



COVID-19 MINNESOTA FUND EXPENDITURE REPORT

December 31, 2020

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Executive Summary

- The COVID-19 Minnesota fund was created to pay expenditures associated with the peacetime emergency declared by the Governor in executive order 20-01 related to COVID-19. The fund was established on March 28, 2020 with a starting balance of \$200 million.
- Money in the fund is appropriated to the Commissioner of Management and Budget to be disbursed or transferred to state agencies, as necessary, to:
 1. Protect Minnesota citizens from the COVID-19 outbreak, and;
 2. Maintain state government operations throughout the duration of the peacetime emergency.
- The Commissioner of Management and Budget may authorize expenditures of \$1 million or less. An expenditure request in excess of \$1 million must be submitted to the Legislative COVID-19 Response Commission for review and recommendation before it can be authorized.
- The COVID-19 Minnesota fund will expire December 31, 2020, pursuant to [Laws 2020, Chapter 81](#). Upon expiration, any money in the fund that remains unobligated will transfer back to the general fund.
- As of December 30, \$84 remains unauthorized in the fund. \$215.962 million has been authorized by the Legislative COVID-19 Response Commission and \$7.775 million has been authorized as an expenditure of \$1 million or less.
- Three expenditure requests totaling \$88.416 million and one request to reduce \$55.108 million in authorizations for refinancing and underspending were submitted to the Legislative COVID-19 Response Commission for review and recommendation between December 15, 2020 and December 30, 2020. All requests received the requisite number of positive recommendations to authorize the expenditure.
- No expenditures of \$1 million or less were authorized between December 15, 2020 and December 30, 2020.
- Payments from Mayo and the University of Minnesota total \$19.484 million. These insurance reimbursements were collected from payers as part of the contractual arrangement to provide COVID-19 test processing on behalf of Minnesotans.
- LCRC Action Order #8, 19 provides for discretionary spending on critical supplies. As of December 30, 2020, after LCRC #26, \$4.501 million of spending authority remains in this authorization.

Background

The COVID-19 pandemic presented an unprecedented challenge to our State. On March 19, 2020, in a letter to the leaders of the Minnesota Senate and House of Representatives, Governor Walz and Lt. Governor Flanagan asked the Legislature to create a fund that would give the Administration the flexibility to deploy resources necessary to respond to the needs of Minnesotans in real time.

On March 28, 2020, the Legislature passed legislation creating the COVID-19 Minnesota fund, transferring to it \$200 million from the general fund, and appropriating all money to the Commissioner of Management and Budget to be disbursed or transferred to state agencies, as necessary, to:

1. Protect Minnesota citizens from the COVID-19 outbreak, and;
2. Maintain state government operations throughout the duration of the peacetime emergency.

The legislation also established the Legislative COVID-19 Response Commission to review expenditures.

Members of the Commission are: Senate President Jeremy Miller, Senate Majority Leader Paul Gazelka, Senate Minority Leader Susan Kent, Senator Julie Rosen, Senator Dick Cohen, Speaker of the House Melissa Hortman, House Majority Leader Ryan Winkler, House Minority Leader Kurt Daudt, Representative Lyndon Carlson, and Representative Pat Garofalo.

The Commissioner of Management and Budget may authorize expenditures of \$1 million or less. However, the process for approving these requests adopted by the Administration requires additional approval from the Commissioner of Health and the Governor's Chief of Staff.

An expenditure request in excess of \$1 million must be submitted to the Legislative COVID-19 Response Commission for review and recommendation before it can be authorized. Upon submission, the Commission has 24 hours to review a request and provide a positive recommendation, a negative recommendation, or no recommendation. If a majority of commission members from the Senate and a majority of commission members from the House of Representatives provide a negative recommendation on a proposed expenditure, the commissioner is prohibited from expending the money. If a majority of the commission members from the senate or a majority of the commission members from the house of representatives do not make a negative recommendation, or if the commission makes no recommendation, the commissioner may expend the money.

