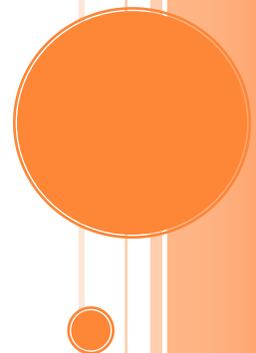


ORANGE COUNTY  
HEALTH  
DEPARTMENT  
INNOVATION GRANT

2015 END OF YEAR REPORT

2016 GRANT AWARDS

Submitted January 15, 2016



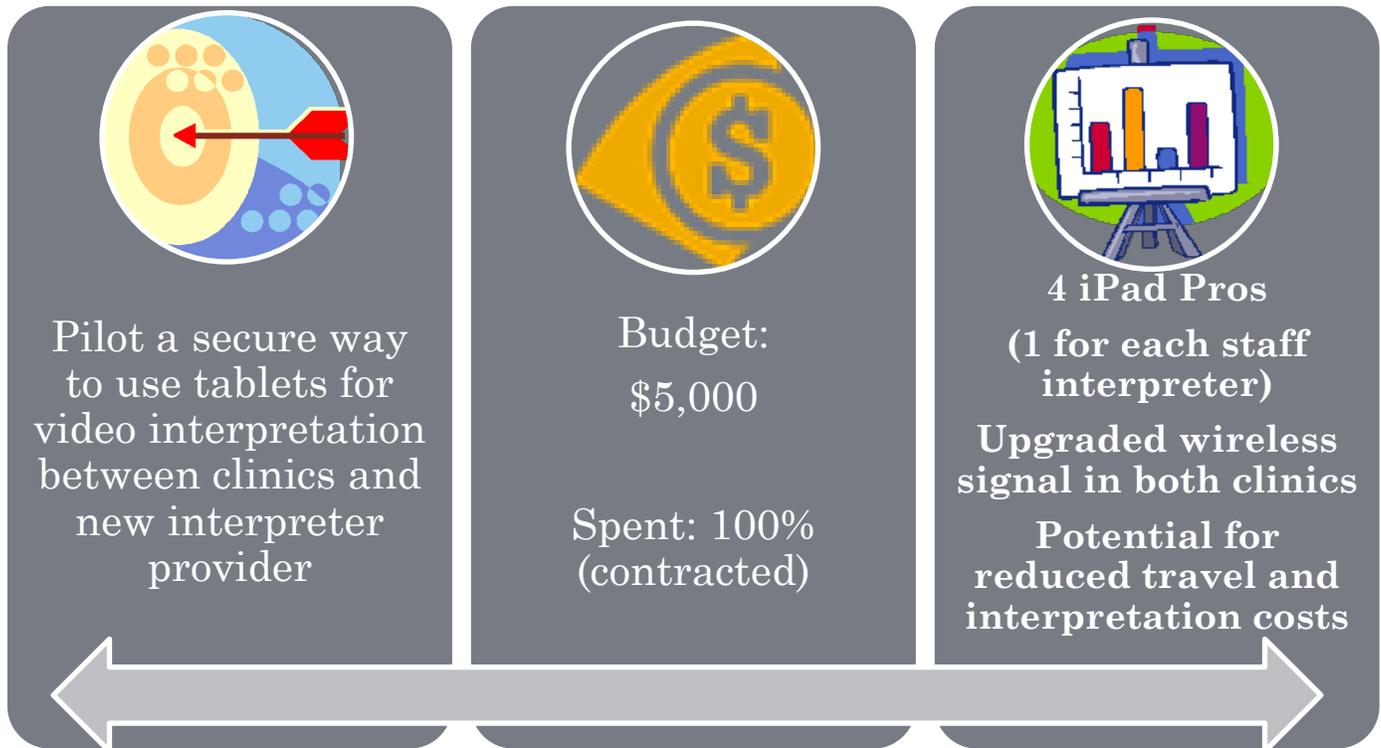
## 2014 Innovation Grants

The Innovation Grant Fund (\$20,000) was established when the Board of Health passed their Innovation Resolution in August 2012. Each year, staff submit innovative proposals to provide better care, better health, and reduced healthcare costs for Orange County residents. Projects run on a calendar year cycle. This report summarizes the 2015 projects which ran from January 2015 to December 2016.

