



WASHOE COUNTY

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: *October 14, 2025*

DATE: Thursday, October 09, 2025

TO: Board of County Commissioners

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

THROUGH: Kate Thomas, Interim County Manager

SUBJECT: Recommendation to accept a Grant Agreement between Washoe County Human Services Agency and The William N. Pennington Foundation in the amount of [\$325,000.00; no county match] retroactively for the period of July 29, 2025 to July 28, 2026 in support of children in foster care; retroactively authorize the Director of the Human Services Agency to execute the agreement; and direct Finance to make the necessary budget amendments. (All Commission Districts). FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

SUMMARY

Recommendation to accept a Grant Agreement between Washoe County Human Services Agency and The William N. Pennington Foundation in the amount of [\$325,000.00; no county match] retroactively for the period of July 29, 2025 to July 28, 2026 in support of children in foster care; retroactively authorize the Director of the Human Services Agency to execute the agreement; and direct Finance to make the necessary budget amendments.

These funds will be used to provide clothing, school and activity supplies, diapers, hygiene items, educational toys, and Christmas gifts for approximately 630 children in Washoe County foster care system and to purchase items for the Family Engagement Center supply closet to be distributed to children entering foster care.

Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item: Vulnerable Populations

PREVIOUS ACTION

On October 8, 2024, the Board of County Commissioners accepted item #10, to accept a Grant Agreement between Washoe County Human Services Agency and The William N. Pennington Foundation in the amount of [\$315,000.00; no county match] retroactively from June 26, 2024 to June 25, 2025 in support of children in foster care.

On October 10, 2023, the Board of County Commissioners accepted item #7.C.1. to accept a Grant Agreement between Washoe County Human Services Agency and The

AGENDA ITEM # _____

William N. Pennington Foundation in the amount of [\$270,000.00; no county match] retroactively from July 26, 2023 to July 25, 2024 in support of children in foster care.

On August 23, 2022, the Board of County Commissioners accepted item #17 to accept a Grant Agreement between Washoe County Human Services Agency and The William N. Pennington Foundation in the amount of [\$342,500.00; no county match] retroactively from June 28, 2022 to June 27, 2023 in support of children in foster care.

On July 20, 2021, the Board of County Commissioners accepted agenda item #16 to accept a Grant Agreement between Washoe County Human Services Agency and The William N. Pennington Foundation in the amount of [\$326,250.00; no county match] retroactively from June 30, 2021 to June 29, 2022 in support of children in foster care.

On March 31, 2020, the Board of County Commissioners accepted agenda item #8 to accept a Grant Agreement between Washoe County and The William N. Pennington Foundation in the amount of [\$371,250.00; no county match] retroactively from January 17, 2020 in support of children in foster care for calendar year 2020.

On March 31, 2020, the Board of County Commissioners accepted agenda item #9 to accept a Grant Agreement between Washoe County and the William N. Pennington Foundation in the amount of [\$198,600.00; no county match] retroactively from January 17, 2020 to support the installation of a playground on the Our Place Campus.

BACKGROUND

The William N. Pennington Foundation was founded in 1989 with a focus on supporting education, community services, health care, and medical research primarily in the State of Nevada, with an emphasis on Reno and Northern Nevada. The Foundation supports organizations that help people and families persevere through difficult times and is known for providing funding to support clothing and educational needs for disadvantaged citizens.

The Agency received the notice of award for this grant agreement on August 28, 2025 with an effective date of July 29, 2025, thus the request to retroactively accept this grant agreement.

GRANT AWARD SUMMARY

Project/Program Name: Pennington Foundation – Foster Children Support

Scope of the Project: Funding has been provided for approximately 630 foster children in Northern Nevada to be provided with support.

Benefit to Washoe County Residents: This funding will provide significant support to the foster children in HSA's care by assisting the Agency with supplying clothing, school supplies, diapers, hygiene items, educational toys and Christmas presents as needed by each child in the amount of about \$500 per child; and approximately \$10,000 shall be

allotted to fund the supply closet at the Family Engagement Center to assist children entering foster care.

On-Going Program Support: This grant will help HSA in supporting the needs of foster children and assist in providing normalcy activities to support their wellbeing and transition through foster care. These are costs that present regardless of this funding source and continue to be a year-to-year need addressed by HSA.

Award Amount: \$325,000.00 (**\$325,000.00 direct; \$0 indirect**)

Grant Period: July 29, 2025 to July 28, 2026

Funding Source: William N. Pennington Foundation

Pass Through Entity: N/A

CFDA Number: N/A

Grant ID Number: N/A

Match Amount and Type: No match required.

Sub-Awards and Contracts: N/A

FISCAL IMPACT

Should the board accept this grant award and approve these amendments, the FY26 Human Services Agency's Child Protective Services Fund (F228) adopted budget will be increased by \$325,000.00 in both revenues and expenditures in the following accounts:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount of Increase/(Decrease)</u>
IO 29080 -484195	Non-Govt'l Grants	\$ 325,000.00
	Total Revenue	\$ 325,000.00
IO 29080 -710712	Family Preservation	\$ 325,000.00
	Total Expenditures	\$ 325,000.00

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation to accept a Grant Agreement between Washoe County Human Services Agency and The William N. Pennington Foundation in the amount of [\$325,000.00; no county match] retroactively for the period of July 29, 2025 to July 28, 2026 in support of children in foster care; retroactively authorize the Director of the Human Services Agency to execute the agreement; and direct Finance 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 Grant Agreement between Washoe County Human Services Agency and The William N. Pennington Foundation in the amount of [\$325,000.00; no county match] retroactively for the period of July 29, 2025 to July 28, 2026 in support of children in foster care; retroactively authorize the Director of the Human Services Agency to execute the agreement; and direct Finance to make the necessary budget amendments."*