The Commissioner of Management and Budget must provide reports on the spending from the COVID-19 Minnesota fund to the Legislative COVID-19 Response Commission on the 15th and last day of each month. The report must include the total amount of each expenditure, the purpose of each expenditure, and any additional information the commissioner of management and budget determines is necessary to properly document each expenditure.

The COVID-19 Minnesota fund will expire December 31, 2020, pursuant [Laws 2020, Chapter 81](#).

Upon expiration, any money in the fund that remains unobligated will transfer back to the general fund.

Authorized Expenditures

Below is a summary of total authorized expenditures from the COVID-19 Minnesota fund. The first chart provides an overview of the fund. The second chart highlights authorized expenditures in excess of \$1 million. The third chart highlights authorized expenditures of \$1 million or less.

Initial Fund Balance	Cancellations	Testing Insurance Reimbursement	Approved Spending Authority	Remaining Unauthorized	Actual Spent / Encumbered	Not Committed
\$200,000	\$4,253	\$19,484	\$223,737	\$0	\$117,981	\$101,502

Authorized Expenditures in Excess of \$1 Million

(\$ in thousands)

* Amounts below are inclusive of authorization adjustment provided on 12/30/2020 per LCRC Order #26.

Request #	Date	Agency	Description	Authorized as of 12/15	Authorized as of 12/30
LCRC-1	03/30/2020	MDH	Ventilators (Amended into LCRC #8)	~	~
LCRC-2	03/30/2020	MDH	N95 Respirators (Amended into LCRC #8)	~	~
LCRC-3	04/02/2020	MDH	Amend LCRC Request #2 from \$4 million to \$16 million (Amended into LCRC #8)	~	~
LCRC-4	04/02/2020	MDH	PPE – Gowns (Amended into LCRC #8)	~	~
LCRC-5	04/02/2020	MDH	PPE – Gloves (Amended into LCRC #8)	~	~
LCRC-6	04/03/2020	MDH	PPE – Surgical Masks (Amended into LCRC #8)	~	~
LCRC-7	04/09/2020*	DOC	Manage COVID-19 Related Demands for March/April	\$2,255	\$1,225
LCRC-8	04/14/2020*	MDH	Amend LCRC Requests #1-6 for Critical Supply Needs	\$67,900	\$39,942
LCRC-9	4/22/2020*	MDH	Rapid and Widespread Testing for COVID-19	\$36,000	\$32,300
LCRC-10	4/28/2020*	MDH	Preparation of a Community Alternative Care Site	\$1,840	\$1,386
LCRC-11	5/4/2020*	MDA	Animal Carcass Disposal	\$4,202	\$10
LCRC-12	5/6/2020*	MDH	Community Engagement and Outreach	\$2,250	\$2,115
LCRC-13	5/7/2020*	ADM	Storage Facility	\$6,900	\$5,524

LCRC-14	5/9/2020*	MDH	Gown Purchase; Flexibility for Critical Care Supplies	\$21,550	\$15,227
LCRC-15	5/10/2020	DHS	Isolation Space for Individuals Experiencing Homelessness	\$1,632	\$1,632
LCRC-16	5/13/2020	MDH	Regional Mobile Testing Teams: Long Term Care	\$3,000	\$3,000
LCRC-17	5/13/2020*	MDH	Washable Gowns Purchase	\$8,500	\$5,991
LCRC-18	5/14/2020*	MDH	Purchase of Testing Supplies – Swabs	\$4,359	\$129
LCRC-19	5/21/2020*	MDH	Glove Purchase; Flexibility for Critical Care Supplies	\$2,557	\$2,266
LCRC-20	6/30/2020	MNZOO	Maintain Zoo operations during COVID-19 Pandemic	\$6,000	\$6,000
LCRC-21	9/28/2020	DHS	Homeless COVID Response Winter Shelter Capacity	\$2,000	\$2,000
LCRC-21	9/28/2020	DHS	Amend LCRC-15 from \$7,200 to \$1,632	~	~
LCRC-22	10/12/2020	MDA	Amend LCRC-11 from \$10,952 to \$4,202	~	~
LCRC-23	11/25/2020	DHS	Fund Additional Winter Shelter	\$2,400	\$2,400
LCRC-24	12/2/2020	MDH	Redeployment of state employees for COVID response	\$4,200	\$4,200
LCRC-25	12/2/2020	MDH	SEOC Staffing Support	\$2,200	\$2,200
LCRC-26	12/29/2020	MMB	Adjust COVID-19 Minnesota Fund Authorizations for Refinancing and Underspending	~	~
LCRC-27	12/29/2020	DHS	Sustain COVID homeless response and isolation space activities through March 2021	\$8,900	\$8,900
LCRC-28	12/29/2020	MDH	COVID-19 Testing Strategy and Response	\$39,758	\$39,758
LCRC-29	12/29/2020	MDH	COVID-19 Vaccination Strategy and Response	\$39,758	\$39,758
			TOTAL Requests in Excess of \$1 Million	\$179,746	\$215,962
			Cancellations¹		(\$4,253)
			Reimbursements²		(19,484)

