

## PROJECT: ELC Infection Prevention and Healthcare-Associated Infections Response Support

Start Date: 10/1/2024

End Date: 9/30/2025

### **Project Synopsis:**

This project is supported by Epi Lab Capacity (ELC) Supplemental funding. To utilize these funds, Local Health Departments (LHD) must participate in collaborative efforts with MDHHS to improve the knowledge of infection prevention and control (IPC) and healthcare-associated infection (HAI) investigations and response, thereby increasing statewide public health capacity to support congregate care settings with IPC practices.

### **Reporting Requirements (if different than contract language)**

Submit a quarterly report to the Healthcare-Associated Infections Section, Infection Prevention (IP) Unit on Infection Prevention and/or HAI-related activities that have occurred within their jurisdiction over the specified reporting period. MDHHS will provide a reporting template.

- For LHDs who completed MI-ECHO (2023-2024) and conducted an Infection Prevention onsite visit (or Infection Control Assessment Response – ICAR), please submit information via [https://mdhhs.cd.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_73acnAtD2MuHJNl](https://mdhhs.cd.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_73acnAtD2MuHJNl).

### **Allowable expenses for local health departments:**

1. Funding can be used to support:
  - a. Staffing
  - b. Personnel time
  - c. Equipment and/or supplies (PPE)
  - d. Resources (guidelines, texts, journals)
  - e. Travel expenses
  - f. Professional Development
2. Support of staff cross-trained in other communicable disease investigation activities such as:
  - Healthcare-associated and antibiotic-resistant organisms,
  - Sexually transmitted infection and
  - HIV partner services,

- Hepatitis C infection,
  - Foodborne outbreak response,
  - Tuberculosis investigations,
  - Other infections/investigations that can benefit from infection prevention support
3. Coordination of supportive services
  4. Activities to promote IP and HAI education and outreach
  5. Workforce development and training, including conference fees, registration, and associated travel.

Funding cannot be used for clinical care or research.

### **Additional Requirements:**

The local health department will:

- Designate primary and alternate representatives responsible for participating in this project.
- Participate in routinely scheduled meetings, including, but not limited to educational webinars, in-person learning sessions, and regional workgroups/discussions.
- Conduct ongoing outreach to high-risk and other congregate care settings to assess communicable disease reporting and existing infection prevention infrastructure (resources, policies, practices, and processes) and provide IP and HAI recommendations as needed.
- Develop, maintain, or initiate relationships with long-term care (LTC) facilities within their jurisdiction and have regular communication with these facilities. If an infection prevention/HAI issue arises at one of the facilities which requires further assistance, MDHHS will support.

### **Related to Infection Prevention and HAIs:**

Technical assistance from the HAI program office can be requested by LHD personnel supporting IP and HAI activities, including but not limited to educational webinars, in-person workshops, regional workgroups, assistance with onsite facility assessments, cluster/outbreak reporting, investigations, response, and containment efforts.