



BROWNWOOD/BROWN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

To: Brown County Commissioners' Court

From: Lisa Dick, RDN/LD, Administrator, Brownwood/Brown County Health Department

Subject: Request for ARPA funding to relocate and expand the Brownwood/Brown County Health Department

The Brownwood/Brown County Health Department is requesting monetary assistance to relocate, expand, and update building and facilities. The existing health department building, and property is jointly owned by Brown County and Brownwood. The demand for public health services has increased dramatically, and the current facility does not adequately serve the needs of our residents and the services they are seeking.

At our current location, there is no room to accommodate expansion, additional staff, or much needed additional health services. The building is currently in much need of repair, and required HVAC, plumbing, and roof work this year. Other repairs will need to be done soon, including replacement of windows and doors.

While no formal detailed plan has been approved, several options have been reviewed. We have looked at the DeVita Clinic, the current Accel Health location, and the Keepsakes building next door to the Health Department. These all have a very high purchase/lease cost and remodeling/outfitting cost. The most reasonably priced and timely option we have is to renovate a vacant TSTC classroom building. We have had initial conversations with TSTC, and they are willing to consider a no-cost lease in exchange for improvements. Our request is for the County to allocate \$400,000 of ARPA funds for the purpose of expanding or relocating the Health Department. The City of Brownwood has already set aside \$400,000 in ARPA funds for this purpose. With your partnership, we will continue to pursue the best option and provide a detailed plan.

We appreciate your consideration in helping us to serve our community.

August 29, 2022

(Exhibit #2)