

DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES

This budget provides for the County's contribution to the Williamsburg-James City County Health Department, a State agency with shared funding. The department offers a wide range of preventive, diagnostic, and rehabilitative medical and health services to all County residents, regardless of age, sex, race, or income whenever the need arises. The Health Department provides those health services that are mandated to include immunization, sexually transmitted diseases, dental, and environmental health services. Nurses provide Home Care following hospitalization and for home-bound patients. Sanitarians inspect all eating establishments, train all food handlers, supervise the installation and proper operation of septic tanks, inspect housing, and provide rabies surveillance for all animal bites. Other clinical services are provided by a not-for-profit corporation, Williamsburg Area Medical Assistance Corporation. The Williamsburg Area Medical Assistance Corporation is funded by local jurisdictions, the local hospital, local businesses and the State Health Department. It is staffed by volunteer physicians and paid administrative and nursing staff. The Corporation focuses on family practice to low-income families who have no or limited access for their health care needs. Local funds are also used to primarily provide prenatal care.

BUDGET SUMMARY

	FY 97 <u>Budget</u>	FY 98 <u>Budget</u>
Public Health Contribution	\$ 177,296	\$ 187,934
Local Effort - Insurance	1,173	49,960
Williamsburg Medical Assistance Corp	<u>170,916</u>	<u>170,916</u>
Total Public Health	<u>\$ 349,385</u>	<u>\$ 408,810</u>

BUDGET COMMENTS

The funding for public health generally reflects the County's utilization of the regional Public Health Department, and Williamsburg Area Medical Assistance Corporation (WAMAC). The County has realized the benefits of the WAMAC initiative as local required funding for the Health Department has decreased over the past two years. The FY 1998 Public Health budget increases by over 30 percent, however, because the Peninsula Health District has changed its method of allocating costs. Discussions have begun to amend that new cost allocation system. The budget recommendation is an increase of 6 percent. The local effort dollar total has been increased and a transfer to either the Health Department or WAMAC may be recommended when discussions with the Health District have concluded.