



# WASHOE COUNTY

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## STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: *May 28, 2024*

**DATE:** May 3, 2024

**TO:** Board of County Commissioners

**FROM:** Ryan Gustafson, Director, Human Services Agency  
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**THROUGH:** Kate Thomas, Assistant County Manager

**SUBJECT:** Recommendation to accept a sub-grant award from the State of Nevada, Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) in the amount of [\$67,174.00; no county match] in Federal Adoption Incentive funds retroactive from October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024 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 sub-grant award and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments. (All Commission Districts.)

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### **SUMMARY**

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

The Human Services Agency recommends the Board of County Commissioners accept a sub-grant award from the State of Nevada, Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) in the amount of [\$67,174.00; no county match] in Federal Adoption Incentive funds retroactive from October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024 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 sub-grant award and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments.

**Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item:** Vulnerable Populations

### **PREVIOUS ACTION**

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

**AGENDA ITEM # \_\_\_\_\_**

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 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.

On January 8, 2019, the Board of County Commissioners approved agenda item #8E3, the Department's request to accept \$148,561 in Federal Adoption Incentive funds from the State of Nevada, Division of Child and Family Services for the period of October 1, 2018, through September 30, 2019.

On February 27, 2018, the Board of County Commissioners approved agenda item # 9J5, the Department's request to accept \$118,948 in Federal Adoption Incentive funds from the State of Nevada, Division of Child and Family Services for the period of October 1, 2017, through September 30, 2018.

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 April 27, 2024; 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:** \$67,174.00 (\$67,174.00 direct/\$0 indirect)

**Grant Period:** October 1, 2023 to September 30, 2024

**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:** 93603-22-103

**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 FY24 Child Protective Services Fund 228, adopted budget will be increased by \$67,714.00 in both revenues and expenditures in the following accounts:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount of Increase/(Decrease)</u>
IO 12362 - 431100	Federal Grants	\$ 67,174.00
	<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 67,174.00</b>
IO 12362 - 710100	Professional Services	\$ 5,000.00
- 710105	Medical Services	\$ 7,000.00
- 710212	Software Subscription	\$ 2,500.00
- 710312	Special Dept Expense	\$ 10,174.00
- 710546	Advertising	\$ 10,000.00
- 711508	Computers, noncapital	\$ 1,000.00
- 710734	Residence Assistance	\$ 8,500.00
- 710872	Food Purchases	\$ 3,000.00
- 710874	Pre-Adoption Home	\$ 10,000.00
- 711213	Travel-Non-County Personnel	\$ 10,000.00
	<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 67,174.00</b>

**RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners accept a sub-grant award from the State of Nevada, Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) in the amount of [\$67,174.00; no county match] in Federal Adoption Incentive funds retroactive from October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024 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 sub-grant award and direct the Comptroller’s 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 sub-grant award from the State of Nevada, Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) in the amount of [\$67,174.00; no county match] in Federal Adoption Incentive funds retroactive from October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024 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 sub-grant award and direct the Comptroller’s Office to make the necessary budget amendments.”*