¹ For details on appropriation cancellations see Appendix A.

² For details on reimbursements see Appendix B.

Authorized Expenditures of \$1 Million or Less

(\$ in thousands)

* Amounts below are inclusive of authorization adjustment provided on 12/30/2020 per LCRC Order #26.

Request #	Date	Agency	Description	Previously Authorized	Authorized 12/30
MMB-1	03/30/2020	MDH	[Removed]	\$0	\$0
MMB-2	03/31/2020*	MDH	Cloth Masks	\$269	\$154
MMB-3	03/31/2020*	MDH	Face Shields	\$58	\$37
MMB-4	04/01/2020*	MDH	Cloth Masks	\$135	\$113
MMB-5	04/01/2020*	MDH	Gloves	\$374	\$210
MMB-6	04/01/2020*	MDH	Nasal Cannula	\$90	\$67
MMB-7	04/06/2020*	MDH	Face Shields	\$280	\$180
MMB-8	04/07/2020*	MDH	Reusable Respirators	\$77	\$52
MMB-9	04/07/2020	MDH	[Removed]	\$8	\$0
MMB-10	04/07/2020*	MDH	Reusable, Washable Gowns	\$80	\$47
MMB-11	04/07/2020*	MDH	Safety Glasses	\$7	\$0
MMB-12	04/08/2020*	MDH	Gloves	\$77	\$0
MMB-13	04/08/2020	MDH	Patient and Equipment Tracking System Software	\$64	\$64
MMB-14	04/08/2020*	MDH	Water Resistant, Washable Gowns	\$35	\$26
MMB-15	04/09/2020*	MDH	Simple Surgical Masks	\$152	\$27
MMB-16	04/09/2020*	MDH	Hand Sanitizer	\$522	\$92
MMB-17	04/09/2020*	MDH	Simple Surgical Masks	\$266	\$197
MMB-18	04/09/2020	MDH	Alternate Care Sites Medical Supplies	\$180	\$180

Request #	Date	Agency	Description	Previously Authorized	Authorized 12/30
MMB-19	04/10/2020*	MDH	Simple Surgical Masks	\$670	\$664
MMB-20	04/10/2020*	MDH	Shoe Covers	\$2	\$1
MMB-21	04/13/2020*	MDH	Surgical Masks	\$429	\$220
MMB-22	04/13/2020*	MDH	BiPAP Machines and Equipment	\$414	\$310
MMB-23	04/13/2020*	MDH	Surgical Masks	\$960	\$636
MMB-24	04/13/2020*	MDH	Gloves	\$2	\$1
MMB-25	04/20/2020*	MDH	Alternative Care Sites - Professional/Technical Contract	\$198	\$149
MMB-26	5/2/2020	DHS	Direct Food Assistance to Tribal Nations	\$386	\$386
MMB-27	5/5/2020	MDH	Health Care Surge Work Group – software purchase	\$86	\$86
MMB-28	5/15/2020*	MDH	Swab Kits	\$760	\$450
MMB-29	5/16/2020	MDH	Testing	\$897	\$897
MMB-30	5/22/2020*	MDH	Testing Supplies – Swabs and Collection Kits	\$999	\$311
MMB-31	6/4/2020	MDH	Alt. Care Site - Building System Startup	\$250	\$250
MMB-32	9/14/2020	MDH	Emergency Response Staffing	\$707	\$707
MMB-33	11/3/2020	MDH	Vaccination Effort	\$200	\$200
MMB-34	11/20/2020	MDH	Extend lease Alt. Care Site Langton Place, Roseville	\$481	\$481
MMB-35	12/1/20	MDH	Support Healthcare Medical Patient Placement Center	\$526	\$526
MMB-36	12/1/20	DPS	Conduct Seasonal COVID Screening for Exam Customers	\$52	\$52
	TOTAL Requests of \$1 Million or Less			\$10,684	\$7,775