The 2015 cycle funded eight (8) projects, as listed below.

Innovator(s)	Proposal Name	Grant Amount	Page
Susan Clifford	Video Remote Interpretation (VRI) Software and Hardware	\$5,000	2
Victoria Hudson	Food Safety Quick Cards	\$1,750	3
Mike Fliss	Under Desk Elliptical	\$650	4
Donna King	Whitted Bike Share Program Pilot	\$3,250	5
Meredith Stewart	Interactive Online Publishing: Issuu	\$750	6
Denise Shaver	Innovation Book Club	\$1,650	7
Coby Austin	Mobile Technologies That Work: Quitting Smart	\$350	8-9
Coby Austin & Alan Clapp	Healthy Homes Pilot		10
	<b>Total 2015 Grant Funds</b>	<b>\$13,400</b>	

## VRI: Remote Video Interpretation

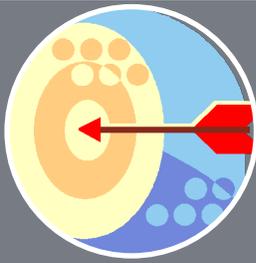


## LESSONS LEARNED

The Remote Video Interpretation project has been a challenging project and significant learning process for technology-related Innovation Grant projects. As is the case with many projects that involve new technology, many challenges that were not originally anticipated arose throughout the process. This included needing to upgrade wireless in both clinic sites to maintain video connection and a new requirement for cyber liability insurance from the county.

Despite these challenges, project staff worked diligently to make this a reality. Interpretation staff piloted video interpretation and was very pleased with the technology. Additionally, the project has informed a new process for working with IT for Innovation Grants starting as staff are preparing proposals.

## Food Safety Quick Cards

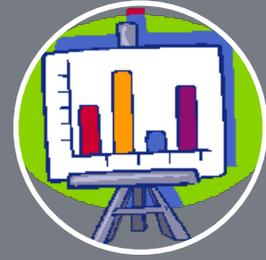


Design, print, and distribute cards to food establishments with quick reference info. on food safety



