

8 October 1987

Ms Brenda Hinton
Auckland Home Birth Association
P O Box 7093
AUCKLAND

Dear Ms Hinton

FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR CERVICAL SCREENING PROJECT AIMED AT
LOW INCOME WOMEN

... The enclosed sheet provides information about funding for which any group interested in providing a cervical screening service to low income women may apply by 1 December 1987.

I am sending it to you for information as your submission on the report entitled 'Screening for Cervical Cancer in New Zealand' April 1986 indicated you have a particular interest in what action is being taken to improve cervical screening services for women.

If you are aware of any group which may be interested in applying for funding to provide such a service, please pass the information sheet on to them.

Yours sincerely



Floss Caughey
Advisory Officer
Primary Health Care Programme

Encl

CERVICAL SCREENING

A PILOT SCHEME FOR IMPROVING CERVICAL SCREENING AMONG LOW INCOME WOMEN

Applications are invited for funding for a pilot project aimed at improving provision of cervical screening to low income women. These women have been identified as experiencing difficulty in gaining access to cervical screening services acceptable to them.

It is envisaged that services would be provided mainly at workplaces. However, any way of best reaching these women will be considered such as portable clinics using a variety of venues, so that services may be also available to women working at home or unemployed women. While the aim of the project is to identify effective ways of improving cervical screening rates, it is understood that cervical screening is often more acceptable if offered as part of a "health package". Applications for projects offering a range of services as well as cervical screening will therefore be considered.

Funding Policy

The Minister of Health has made available approximately \$30,000 per annum for up to 3 years to fund one project aimed at low income women. Please note that there is no guarantee of ongoing funding beyond 3 years even if the project is highly successful. Funds may be paid to an incorporated group or trust or through a sponsor or accountant. Details of payment will be arranged with the successful applicant.

Who May Apply

Any individual or group who is planning to run or is currently running a cervical screening service aimed primarily at low income women.

How to Apply

There is no set application form. Please write to the address below by 1 December 1987:

The Director-General
Department of Health
P O Box 5013
WELLINGTON

Attention: Ms Floss Caughey
Primary Health Care Programme

Please provide the following details:

- name, address and contact phone number of a liaison person;
- some details about yourself or your group, its membership and its work;

- a description of the proposed project, including a description of the community of women expected to benefit from the project (i.e. socio-economic and cultural factors) and the proposed method of delivery, the services being offered, an indication of who will provide the service and other information relevant to the objectives listed below;
- an indication of how much money you are seeking and how you intend to allocate it. This would be best provided in the form of a budget estimate, e.g. salaries, car hire, travel costs, etc.

Objectives

The project will be expected to aim to meet the following objectives:

It will:

- improve access to cervical screening for low income women;
- be acceptable to low income women (e.g. an acceptable provider, venue, etc.);
- provide a high quality service;
- provide information on cervical cancer, its causes and ways of preventing it;
- ensure women are informed in a sensitive manner of the results of the tests (whether positive or negative) and encourage women who receive positive results to seek appropriate medical attention;
- ensure that women attend for repeat screening tests by instituting call-up procedures/providing information on when and where they may be obtained;
- involve low income women or their representatives in the planning and management of the service;
- liaise with other providers of cervical screening in the area;
- use funds in an effective and efficient manner and provide an annual financial statement;
- incorporate evaluation into its planned activities.

How a Decision Will Be Made

The Department of Health will consult with the Ministry of Women's Affairs and the New Zealand Cancer Society on membership of a small steering group. This group will then make recommendations to the Minister of Health.

If appropriate members of the steering group will contact applicants to discuss their proposal in person.

Evaluation

An evaluation of the project will be undertaken by a researcher employed or contracted by the Department of Health in order to assess what works and why. The project manager will be required to keep simple records such as numbers of women screened and interval since last test.

Additional Information

If you wish to make further inquiries, please telephone:

Ms Floss Caughey
Department of Health
WELLINGTON

Telephone: 727-627, extension 8778.