

May 4, 2020

Re: West Nile Prevention Funding Opportunity

Dear South Dakota Community and Tribal Leaders:

With mosquito season just around the corner, the Department of Health is pleased to once again announce the availability of West Nile Virus prevention grants. \$500,000 is available in 2020 to assist cities, counties and tribes with their mosquito control efforts. Grant awards will range from approximately \$500 to \$20,000 depending upon the size of the population served and their historical number of human WNV cases. Since 2002, the department has provided over 7.5 million dollars in support of local control programs.

As you know, human West Nile Virus (WNV) continues to present a very significant threat to public health in South Dakota. Since WNV first emerged on South Dakota in 2001, there has been 2,612 human cases and 46 deaths due to mosquito borne WNV.

To apply for the WNV Prevention grants, eligible South Dakota city, county, and tribal officials should complete the application available on the department's website at: <http://westnile.sd.gov> **Applications are due by June 1st** and funding awards will be available starting July 1st. If you lack internet access and need a paper copy of the application, please let us know. If you have any questions about this funding opportunity, please don't hesitate to contact us at Julie.Ramsey@state.sd.us or by phone at 605-773-4945.

Thanks for all your efforts to control mosquitoes and prevent West Nile virus.

Sincerely,



Bill Chalcraft
Administrator
Office of Health Protection