Budget:  
\$1,750

Spent: 100%



More than 3,500  
cards disseminated

High satisfaction

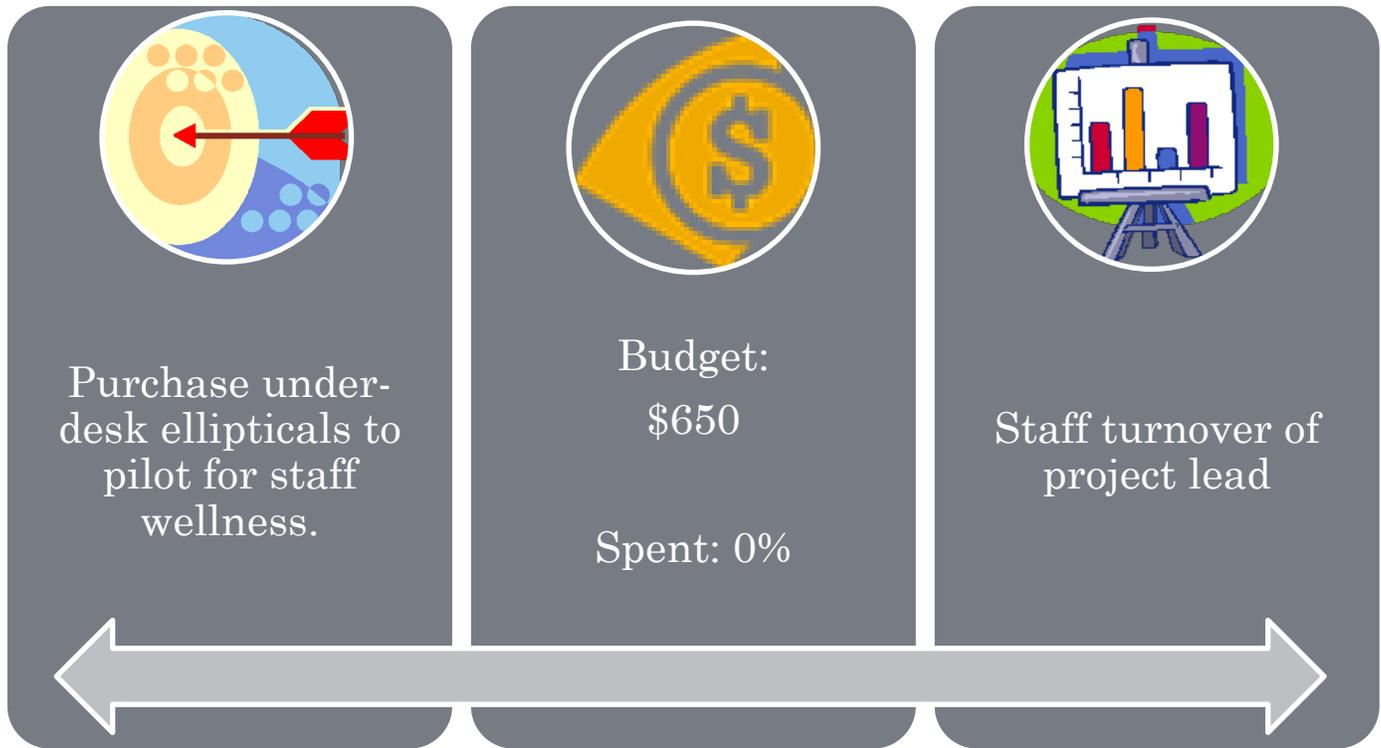


## LESSONS LEARNED

This project was a relatively quick and impactful project. It took less than 5 hours of initial staff time. Cards are given during regularly scheduled inspections, and to all newly permitted food service establishments.

Qualitatively, the cards have received very positive feedback from establishment owners and operators that they are doing what was expected. Operators recount that employees know how and when to report an illness of foodborne significance. The cards have also received the attention of other EH Departments in the NC. Several have asked for “permission to copy,” or for contact information with the plastics company. In short, the focus of the project may have an unintended positive outcome on process improvement by effectively providing Employee Health Policy training materials.