Commentary on Authorized Expenditures

Four new LCRC requests were authorized for expenditures in excess of \$1 million between December 15, 2020 and December 30, 2020.

- **COVID-19 Minnesota Fund authorizations were reduced by \$55,108,413.08 to complete refinancing to the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund and to return underspent authorizations to the fund.** This authorization has two parts: (1) reduce COVID-19 Minnesota Fund authorizations by \$45.116 million to complete refinancing to the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF), and (2) reduce COVID-19 Minnesota Fund authorizations by an additional \$9.993 million to return underspent authorizations to the fund. These authorization reductions total \$55.108 million and are included, in detail, in the spreadsheet attached with the request provided in Appendix C of this report.
- **\$8,900,000 is authorized to sustain activities to protect people during the COVID-19 pandemic who are experiencing homelessness, victims of domestic or sexual violence, exploitation or trafficking, or unable to safely isolate at home.** The funds will be used for:
 1. Activities to protect people experiencing homelessness who are eligible for DHS's Emergency Services Program (ESP) from the risks and impacts of COVID-19.
 2. Activities similar to ESP for victims of domestic violence, sexual violence, or human trafficking or exploitation who are not homeless. These populations have similar needs that presently cannot be supported with ESP, and no other source exists.
 3. Paying for capital expenditures necessary due to the COVID-19 public health emergency to increase COVID-19 response capacity and improve mitigation measures, such as acquisition of safe spaces for people experiencing homelessness and capital improvements for shelters and other settings to enhance infection control.
 4. Establishing isolation spaces for suspected or confirmed COVID-positive people who are experiencing homelessness or who cannot safely isolate at home and who do not require a hospital level of care. Creating these spaces, usually in hotel settings, for those who need them is critical to minimize virus transmission.
- **\$39,758,000 is authorized for COVID-19 testing strategy and response.** Minnesota has built a robust and comprehensive testing strategy in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. That effort has included working with private sector, government, and community partners to expand barrier free testing and to put the appropriate supports around people who benefit from testing in our most vulnerable communities.

The pandemic and need for a comprehensive testing strategy will continue well into 2021 until an effective, widely distributed vaccine is available and used. In November, more than 667,000 tests were funded through state and federal resources and we expect significant testing to continue into 2021, following the path of the pandemic. The magnitude, timing of availability, and flexibility of federal funds is uncertain. Therefore, a finance strategy is needed to respond to the significant, immediate needs we expect to face around testing.

This request is to make COVID-19 MN funds available to continue the testing effort. Funds may be used for costs associated with the testing strategy and its administration, including but not limited to, test processing and related supplies, equipment, personnel, training and related costs associated with supporting the testing response, research, warehousing, leases, costs associated with community

service and long term care delivery locations, grants or payments to partners in the response, technology costs, critical care supplies, and communications costs associated with encouraging Minnesotans to participate in the public health response to COVID. When practical, testing funds may be used to create joint efforts between mass testing and mass vaccination work to ensure Minnesotans have reliable and familiar access to both and that the state maximized the testing infrastructure already established. This request assumes work may be performed by and between other state agencies or partners as necessary and that funds may be transferred as necessary to accomplish the work. Some of the costs incurred with this funding will likely be reimbursable by FEMA or through insurance payments.

