



### **Agenda Action Form Overview**

The Board is requested to approve appropriating General Fund fund balance in the amount of \$225,579 for the purchase of hardware and interfaces for the EPIC Community Connect Electronic Medical Record System.

This total includes equipment and interfaces in the amount of \$192,182 and \$33,397 for contingency. UNC Community Connect will allow Public Health to use one software system and merge our Family Planning and Maternal Health clinics to create efficiencies and provide improved continuity of care for our customers.

### **Background/Justification**

UNC Community Connect is a module of UNC Epic utilized throughout UNC Health System. Durham County Department of Public Health has a longstanding relationship with UNC Health System. Even though this module is being provided by UNC, the Community Connect System will allow for 95% of our population to be linked to care and continue our partnerships within the community, including Duke Health, and provide continuity of care within our clinical services at Public Health. Hardware equipment is required to ensure the functionality of the system, to meet recommendations provided by UNC Epic to assist with the usability of the system and to achieve interoperability within Public Health.

With the approval of the board, Public Health will purchase the remaining equipment needed for development and implementation of Epic Community Connect. The total cost for FY19/20 will be \$225,579. The FY19/20 total includes \$192,182 and a 20% contingency of \$33,397 to accommodate additional IT hardware, services, training for the installation of UNC Community Connect or other unknown costs that may occur during implementation.

The primary goals of this initiative are to:

- Provide Real-time data which improves efficiency through greater information sharing saves time and effort for staffers, leading to more cost savings
- Drive performance improvement through real-time data collection to ensure we are providing services to our community in the most effective and efficient means
- Increase the continuity of care across the organization and partner organization
- Enable safer transitions of care, which leads to better patient outcomes

### **Policy Impact**

The agenda item is consistent with the historical Board of County Commissioner support for efficient and visionary government and the promotion of health and well-being for all Durham County.

### **Procurement Background**

N/A



**Fiscal Impact**

The Durham County Department of Public Health received Medicaid Cost Settlement Funds in excess of what was budgeted in fiscal year FY 18-19.

Medicaid Cost Settlement funds received were \$1,827,528 and of that amount, only \$294,012 was originally budgeted in the approved budget. An additional 392,137 was recognized during the FY18-19 fiscal year for the purchase of 10 Environmental Health replacement vehicles and the contract with UNC Epic. The remaining \$1,141,379 fell to the General Fund balance.

1,827,528.00	Total Medicaid Cost Settlement Funds Received in FY19
(294,012.00)	Part of FY 18-19 Approved Budget
(248,780.00)	10 Env Health Replacement Vehicles
(143,357.00)	UNC Epic Contract
<b>\$ 1,141,379.00</b>	Remaining Funds

**Recommendation**

The County Manager recommends that the Board approve appropriating General Fund fund balance in the amount of \$225,579 for the purchase of hardware and interfaces for the Epic Community Connect Electronic Medical Record System.