## Under Desk Elliptical

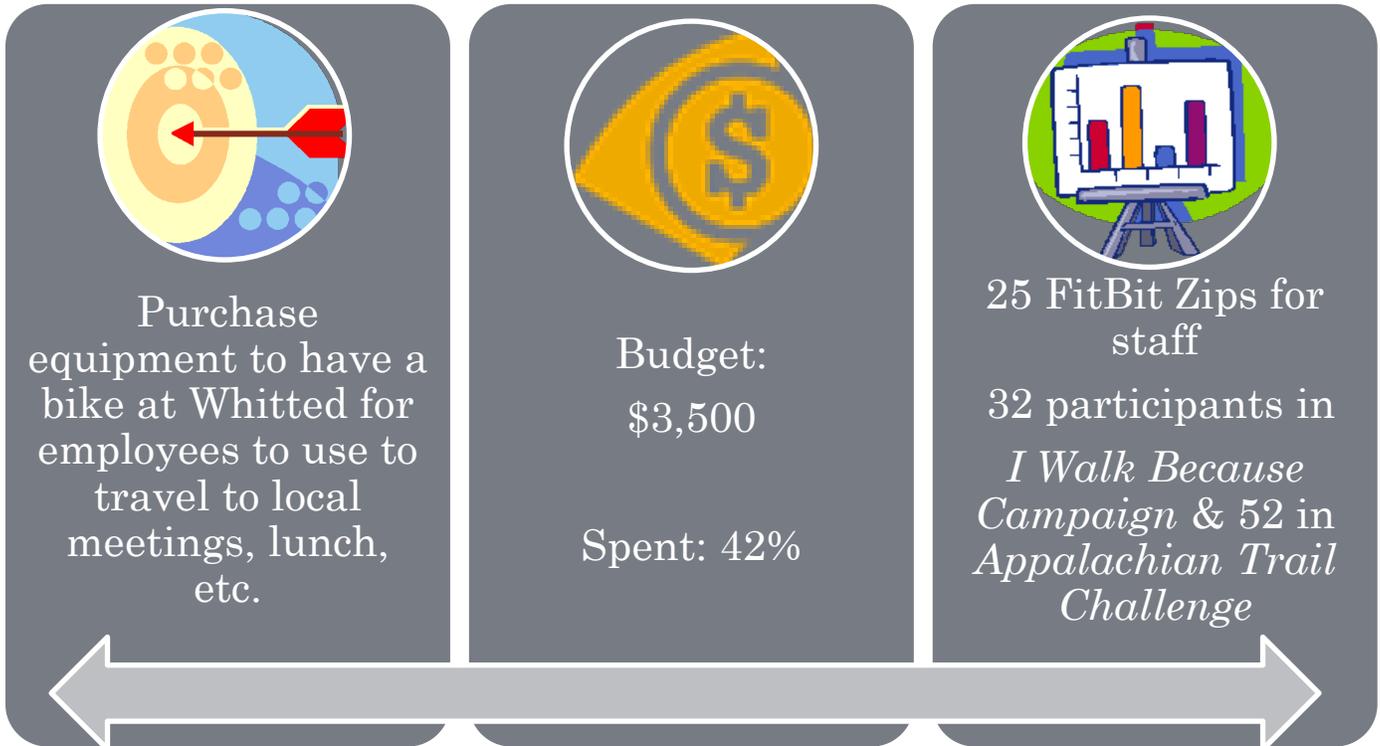


### LESSONS LEARNED

This project followed positive experiences with the sit-stand desks and endeavored to pilot new technology for staff wellness.

Following staff turnover of the project lead, this Innovation Grant was not completed and funds were diverted to the Healthy Homes Pilot.