- **\$39,758,000 is authorized for COVID-19 vaccination strategy and response.** Minnesota has been working to prepare and implement COVID-19 vaccine administration plans. This will be the largest vaccination effort the department and state have ever undertaken. While distribution and administration for the first phase is underway, subsequent phases that administer vaccine to disparate groups of Minnesotans and primarily outside of a health care setting will require the state to create and sustain a supportive infrastructure to make sure that all Minnesotans, and especially the most vulnerable, have a vaccine made available to them as soon as possible, and they know when and where to get vaccinated.

The need for a comprehensive vaccination strategy and infrastructure that reaches all Minnesotans will continue well into 2021. We have a preliminary budget estimate of \$134 million to ensure timely distribution and accessible vaccination of all Minnesotans. The magnitude, timing of availability, and flexibility of federal funds is uncertain. Therefore, a finance strategy is needed to respond to the significant, immediate needs we expect to face around vaccination.

This request is to make COVID-19 MN funds available for the vaccination effort. Funds may be used for costs associated with the vaccination strategy, planning, administration, and implementation including but not limited to staffing to support advisory committees, to develop guidance, to coordinate distribution and administration of the vaccine, to conduct research, data analysis and reporting; supplies, equipment, technology costs, critical care supplies, training and related costs associated with supporting the vaccination response; warehousing, leases, costs associated with community service delivery locations; grants or payments to partners in the response including community partners, local public health agencies, and tribal public health; and communications and public media costs associated with encouraging Minnesotans to participate in the public health response to COVID. This request assumes work may be performed by and between other state agencies or partners as necessary and that funds may be transferred as necessary to accomplish the work. Some of the costs incurred with this funding will likely be reimbursable by FEMA or through insurance payments.

More information about Minnesota's vaccination strategy is available on the Department of Health's website: <https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/vaccine.html#why>

Appendix A: Cancellations

The following are cancellations from previously approved COVID-19 Minnesota Fund authorizations.
 (\$ in thousands)

Row Number	Agency	Authorization	Description	Cancellation Amount
1	DOC	LCRC-7	Manage COVID-19 Related Demands for March/April	(\$36)
2	MDH	LCRC-14	Gown Purchase; Flexibility for Critical Care Supplies	(\$29)
3	MDH	LCRC-17	Gown Purchase	(\$62)
4	MDA	LCRC-13	Storage Facility (FEMA Reimbursement)	(\$4,127)
			Cancellations Total	(\$4,253)

Appendix B: Reimbursements

The following are reimbursements from previously spent COVID-19 Minnesota Fund authorizations.
(*\$ in thousands*)

Row Number	Agency	Description	Reimbursement Amount
1	MDH	Insurance Reimbursement from Mayo	(\$11,541)
2	MDH	Insurance Reimbursement from University of Minnesota	(\$6,899)
3	MDH	Insurance Reimbursement from Mayo	(\$1,043)
		Reimbursements Total	(\$19,484)

Appendix C: Legislative COVID-19 Response Commission Request Forms

- LCRC-26: Adjust COVID-19 Minnesota Fund Authorizations for Refinancing and Underspending
- LCRC-27: Sustain COVID homeless response and isolation space activities through March 2021
- LCRC-28: COVID-19 Testing Strategy and Response
- LCRC-29: COVID-19 Vaccination Strategy and Response

Please complete this form in accordance with
the process instructions.

**Coronavirus Relief / Health Care
Response / COVID-19 Minnesota Funds
Request Form**

Agency/Point of Contact: Minnesota Management and Budget/Britta Reitan and Amy Jorgenson

Title of Request: Adjust COVID-19 Minnesota Fund Authorizations for Refinancing and Underspending

Date: 12/29/2020

Request Amount: -\$ 55,108,413

Expenditure Time Period: 3/29/2020 to 6/30/2021

Request Funding Source:

☐ Coronavirus Relief Fund
(if selected complete page 2)

☐ Health Care Response Fund

☒ COVID-19 Minnesota Fund

Brief Summary of Request: (Summary must be complete on this page with supporting information attached)

This request has two parts: (1) reduce COVID-19 Minnesota Fund authorizations by \$45.116 million to complete refinancing to the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF), and (2) reduce COVID-19 Minnesota Fund authorizations by an additional \$9.993 million to return underspent authorizations to the fund. These requested authorization reductions total \$55.108 million and are included, in detail, in the spreadsheet attached with this request.

