

## LIMITED-SCOPE AUDIT PROPOSAL

### Kansas Department of Health and Environment: Evaluating the Bureau of Disease Control and Prevention's Grant Revocation Process

#### SOURCE

This audit proposal was requested by Representative Tom Burroughs.

#### BACKGROUND

The Division of Public Health within KDHE administers a variety of public health services and regulatory programs, including services for children with special health care needs, the establishment of community-based procedures for responding to bioterrorism events, family and community health services, and childcare facility inspections. Within this division, the Bureau of Disease Control and Prevention works to prevent and control communicable diseases through three sections: Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI), Tuberculosis, and Immunizations.

KDHE awards and oversees grants in a few of these program areas. Within the STI program, KDHE uses a combination of state and federal dollars to fund disease intervention specialists. KDHE receives multiple STI grants from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), which it uses in combination with other funding sources to hire disease intervention specialists. In 2016, KDHE reported receiving about \$1.8 million in CDC grant funding. Historically, KDHE also provided CDC grant money to Sedgwick and Wyandotte counties to at least partially fund their disease intervention specialists. However, in July 2017, KDHE stopped providing this funding to Wyandotte County because the county no longer met the conditions of the grant.

Legislators have expressed concern about whether the Bureau's revocation of Wyandotte County's grant was made appropriately.

#### AUDIT OBJECTIVES AND TENTATIVE METHODOLOGY

*The audit objectives listed below represent the questions that we would answer through our audit work.*

*The proposed steps for each objective are intended to convey the type of work we would do, but are subject to change as we learn more about the audit issues and are able to refine our methodology.*

**Objective 1: Has the Bureau of Disease Control and Prevention managed the STI/HIV grant for Sedgwick and Wyandotte County equitably and in accordance with the terms from CDC?** Our tentative methodology would include the following:

- Interview Bureau and federal officials and review documents to understand the purpose of the grant, how long Sedgwick and Wyandotte County have received it, and what terms the counties must meet to receive and maintain it.

- Interview Wyandotte and Bureau staff and review documents to determine which objectives Wyandotte County failed to meet and why. Additionally, interview Sedgwick County staff and review documents to determine how Sedgwick County performed on each of the same objectives.
- For a sample of any terms the counties failed to meet, interview staff and review documents to determine if the Bureau's assessment that the terms were not met was appropriate.

#### **ESTIMATED RESOURCES**

We estimate this audit would require **100 staff hours** to complete.