# Whitted Bike Share Program



## LESSONS LEARNED

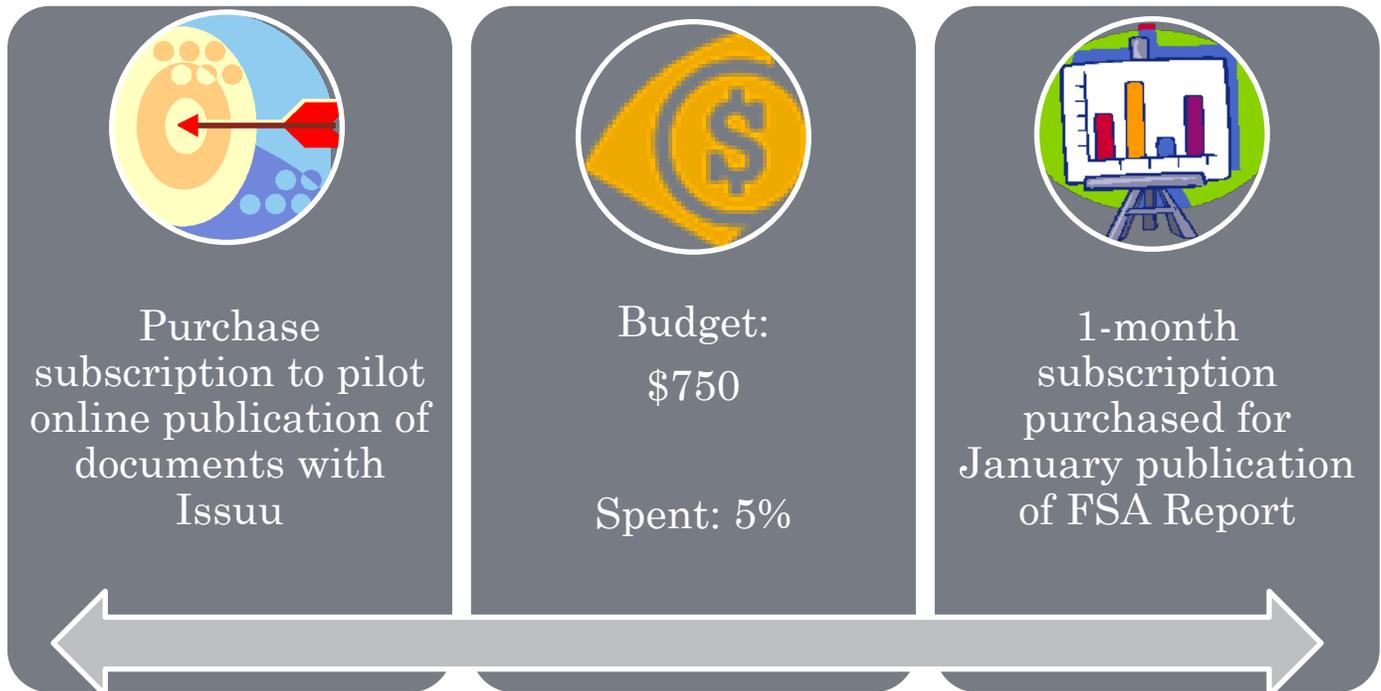


The Bike Share Program encountered some initial challenges in understanding program liability. As a result, the project funds were shifted to support wearable tech for OCHD staff to encourage participation in two walking challenges. OCHD now has 32 Fitbits funded by Innovation Grant funds for use by staff. Preliminary “before” surveys from wearable tech participants (N=36) show:

- 77.78% Fitness Objective: positive mental health benefits of Physical Activity.
- 69.4% Wearing tech because they are curious to see how active they are.
- 44.44% Exercise outside of workhours, 3-5 hours per week.
- 56% Never walk during the work day.

The Bike Share Program is now available at Whitted, with one bike and helmet on the third floor available for use.

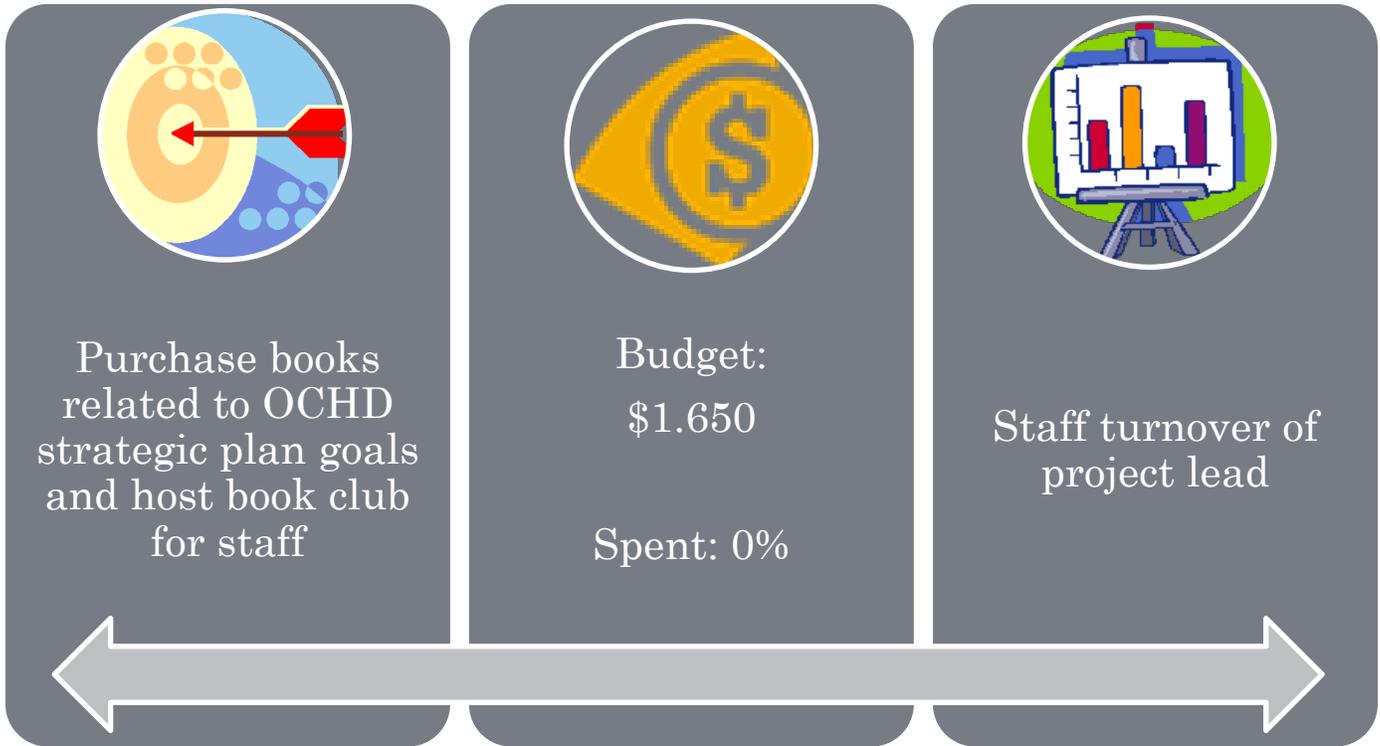
## Interactive Online Publishing



### LESSONS LEARNED

Materials planned to be published using Issuu were not ready to be published. The first publication will be the Family Success Alliance Gap Analysis Report in January 2016.