(1) The first part of this request follows the 10-day Legislative Advisory Commission review process for and the approval of CRF request #95, which refinances expenditures from the COVID-19 Minnesota Fund to the federal CRF in order to maximize the use of the federal funding. To complete this refinancing, COVID-19 Minnesota Fund authorizations are reduced by \$45.116 million. \$33.785 million of these authorization reductions will be refinanced to newly established CRF authorizations for the same purpose. Additionally, \$11.330 million is reduced in order to move Critical Care Supply purchases to an existing CRF authorization for the same purpose. A spreadsheet of the complete list of the requested authorization reductions is attached to this submission.

(2) The second part of this request is to make \$9.993 million in additional COVID-19 Minnesota Fund authorization reductions, returning underspent funds to the COVID-19 Minnesota Fund balance. A spreadsheet of the complete list of the requested authorization reductions is attached to this submission.

With these changes, and accounting for the beginning balance of the fund including insurance and FEMA reimbursements, the balance of the COVID-19 Minnesota Fund becomes \$88.416 million.

Jim Schowalter

Department Head Signature

Digitally signed by Jim Schowalter
Date: 2020.12.29 12:05:31 -06'00'

12/29/2020

Date

COVID-19 Minnesota Fund

December 29, 2020

Beginning Balance	Amount
COVID-19 Minnesota Fund balance	9,697,130.33
Insurance Reimbursements	19,483,598.13
FEMA Reimbursement for Cold Storage Facility	4,126,942.16
Subtotal - Beginning Balance	33,307,670.62

	LCRC #	Original Authorization Amount	Amount Refinanced to CRF	Additional COVID19 MN Fund Reduction	Revised Authorization Amount
Authorization Reductions					
MDH - Discretionary Spending Critical Supplies	LCRC #1 - 6, #8	67,900,000.00	(20,664,645.58)	(7,293,560.46)	39,941,793.96
MDH - Glove Purchase and Flexibility for Discretionary Spending	LCRC #19	2,557,400.00	(291,390.70)		2,266,009.30
MDH - Gown Purchase	LCRC #14	21,550,000.00	(6,323,028.68)		15,226,971.32
MDH - Gown Purchase	LCRC #17	8,500,000.00	(2,509,379.59)		5,990,620.41
MDH - Critical Care Supplies (under \$1 million)	n/a	4,897,327.00	(1,861,826.51)		3,035,500.49
MDH - Purchase of Testing Supplies - Swabs	LCRC #18	4,359,230.00	(4,230,000.00)		129,230.00
MDH - Swab Kits	n/a	760,000.00	(310,000.00)		450,000.00
MDH - U of M & Mayo Clinic COVID-19 Rapid Widespread Testing	LCRC #9	36,000,000.00	(3,700,000.00)		32,300,000.00
MDH - Nasopharyngeal Swabs and COVID-19 Collection Kits	n/a	998,892.00	(688,000.00)		310,892.00
MDA - Animal Carcass Disposal	LCRC # 11, #22	4,202,000.00	(1,493,216.00)	(2,699,000.00)	9,784.00
ADM - Storage Facility	LCRC #13	6,900,000.00	(1,376,403.00)		5,523,597.00
MDH - Community Engagement and Outreach	LCRC #12	2,250,000.00	(134,585.00)		2,115,415.00
MDH - Preparation of Community Alternative Care Site	LCRC #10	1,840,000.00	(454,000.00)		1,386,000.00
MDH - Alternative Care Site	n/a	1,259,000.00	(49,000.00)		1,210,000.00
DOC - Manage COVID-19 Related Demands	LCRC #7	2,255,000.00	(1,030,377.56)		1,224,622.44
Subtotal - Reduced Authorizations		166,228,849.00	(45,115,852.62)	(9,992,560.46)	111,120,435.92

Beginning Balance	33,307,670.62
Authorization Reductions - (1) Refinancing	(45,115,852.62)
Authorization Reductions - (2) Underspending	(9,992,560.46)
TOTAL RESOURCES	88,416,083.70

Please complete this form in accordance with
the process instructions.

