



WASHOE COUNTY

Integrity Communication Service

www.washoecounty.gov

STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: *June 24, 2025*

DATE: Wednesday, June 18, 2025

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Ryan Gustafson, Director, Human Services Agency
(775) 785-8600, rgustafson@washoecounty.gov

Pamela Mann, Division Director, Human Services Agency
(775) 785-8600, pmann@washoecounty.gov

THROUGH: Kate Thomas, Assistant County Manager

SUBJECT: Recommendation to accept a Federal Adoption Incentive sub-grant award from the State of Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS), Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) in the amount of [\$107,121.00; no county match] in Federal Adoption Incentive funds retroactive from October 1, 2024 through December 31, 2025 to support foster and adoptive recruitment and recognition activities; non-county employee travel to facilitate adoptive placements; and provide direct services support for children and families to ensure placement stability. Authorize the Director of Human Services Agency to execute the grant and related documents; and direct the Finance Office to make the necessary budget amendments. (All Commission Districts.)

SUMMARY

Recommendation to accept a Federal Adoption Incentive sub-grant award from the State of Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS), Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) in the amount of [\$107,121.00; no county match] in Federal Adoption Incentive funds retroactive from October 1, 2024 through December 31, 2025 to support foster and adoptive recruitment and recognition activities; non-county employee travel to facilitate adoptive placements; and provide direct services support for children and families to ensure placement stability. Authorize the Director of Human Services Agency to execute the grant and related documents; and direct the Finance Office to make the necessary budget amendments.

Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item: Vulnerable Populations

AGENDA ITEM # _____

PREVIOUS ACTION

On May 28, 2024, the Board of County Commissioners approved item #7E2, the Department's request to accept 67,174.00 (no county match) in Federal Adoption Incentive funds from the State of Nevada, Division of Child and Family Services for the period of October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024.

On May 23, 2023, the Board of County Commissioners approved item #7F2, the Department's request to accept \$37,707.00 (no county match) in Federal Adoption Incentive funds from the State of Nevada, Division of Child and Family Services for the period of October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023.

On March 8, 2022, the Board of County Commissioners approved item #5E1, the Department's request to accept \$99,591.00 (no county match) in Federal Adoption Incentive funds from the State of Nevada, Division of Child and Family Services for the period of October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022.

On April 13, 2021, the Board of County Commissioners approved item #7D1, the Department's request to accept \$72,963.00 (no county match) in Federal Adoption Incentive funds from the State of Nevada, Division of Child and Family Services for the period of October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021.

On April 28, 2020, the Board of County Commissioners approved agenda item #10, the Department's request to accept \$171,055 in Federal Adoption Incentive funds from the State of Nevada, Division of Child and Family Services for the period of October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020.

The Board has routinely accepted Federal Adoption Incentive Funds since 2004.

BACKGROUND

The Federal Adoption Incentive program recognizes improved performance in helping children and youth in foster care find permanent homes through adoption and legal guardianship. Under this program (Section 473A of the Social Security Act), states earn federal incentive payments when they increase adoptions of children in need of new permanent families. Federal Adoption Incentive funds are subsequently passed through the State of Nevada, Division of Child and Family Services to support child welfare efforts in the areas of foster care, adoption recruitment and training.

These funds may be utilized for services to families awaiting adoption, post adoption services, and specialized recruitment and training for the adoption program. Washoe County Human Services Agency has routinely used these funds to assist with travel and transition costs for adoptive placement, post placement supervision in other states, foster and adoptive recruitment and finalization activities, staff professional development, assistance with non-Medicaid covered medical expenses, and Adoption Day celebrations.

In November 2003, the Human Services Agency held the first local Adoption Day celebration in conjunction with National Adoption Day. In November 2004, the

Department expanded the celebration to include a reception for adoptive families. The success of Adoption Day has grown with each event becoming more popular than the previous celebration. Washoe County Human Services Agency successfully launched a media campaign to highlight adoption and the need for adoptive homes in our community. In fiscal year 2023, the Human Services Agency finalized 112 adoptions, ensuring children in Washoe County now have forever homes.

The Agency received the Notice of Subaward for the subgrant on May 27, 2025; therefore, the request to accept this subaward is retroactive.

GRANT AWARD SUMMARY

Project/Program Name: Washoe County Human Services Agency
Adoption Incentive Program

Scope of the Project: Federal Adoption Incentive funds are awarded in support of child welfare efforts in the areas of foster care, adoption recruitment, and training. The Human Services Agency will use these funds to assist with placement travel costs, direct services to support children and families with placement stability and foster and adoptive recruitment and recognition.

Benefit to Washoe County Residents: The Adoption Incentive program allows children to find permanent adoptive homes, reducing the number of children in foster care in Washoe County.

On-Going Program Support: N/A

Award Amount: \$107,121.00 (\$107,121.00 direct/\$0 indirect)

Grant Period: October 1, 2024 to December 31, 2025

Funding Source: Department of Health and Human Services
Administration for Children and Families

Pass Through Entity: Nevada Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Child and Family Services

Assistance Listing #/CFDA: 93.603

Grant ID Number: 93603-23-102

Match Amount and Type: N/A

Sub-Awards and Contracts: The Agency follows County and federal grant procurement guidelines for subawards and contracts.

FISCAL IMPACT

Should the board accept this grant award and approve these amendments, the FY25 Child Protective Services Fund 228, adopted budget will be increased by \$107,121.00 in both revenues and expenditures in the following accounts:

<u>Account Number</u>		<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount of Increase/(Decrease)</u>
IO 12532	- 431100	Federal Grants	\$ 107, 121.00
		Total Revenue	\$ 107, 121.00
IO 12532	- 710100	Professional Services	\$ 15,000.00
	- 710105	Medical Services	\$ 1,000.00
	- 710212	Software Subscription	\$ 2,500.00
	- 710312	Special Dept Expense	\$ 13,921.00
	- 710546	Advertising	\$ 10,000.00
	- 710563	Recruitment	\$ 10,000.00
	- 710729	Mental Health Assessments	\$ 10,000.00
	- 710734	Residence Assistance	\$ 8,500.00
	- 710872	Food Purchases	\$ 5,000.00
	- 710874	Pre-Adoption Home	\$ 20,000.00
	- 711508	Computers, noncapital	\$ 1,200.00
	- 711213	Non-County Travel	\$ 10,000.00
		Total Expenditures	\$ 107,121.00

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners accept a Federal Adoption Incentive sub-grant award from the State of Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS), Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) in the amount of [\$107,121.00; no county match] in Federal Adoption Incentive funds retroactive from October 1, 2024 through December 31, 2025 to support foster and adoptive recruitment and recognition activities; non-county employee travel to facilitate adoptive placements; and provide direct services support for children and families to ensure placement stability. Authorize the Director of Human Services Agency to execute the grant and related documents; and direct the Finance Office to make the necessary budget amendments.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: *"move to accept a Federal Adoption Incentive sub-grant award from the State of Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS), Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) in the amount of [\$107,121.00; no county match] in Federal Adoption Incentive funds retroactive from October 1, 2024 through December 31, 2025 to support foster and adoptive recruitment and recognition activities; non-county employee travel to facilitate adoptive placements; and provide direct services support for children and families to ensure placement stability. Authorize*

the Director of Human Services Agency to execute the grant and related documents; and direct the Finance Office to make the necessary budget amendments.”