



TONI N. HARP
MAYOR

CITY OF NEW HAVEN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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BYRON KENNEDY, MD, PhD, MPH
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

October 15, 2018

Alder Tyisha Walker-Myers, President
Board of Alders
165 Church Street
New Haven, CT 06510

RE: Request for a Budget Transfer to Cover Costs of Temporary Nursing Services

Dear Honorable Alder Tyisha Walker-Myers:

This year the New Haven Health Department has experienced nurse staffing issues that have greatly impacted our work:

- Three school nurses are out on Short-Term Disability
- There are two vacant school nurse positions
- One school nurse is out on Workers Compensation
- The clinic nurse was hospitalized over the weekend
- A health assistant has submitted an FMLA application in advance of a scheduled surgery
- Nursing coverage is needed to cover personal or sick day absences

This letter is to request a transfer of \$60,000 from the *Per Diem* line item in the Health Department budget to ensure the continuation of our work. Toward that end, we have engaged the services of the Delta-T Group for temporary nursing services. Registered nurses from Delta-T have covered all schools in which nurses were not available. They have also assisted, through onsite clinics, in the delivery of flu and Hep A vaccines to residents in senior housing, homeless shelters, and to City employees. The current flu season does not end until March of 2019. The State of Connecticut Department of Public Health has identified several flu and Hep A cases in our area. The Health Department is mandated to vaccinate residents, including those who are homeless, against these viruses. The transferred funds will be used for a contract with Delta-T to pay for nursing services.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this matter. Please let me know if you need anything more.

Sincerely,

Dr. Byron S. Kennedy
Director of Health