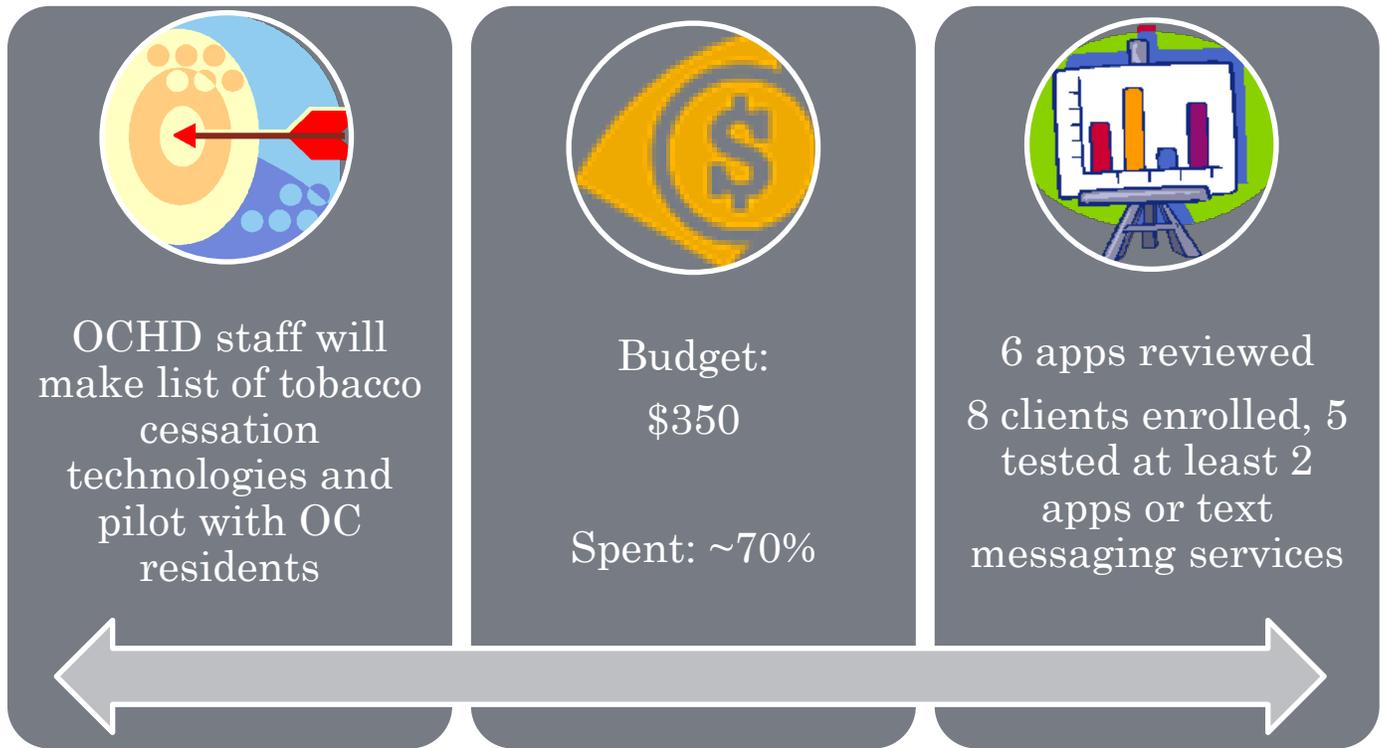
## Innovation Book Club



## LESSONS LEARNED

Following staff turnover of the project lead, this Innovation Grant was not completed and funds were diverted to the Healthy Homes Pilot.

