

# Memo

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**To:** Mary Waters, Councilmember, At-Large

**From:** Denise Fair Razo, Chief Public Health Officer, Health Department

**Date:** March 18, 2025

**Re:** Responses to 2025-2026 Budget Analysis

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Please find below responses to your questions sent on 3/13/2025 regarding the Fiscal Year 2026 Proposed Budget for the Health Department.

- Please explain the Department's contingency plans for the changing federal grant landscape for FY 26 and beyond

**The Health Department nor the MDHHS has received information regarding takebacks or spending stops for any state or federal grants. However, we recognize this could change at any time. We are establishing a contingency plan to address these potential cuts and the impact on operations. Once those plans have been finalized, we will share them.**

- Please explain what the Detroit Health Department can do to help Detroiters who may be impacted by proposed federal cuts to programs such as Supplemental Nutrition Assistance and the Women, Infants, and Children program

**The Detroit Health Department plays a critical role in supporting Detroiters who may be impacted by proposed federal cuts to programs like the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and the Women, Infants, and Children program. If there are federal cuts, here is how the Health Department can help:**

- 1. Help residents navigate alternative food assistance programs, including food pantries, meal programs, and other relevant community resources.**
- 2. Provide nutrition education and workshops to help families maximize their food budgets, make healthy choices, and access other wellness programs.**
- 3. Collaborate with local food banks, nonprofits, and healthcare providers, DHD can help create a stronger safety net for families affected by potential funding reductions.**

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4. Connect residents to emergency food assistance and other social services to ensure families do not go hungry during times of transition or financial hardship.