivered by field TB Outreach Worker's; monthly toxicity to observe for side effects will be performed by nurses; monthly monitoring, to evaluate treatment progress, will be conducted by the nurses and physician; and nurses/TB Outreach Worker's will perform toxicity to observe for side effects before each DOT dose is given. The use of incentives/enablers are provided by local funds as available.
9. TB Case Management reviews are conducted monthly by the TB RN Supervisor, TB Physician and TB nurse case managers. The TB cases are evaluated for health care status and treatment plan as per TB standards/policies by the TB Physician & TB RN Supervisor.
10. The HCHHSD has implemented the cohort analysis of cases by integrating this process with the monthly TB Case Management and monthly TB Quality Assurance (QA) staff meetings to facilitate compliance on a quarterly basis since 2010. The Cohort Review Team consist of the TB Program Manager, TB RN

- Supervisor, TB Records Manager, TB Case Manager's, Contact Investigation Team and support from the department Epidemiologist.
11. During 2012 the HCHHSD will conduct management of contacts and positive reactors with emphasis on Direct Observed Preventive Therapy (DOPT) to LTBI's who are less than five years of age, HIV infected or in the same residence as a case receiving directly observed therapy (DOT). The department has and will continue to comply with the performance measures as described on this RFP, Form D. In addition, contacts with initial negative TB skin test that are < 5 yrs old or immune compromise will start window prophylaxis on DOPT. Contacts who convert will continue or start treatment for LTBI, as per DSHS/CDC guidelines. DOPT will be considered to other persons at high risk for progression to TB disease as resources allow.
 12. The HCHHSD TB Program Manager with the support of the DON, has developed a TB Contact Investigation Team to timely conduct TB contact investigation following DSHS/CDC guidelines. The HCHHSD TB tool/checklist forms are utilized to ensure all areas of the contact investigation are covered; thus, ensuring all areas have been evaluated when fewer than 3 contacts have been identified. In addition, by developing a TB Contact Investigation Team, the department has expedited the interviewing of cases and the evaluation of contacts. The department has also re-structured the follow-up of LTBI's to improve the completion rate for preventive therapy. This process includes the disseminating of the LTBI caseload among all the seven comprehensive department clinics; thus being more accessible to the clients. Also, the department will continue to support incentive programs to improve the compliance of LTBI preventive therapy.
 13. During 2012, the HCHHSD will continue to maintain infection control procedures in the Pulmonary and Health Clinics; and will continue to adhere to the departments guidelines for identifying TB infectious patients.
Administrative Control: medical & nursing staff will follow local policies and procedures in identifying, isolating, evaluating, and treatment of persons likely to have TB; new TB staff will receive 40 hours of TB training, and receive at least 16 hours of training annually thereafter; TB staff will follow the department's policy on employee TB skin testing; every 3-6 months TB skin testing on TST negative TB staff will be conducted; annual monitoring of signs and symptoms for TB on positive reactors will be conducted; will TST all new staff by using 2-step method if documented previous negative skin test; new staff with documented positive TST will assess for signs and symptoms of TB, offer base line chest x-ray, and get medical clearance; will provide a safe working environment for staff; and will provide separate waiting area for non-TB patients.
Engineering Control: will maintain essential equipment functioning properly; will clean bacteriocidal lamps monthly and replace as needed; will monitor negative pressure in the four (4) isolation rooms; will change A/C filters in the hepa filtration units, monthly or sooner if necessary; all maintenance for above controls will be logged by date and type of maintenance provided and by whom; staff providing some of the maintenance will be instructed on the danger of exposure when changing UV lights; will provide training on engineering control maintenance to all essential staff upon hire, yearly & as needed.
Personnel Respiratory Protection: staff will screen and identify patients suspected of TB and will isolate appropriately; cough induced sputums will be collected in a negative pressure room with UV light and hepa filter unit; health care workers collecting sputum will use their personal particulate Inovel1500 N95

