

October 22, 2024

SUBJECT: Informative- Infection Prevention Certification Funding Opportunity

Greetings Honorable Tribal Leaders, Partners, & Professionals:

Following the guidelines of <u>Chapter 43.376 RCW</u>, the <u>Washington State Centennial Accord of 1989</u>, and the <u>DOH</u> <u>Consultation and Collaboration Procedure</u> we are writing to provide information about a funding opportunity by the Healthcare-Associated Infections & Antimicrobial Resistance (HAI&AR) section of the <u>Washington State</u> <u>Department of Health (DOH)</u>. Funding is available via an extension of the <u>Strengthening HAIAR Program</u> (<u>SHARP</u>) grant, which expires on July 31, 2025. Please note that this funding has a limited scope and a brief period of performance grant, which expires on July 31, 2025.

Applications are open now for this funding opportunity, which serves to certify infection preventionists within tribal healthcare. There are four \$20,000 grants available, which will each supply one person with membership, educational text, and conference attendance with the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (<u>APIC</u>); study hours and reimbursement for the Certification in Infection Control (CIC) exam; training and opportunities to provide Infection Control and Response (<u>ICAR</u>) visits or self-assessments of your local healthcare and long-term care facilities. To be eligible for this funding opportunity, you must have a staff member who qualifies for the CIC certification. Please read more about the exam prerequisites <u>here</u>.

Certification in Infection Prevention & Control (<u>CIC</u>) serves as an additional lens of expertise for disseminating guidance, teaching best practices, and preventing and responding to outbreaks in your community. It signifies "Credibility, Commitment, and Consistency" to your healthcare and long-term care partners and allows for additional career growth within your team. Including the benefits of CIC, you may read more here.

For comments or questions please contact Andrea Een, Partnership Coordinator, at <u>andrea.een@doh.wa.gov</u> or 360-688-0276, or Candice Wilson, Executive Director, Office of Tribal Public Health and Relations (OTPHR), at <u>candice.wilson@doh.wa.gov</u> or 360-819-7626.

Sincerely,

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Tao Sheng Kwan-Gett, MD, MPH Chief Science Office Office of Health and Science

cc: Kristopher Holiday, Chief, Office of Strategic Partnerships, WA-DOH Elizabeth Perez, Chief, Office of Public Affairs and Equity, WA-DOH Kristin Peterson, Chief, Office of Policy, Planning & Evaluation, WA-DOH Umair A. Shah, MD, MPH, Secretary of Health, WA-DOH Jessica Todorovich, Chief of Staff, WA-DO Candice Wilson–Quatz'tenaut (Lummi), Executive Director, OTPHR, WA-DOH