## Tobacco App Pilot



## LESSONS LEARNED

Although all participants had smart phones, many of them had barriers to downloading an app and instead tested out a text messaging service. Some barriers to downloading apps included:

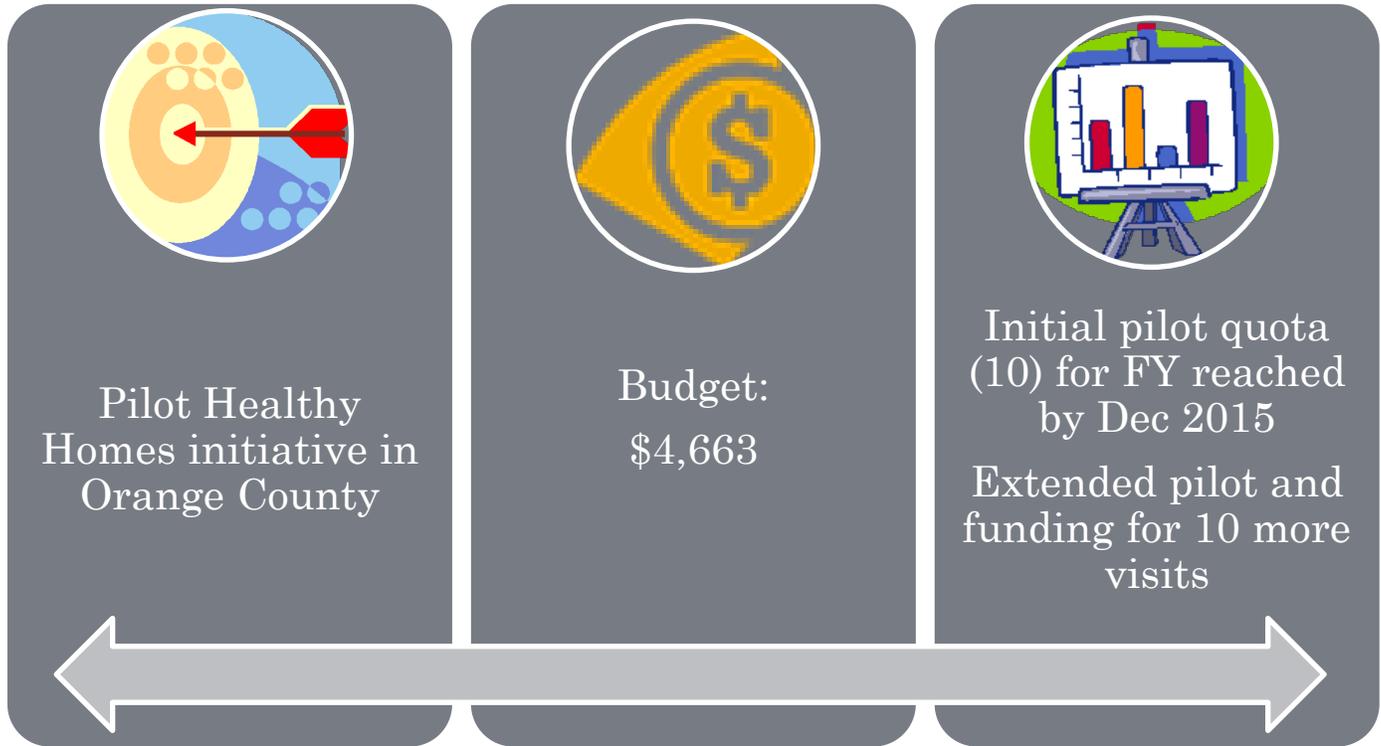
- Having a Windows phone (none of our trusted app providers have created one for that platform)
- Not having a credit card. To activate some app stores, even just to download free apps, users are required to enter credit card information.
- Not having a data plan, which prohibited some people from using apps

There were additional barriers for people who were not able to test an app, but wanted to participate in the study by testing out a text messaging service:

- Having a pay-as-you-go text messaging plan, which resulted in a cost to clients that deterred them from participating
- Text messaging services require clients to receive messages from a 6-digit phone number. These types of 6-digit numbers can sometimes charge clients a fee so phone carriers require the user to acknowledge that they may be charged for sending/receiving messages from that number. Even though the smoking cessation text messages are all free of charge, just having to acknowledge that they might have to pay a fee was a deterring factor for some clients.

This pilot has shown that it is feasible to create a list of technologies for health promotion, and some clients will take advantage of these recommendations. There remain significant logistical challenges to individuals downloading apps based on their phone or payment situation. OCHD staff are continuing to review logistical and legal solutions to increase texting and other mobile technologies for health promotion.

