



**COMMISSIONERS COURT  
COMMUNICATION**

COURT ORDER NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

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DATE: 1/14/2025

**SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION TO SUBMIT A LETTER OF INTENT TO APPLY FOR GILEAD RESEARCH SCHOLARS PROGRAM FOR A STUDY FOR HIV PREVENTION UTILIZING MOTIVATIONAL INTERVIEWING TO IMPROVE PRE-EXPOSURE PROPHYLAXIS ADHERENCE**

**\*\*\* CONSENT AGENDA \*\*\***

**COMMISSIONERS COURT ACTION REQUESTED**

It is requested that the Commissioners Court consider the submission of a Letter of Intent (LOI) to apply for the Gilead Research Scholars Program for HIV Prevention Utilizing Motivational Interviewing to Improve Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) Adherence.

**BACKGROUND**

Tarrant County Public Health (TCPH) aims to study the impacts of improved access and adherence to PrEP medication among vulnerable populations disproportionately affected by HIV. By identifying and implementing effective strategies to enhance PrEP use, the study will contribute to reducing new HIV infections in the county. Additionally, the research findings will empower local healthcare providers with better tools and knowledge to address medication adherence, improving health outcomes for residents. Increased awareness, education, and effective interventions stemming from this study will strengthen community-based prevention efforts and support the broader goal of ending the HIV epidemic in Tarrant County.

This research is in response to Gilead’s INCLUSION U.S. 2025 Request for Proposals, which focuses on innovative strategies to improve uptake and adherence to HIV prevention measures, particularly in populations most at risk. The proposed study will explore the effectiveness of motivational interviewing (MI) as a strategy to enhance adherence to PrEP treatment for the prevention of HIV.

MI is a client-centered, goal-oriented communication technique that helps individuals resolve ambivalence and build motivation for positive behavioral change. It emphasizes collaboration, empathy, and evoking the patient’s internal motivations to align behaviors with personal goals. MI has been extensively studied and proven to be a successful, low-cost approach to improving medication adherence, particularly in a hesitant patient population. MI will be evaluated for its potential to improve adherence by addressing behavioral and psychological barriers. Results will inform future care strategies for at-risk populations.

With approval, a LOI will be submitted to Gilead’s INCLUSION U.S. 2025 Request for Proposals. If invited to apply by Gilead a comprehensive application will be submitted for Commissioners Court consideration.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact or financial commitment with the submission of this item.

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| SUBMITTED BY | Public Health | PREPARED BY: | Kenton Murthy  |
|              |               | APPROVED BY: | Dr. Brian Byrd |