- respirator and will be re-fitted yearly and as needed; all health care workers will be trained on the use of personal respirators. Health Department clinics with no isolation rooms will collect sputums outdoors in a designated area.
14. During 2012, the HCHHSD will conduct targeted TB screening by:
 - providing TB screening training to private providers; providing TB training to community based organizations; monitoring TB screening at the 1200 bed county jail facility; providing TB screening at the Salvation Homeless Shelter, low income colonias, English as second language (ESL) programs in the schools; providing TB training to nursing homes, and hospital infection control, to encourage TB testing of staff and residents as needed; and providing TB training for promotoras who perform outreach activities.
 15. During 2012, the HCHHSD will provide professional education and training to train new/current TB staff:
 - Will provide 40 hours of TB orientation for each TB Health Department employees (nurses, clerks, outreach workers) which include; Introduction of TB Program; Role of the Public Health Nurse in TB Communicable Disease Control-Reporting: who, when, what, and where to report; CDC self study modules 1-9 (for nurses); Core Curriculum on Tuberculosis; review of TB Policy and Procedure Manual; review of TB drugs; and Infection Control Guidelines. The completion of TB staff (nurse, outreach worker, clerk) orientation and skills will consist of:
 - a. Observation and hands on TB training at the Pulmonary Clinic 1-2 months depending on need; and,
 - b. Provide at least 16 hours of TB continuing education- by in services provided in house thru webinars or by attending TB workshops annually.
 16. During 2012, the HCHHSD will evaluate all referrals of immigrants and refugees following local guidelines for Aliens with notifications, Class A, Class B-1 Pulmonary, Class B-1 Extrapulmonary, Class B-2 and Class B3 as follows:
 - Class A (Positive Cases)-
 - Will open and complete TB record; at initial clinic visit, assess client for signs and symptoms of TB; take v/s, hx, etc.; if no previous TST, apply one; collect sputum x 3 induced and do chest x-ray with MD evaluation; complete TB400 A/B; continue treatment DOT as per MD orders; complete and sign CDC 75.17 (Rev. 02/99 form) and submit to DSHS.
 - Class B-Pulmonary (no treatment)-
 - Will open and complete TB record; at initial clinic visit, assess client for signs and symptoms of TB; take v/s, hx, etc.; if no previous TST, apply one; collect sputum x 3 and do chest x-ray with MD evaluation; await culture results and MD recommendations; complete TB400 A/B; complete and sign CDC 75.17 (Rev. 02/990 form) and submit to DSHS.
 - Class B-1 Pulmonary (complete treatment)-
 - Will open and complete TB record; at initial clinic visit, assess client for signs and symptoms of TB; take v/s, hx, etc.; if no previous TST, apply one; do chest x-ray and collect sputum if indicated by MD; complete TB400 A/B; complete and sign CDC 75.17 (Rev. 02/99) form and submit to DSHS.
 - Class B-1 Extra-pulmonary-
 - Will open and complete TB record; at initial clinic visit, assess client for signs and symptoms of TB; take v/s, hx, etc.; if no previous TST, apply one; if chest x-ray abnormal, collect sputum if indicated by Medical Doctor (MD); initiate treatment if indicated by MD; complete TB400 A/B; complete and sign CDC 75.17 (Rev.

02/99) form and submit to DSHS.

Class B-2 (LTBI)-

Will open and complete TB record; If symptomatic will follow "Guidelines for identifying TB infectious patient in outpatient health department clinic; at initial clinic visit, assess client for signs and symptoms of TB; take v/s, hx, etc.; if no previous TST, apply one; initiate preventive treatment if indicated by MD; complete TB400 A/B; complete and sign CDC 75.17 (Rev.02/99) form and submit to DSHS.

Class B-3 (Contact) -

If no TST, apply one; if TST positive, follow same procedure as Class B-2; if TST negative, follow up in 8-10 weeks for 2nd TST; complete TB400 A/B; complete and sign CDC 75.17 (rev. 02/99) form and submit to DSHS.