## Healthy Homes Pilot



## LESSONS LEARNED

The Healthy Homes pilot began work in the fall of 2015 and reached its initial number of home visits by December.

Environmental Health, Health Promotion, FSA, and school system staff have been working well together to make referrals, home visits, and follow-up to families. Feedback from families and partners has been extremely positive, as evidenced by the number of referrals!

With additional funds, staff expect 3-4 referrals per month for a total of 20 visits in FY 15-16. Staff are working hard to fit this increased demand into their schedules.

## 2016 Grant Awards

This was an exceptional year for our Innovation Grant program. The 2016 cycle funded ten (10) projects, as listed below, from a record number of proposals (24 total). Also a record this year was the number of proposals and funded projects from applicants who had never applied and/or received a grant before. The majority of proposals not funded through the Innovation Grant this year will be funded through existing departmental budgets.

2016 Innovation Grant Funded Proposals			
Innovator(s)	Proposal Name	Description	Grant Amount
Victoria Hudson	Food Establishment Excellence Program	The innovation grant will be used to design and to disseminate food safety information through a series of infographic stickers. The 4" x 4" or 6" x 6" OCHD vinyl-coated stickers in three styles will feature infographics that address gaps in English proficiency in Orange County's multicultural, food service workforce.	\$750
Meredith McMonigle & Allison Young	Supporting Transportation Solutions for FSA families	This innovation grant will support a pilot project to explore using Uber as a transportation solution for low-income families in Orange County. The pilot will be with families enrolled with FSA.	\$3,105
Kathleen Goodhand, Rebecca Crawford and Pam McCall	Mindfulness Training	Research has shown that Mindfulness Training and learned techniques can have a positive effect on reducing employee work stress and increasing morale. Excessive work stress and low morale can lead to employee absenteeism, turnover and poor customer service, all of which affect our clinical staff. We propose to contract with a certified Mindfulness Instructor to offer training to clinical staff for a period of 8 sessions.	\$1,500
Melissa James	Nutrition Services: Client Feedback as a Marketing Tool	This project is an innovative way to extend the Kudos concept by developing a note card that Medical Nutrition Therapy (MNT) and/or Diabetes Self-Management Education (DSME) clients can write a message to his/her referring medical provider explaining how he/she benefited from these Health Department services. This card will serve as a	\$900

		cue to medical providers to remind them to continue referring and will also serve as a tool to inform medical providers of client satisfaction.	
Teresa Martin, Christy Bridges, Jean McDonald	Technology Access for Patient Education and Satisfaction	Funding is requested to cover the cost of technology dedicated to prenatal, postpartum, and newborn-care patient education in English and Spanish.  Low literacy levels identified and addressed in traditional education modalities have not reduced ED admissions of our newborns and unnecessary visits to UNCH by our MH patients.	\$2,500
Victoria Hudson	Corrective Action Stickers	These infographic stickers will be affixed in food service establishments as an education tool and a corrective action for violations of risk factors associated with hand sink usage, cross-contamination in refrigerated storage, and cooling foods.	\$1,800
Tracey Langley and John Davis	Double Handle Lift Tool	Grant to create/modify a lifting tool for heavy concrete lids (septic tank lids) for environmental health staff.	\$750
Ana, Sallie, Stephanie	Prenatal Oral Health Incentive Program	Create incentive program to encourage families to complete recommended initial and follow-up prenatal dental visits.	\$4,200
LaTosha and Shelley	Project Safe Sleep	Exploring the option of safe co sleep and SIDS awareness for families actively participating in home visiting programs. Patients whom complete evidence based training and newborn post-partum home visit will receive safe sleep certificate and infant basket to support healthy co-sleeping.	\$650
Tracey Langley and John Davis	Septic Maintenance App	Develop a Smartphone Application that includes information for homeowners on basic tank maintenance, effluent filter cleaning (majority of homeowners don't even know their system has a filter), biosolids or septage removal guidance, drainfield maintenance, inspection, etc. The app would also allow the operator to set up reminders of when various maintenance items are due and connect to additional resources, how to videos, etc.	\$4,000
<b>Total Funded</b>			<b>\$20,155</b>