

CHC Worst Case Scenario 4: Currently, your CHC has no county allocation. What can you do to secure monetary resources for your CHC?

Best CHC Outcome Scenario 4: Ideally, each CHC secures some amount of financial support from the county, along with in-kind donations. Grants and traditional fundraisers should ONLY be pursued if CHC has addressed county funding options and has the capacity to pursue grants and fundraisers.

1. Gather information — *What information do we need before taking action?*

- Has the CHC asked for county allocation? If so, how recently? In what ways? If not, why not?
- Does your CHC have a performance track record that warrants monetary support from the county?
- Does your CHC track contributions made by appointees, volunteers, and partner organizations—time and money? Has this data been used to leverage support from the county?
- Has the CHC prepared a budget to substantiate need for allocation?
- Does the CHC invest time in sharing their accomplishments with county officials, the public, and/or decision makers?
- Does the CHC actively involve county officials and other key decision makers in their public programs?
- How does your allocation/funding compare to other CHCs?

2. Consider relationships — *What to keep in mind to maintain respectful relationships?*

- Counties are not required to provide a CHC allocation. Regardless, it is appropriate for CHCs to request county funding to increase the CHC's ability to address responsibilities associated with the appointment.
- Counties are more likely to fund a CHC with a track record of accomplishments.
- Counties are more likely to fund a CHC if CHC submits a realistic budget that aligns with CHC capacity.
- CHC may be able to strengthen its argument for county funding if CHC work implements projects that promote tourism and economic development in the county.

3. Make a plan — *What actions should be taken to accomplish best case outcome?*

- Track appointee time, travel, and other expenses; document and report CHC's personal investment to county.
- Report to county commissioners court regularly; get the CHC and its accomplishments on the court's radar.
- Cultivate relationships with county officials that will increase their support for the CHC—find out ways that the CHC can connect each official to local history and CHC programs.
- Include county officials in CHC activities; give them visible roles that will reinforce their connection to the CHC and its positive impact on the community.
- Develop a budget that outlines current funding needs and approximate money required to complete tasks; meeting with judge and commissioners individually to discuss CHC needs.
- Increase the CHC's credibility by being present at community meetings to discuss any and all CHC goals/projects with community members and decision makers.
- Educate key decision makers on the importance of the CHC's work to develop a better foundation for future support.