Coronavirus Relief / Health Care Response / COVID-19 Minnesota Funds Request Form

Agency/Point of Contact: Andrea Simonett and Francie Mathes, OEO, DHS

Title of Request: Sustain COVID homeless response and isolation space activities through March 2021

Date: 12/28/2020

Request Amount: \$ 8,900,000

Expenditure Time Period: 1/1/2021 to 6/30/2021

Request Funding Source:

☐ Coronavirus Relief Fund
(if selected complete page 2)

☐ Health Care Response Fund

☒ COVID-19 Minnesota Fund

Brief Summary of Request: (Summary must be complete on this page with supporting information attached)

This proposal comes from the Governor's At-Risk Populations work group to sustain activities to protect people during the COVID-19 pandemic who are experiencing homelessness, victims of domestic or sexual violence, exploitation or trafficking, or unable to safely recover at home. These activities were previously supported by a \$26.5 million appropriation to DHS's Emergency Services Program (ESP) in March and Legislative Advisory Commission requests #48 and #86 to direct \$19.5 million in Federal Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF) to these activities. The funds will be used for:

1. Activities to protect people experiencing homelessness who are eligible for ESP from the risks and impacts of COVID-19. Funds will cover lodging, supplies, staffing, food, protective equipment, and other costs necessary to provide protective spaces and other activities focused on protecting people experiencing homelessness during the pandemic. Previously allocated funds have helped establish over 2,800 safe places for people experiencing homelessness statewide, allowing existing emergency shelters to decompress and comply with CDC guidance for congregate settings and establishing new temporary shelter capacity.
2. Activities similar to ESP for victims of domestic violence, sexual violence, or human trafficking or exploitation who are not homeless. These populations have similar needs that presently cannot be supported with ESP, and no other source exists.
3. Paying for capital expenditures necessary due to the COVID-19 public health emergency to increase COVID-19 response capacity and improve mitigation measures, such as acquisition of safe spaces for people experiencing homelessness and capital improvements for shelters and other settings to enhance infection control (e.g., dividing large rooms for sleeping accommodations into smaller rooms, installing plexiglass at front desks, or increasing spacing for bunks).
4. Establishing isolation spaces for suspected or confirmed COVID-positive people who are experiencing homelessness or who cannot safely isolate at home and who do not require a hospital level of care. Creating these spaces, usually in hotel settings, for those who need them is critical to minimize virus transmission.

The funding requested is estimated to support these four purposes through March 2021, but could be spent through the end of the State Fiscal Year. DHS will administer these funds using an approach informed by the COVID-specific ESP appropriation and previously allocated CRF funding for these purposes. Administrative funds (estimated at 1% of the total) are included to administer these programs. Funding distribution will seek to promote additional FEMA reimbursement for eligible activities as well, when possible and appropriate.

Charles E. Johnson Digitally signed by Charles E. Johnson
Date: 2020.12.28 15:58:39 -06'00'

Department Head Signature

Date

Please complete this form in accordance with
the process instructions.

**Coronavirus Relief / Health Care
Response / COVID-19 Minnesota Funds
Request Form**

Agency/Point of Contact: Department of Health/Margaret Kelly, Deputy Commissioner

Title of Request: COVID-19 Testing Strategy and Response

Date: 12/29/2020

Request Amount: \$ 39,758,000

Expenditure Time Period: 3/28/2020 to 6/30/2021

Request Funding Source:

☐ Coronavirus Relief Fund
(if selected complete page 2)

☐ Health Care Response Fund

☒ COVID-19 Minnesota Fund

Brief Summary of Request: (Summary must be complete on this page with supporting information attached)

Minnesota has built a robust and comprehensive testing strategy in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. That effort has included working with private sector, government, and community partners to expand barrier free testing and to put the appropriate supports around people who benefit from testing in our most vulnerable communities.

