



WASHOE COUNTY

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: June 28, 2022

DATE: May 17, 2022
TO: Board of County Commissioners
FROM: Victoria Jakubowski, Fiscal Compliance Officer, District Attorney's Office, 325-6710 vjakubowski@da.washoecounty.gov
THROUGH: Christopher J. Hicks, District Attorney
SUBJECT: Recommendation to accept a Children's Justice Act (CJA) grant to the District Attorney's Office in the amount of [\$19,207 (no match required)], from the State of Nevada Department of Health and Human Services Division of Children and Family Service (DCFS) to provide funding for training of personnel and partners in the Child Advocacy Center (CAC); retroactive from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022; and direct the Comptroller to make the necessary budget amendments and retroactively authorize the District Attorney or his designees to sign the grant agreement. (All commission districts)

SUMMARY

The Washoe Board of County Commissioners must accept grant awards and must approve amendments to the adopted fiscal year budget and direct the Comptroller's Office to make necessary budget amendments.

The District Attorney's Office has received a Children's Justice Act (CJA) grant to provide training opportunities for CAC personnel and partner agencies in the field of victim services such as the Crimes Against Children's Conference, Advanced Forensic Interviewer Training, and Victim Advocate Training.

Award is retroactive to July 1, 2021. Delayed submission caused by staff shortages.

County Strategic Objective supported by this item: Safe, secure, and healthy communities

PREVIOUS ACTION

There is no previous action.

BACKGROUND

The Children's Justice Act (CJA) provides grants to improve the investigation, prosecution, and judicial handling of cases of child abuse and neglect, particularly child sexual abuse and exploitation, in a manner that limits additional trauma to the child victim. This includes training for personnel who provide services direct to victims of crimes.

AGENDA ITEM # _____

Since 2019, the CAC's Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) has seen considerable turnover of staff, including new Detectives, Prosecutors, Social Workers, and Forensic Interviewers joining our team for the first time. During 2020, many of the large trainings that new MDT members should attend were cancelled due to COVID 19, and the funding set aside was needed in other areas to deal with the pandemic. The trainings funded include:

- The Crimes Against Children Conference in Dallas, Texas. The conference was cancelled last year, and our plan is to send many MDT members to it this year. Under normal circumstances, we would never be able to send this many MDT members to the training in Texas with the additional travel costs required. This year, the conference is being held virtually which provides us with a unique opportunity to send a larger group at a much lower cost.
- National Children's Advocacy Center (NCAC) Victim Advocacy Training. This training would be attended by two new on-call Victim Advocates (if approved) mentioned in this request, as well as the Program Manager at the CAC that will supervise these new employees.
- Cornerhouse Advanced Forensic Interview training. This training would be for one of our Forensic Interviewers to attend in order to better serve our clients at the CAC and increase our overall effectiveness in interviewing child victims of crime.

Award is retroactive to July 1, 2021. Delayed submission caused by staff shortages.

GRANT AWARD SUMMARY

Project/Program Name: Children's Justice Act (CJA) Training

Scope of the Project: Training opportunities for CAC personnel and partner agencies.

Benefit to Washoe County Residents: Enhance victim services with trained personnel

On-Going Program Support: One-shot funding

Award Amount: \$19,207

Grant Period: July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2022

Funding Source: Children's Justice Act Sec 107 a-f CAPTA

Pass Through Entity: State of Nevada Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Children and Family Service

CFDA Number: 93.643

Grant ID Number: 93643-20-005

Match Amount and Type: no match

Sub-Awards and Contracts: n/a

FISCAL IMPACT

Should the board accept this grant award and approve these amendments, the FY22 adopted budget will be increased by \$18,650 in revenues and expenditures as listed in the following accounts:

Cost Object & Description	G/L Account & Description	Amount
IO 12004 – FY2022 CJA	431100-Federal Grants	\$18,650
IO 12004 – FY2022 CJA	710509-Seminars & Meetings	\$18,650

Grant funds shall be reported to grantor monthly and drawn as a reimbursement.

Indirect costs of \$557 listed in NOSA will be applied to 431105.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners accept a Children’s Justice Act (CJA) grant to the District Attorney’s Office in the amount of [\$19,207 (no match required)], from the State of Nevada Department of Health and Human Services Division of Children and Family Service (DCFS) to provide funding for training of personnel and partners in the Child Advocacy Center (CAC); retroactive from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022; and direct the Comptroller to make the necessary budget amendments and retroactively authorize the District Attorney or his designees to sign the grant agreement.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff’s recommendation, a possible motion would be: “move to accept a Children’s Justice Act (CJA) grant to the District Attorney’s Office in the amount of [\$19,207 (no match required)], from the State of Nevada Department of Health and Human Services Division of Children and Family Service (DCFS) to provide funding for training of personnel and partners in the Child Advocacy Center (CAC); retroactive from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022; and direct the Comptroller to make the necessary budget amendments and retroactively authorize the District Attorney or his designees to sign the grant agreement.”