The pandemic and need for a comprehensive testing strategy will continue well into 2021 until an effective, widely distributed vaccine is available and used. In November, more than 667,000 tests were funded through state and federal resources and we expect significant testing to continue into 2021, following the path of the pandemic. The magnitude, timing of availability, and flexibility of federal funds is uncertain. Therefore, a finance strategy is needed to respond to the significant, immediate needs we expect to face around testing.

This request is to make COVID-19 MN funds available to continue the testing effort. Funds may be used for costs associated with the testing strategy and its administration, including but not limited to, test processing and related supplies, equipment, personnel, training and related costs associated with supporting the testing response, research, warehousing, leases, costs associated with community service and long term care delivery locations, grants or payments to partners in the response, technology costs, critical care supplies, and communications costs associated with encouraging Minnesotans to participate in the public health response to COVID. When practical, testing funds may be used to create joint efforts between mass testing and mass vaccination work to ensure Minnesotans have reliable and familiar access to both and that the state maximized the testing infrastructure already established. This request assumes work may be performed by and between other state agencies or partners as necessary and that funds may be transferred as necessary to accomplish the work. Some of the costs incurred with this funding will likely be reimbursable by FEMA or through insurance payments.

Margaret Kelly

Digitally signed by Margaret Kelly
Date: 2020.12.29 10:24:55 -06'00'

Department Head Signature

12/29/2020

Date

Please complete this form in accordance with
the process instructions.

**Coronavirus Relief / Health Care
Response / COVID-19 Minnesota Funds
Request Form**

Agency/Point of Contact: Department of Health/Margaret Kelly, Deputy Commissioner

Title of Request: COVID-19 Vaccination Strategy and Response

Date: 12/29/2020

Request Amount: \$ 39,758,000

Expenditure Time Period: 3/28/2020 to 6/30/2021

Request Funding Source:

☐ Coronavirus Relief Fund
(if selected complete page 2)

☐ Health Care Response Fund

☒ COVID-19 Minnesota Fund

Brief Summary of Request: (Summary must be complete on this page with supporting information attached)

Minnesota has been working to prepare and implement COVID-19 vaccine administration plans. This will be the largest vaccination effort the department and state have ever undertaken. While distribution and administration for the first phase is underway, subsequent phases that administer vaccine to disparate groups of Minnesotans and primarily outside of a health care setting will require the state to create and sustain a supportive infrastructure to make sure that all Minnesotans, and especially the most vulnerable, have a vaccine made available to them as soon as possible, and they know when and where to get vaccinated.

The need for a comprehensive vaccination strategy and infrastructure that reaches all Minnesotans will continue well into 2021. We have a preliminary budget estimate of \$134 million to ensure timely distribution and accessible vaccination of all Minnesotans. The magnitude, timing of availability, and flexibility of federal funds is uncertain. Therefore, a finance strategy is needed to respond to the significant, immediate needs we expect to face around vaccination.

This request is to make COVID-19 MN funds available for the vaccination effort. Funds may be used for costs associated with the vaccination strategy, planning, administration, and implementation including but not limited to staffing to support advisory committees, to develop guidance, to coordinate distribution and administration of the vaccine, to conduct research, data analysis and reporting; supplies, equipment, technology costs, critical care supplies, training and related costs associated with supporting the vaccination response; warehousing, leases, costs associated with community service delivery locations; grants or payments to partners in the response including community partners, local public health agencies, and tribal public health; and communications and public media costs associated with encouraging Minnesotans to participate in the public health response to COVID. This request assumes work may be performed by and between other state agencies or partners as necessary and that funds may be transferred as necessary to accomplish the work. Some of the costs incurred with this funding will likely be reimbursable by FEMA or through insurance payments.

More information about Minnesota's vaccination strategy is available on the Department of Health's website:
<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/vaccine.html#why>

Margaret Kelly

Department Head Signature

Digitally signed by Margaret Kelly
Date: 2020.12.29 10:26:24 -06'00'

12/29/2020

Date