



WASHOE COUNTY

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: September 25, 2018

DATE: Wednesday, September 19, 2018

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Amber Howell, Director, Human Services
785-8600, ahowell@washoecounty.us

THROUGH: Kate Thomas, Assistant County Manager

SUBJECT: Approve the FY 2018/2019 Differential Response sub award from the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services in the amount of [\$142,545; no County match], retroactive to July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019 to support Differential Response services to at-risk families in the child welfare system; authorize the Agency to execute the Award and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments. (All Commission Districts)

SUMMARY

Recommendation to approve the FY 2018/2019 Differential Response sub award from the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services in the amount of [\$142,545; no County match], retroactive to July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019 to support Differential Response services to at-risk families in the child welfare system; authorize the Agency to execute the Award and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments.

County Priority/Goal supported by this item: Safe, Secure and Healthy Communities.

PREVIOUS ACTION

On June 13, 2017, the Board of County Commissioners approved item #5.k.1 accepting a grant award in the amount of \$142,545; no County match from the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services Office of Community Partnerships and Grant for the period of July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018, for Differential Response services including family assessment and early intervention services for at-risk families who have been referred to Child Protective Services; direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments; authorized the Department to accept the award; and directed Washoe County Purchasing Office to solicit written proposals to select an organization to provide Family Assessment Services.

AGENDA ITEM # _____

BACKGROUND

Retroactive approval is requested due to the Agency receiving the Notice of Subgrant Award from the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services on August 24, 2018.

Differential Response is an approach to ensuring child safety by expanding the ability of child welfare agencies to respond to reports of child abuse and neglect. It's focus includes a broader set of responses for working with families at the first signs of trouble, including innovative partnerships with community-based organizations that can help support families that are in need. Differential Response allows families with children who are in danger of abuse and neglect to be linked to community-based services for early intervention and prevention services. Differential Response offers families referred to child protective services a chance to be connected to a community service provider, increasing the chances that children can remain safely at home without the need for formal Child Protective Services (CPS) intervention to include legal action.

Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) provides for Differential Response when a public child welfare agency determines that an investigation is not warranted, the agency may forward a report and/or case record information of a particular child and family to a community-based service provider that has entered into a written agreement with the agency for the purpose of conducting assessments and providing appropriate services that will support, preserve and improve the child's safety and family's well-being and functioning. The Differential Response Statewide Steering Committee continues to support this practice initiative and mission to serve families through partnerships and building on the strengths of families, to provide early intervention to connect families with appropriate services that will support, preserve, and improve the child's safety and the family's well-being and functioning.

GRANT AWARD SUMMARY

Project/Program Name: **Differential Response**

Scope of the Project: Differential Response is an approach to ensuring child safety by expanding the ability of child welfare agencies to respond to reports of child abuse and neglect.

Benefit to Washoe County Residents: Differential Response offers families referred to child protective services a chance to be connected to a community services provider, increasing the chances that children can remain safely at home without the need for formal Child Protective Services (CPS) intervention to include legal action

On-Going Program Support: The Differential Response Program is currently operated by the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services Division and this sub-grant is intended to shift implementation of the program to the local government level. If the grant award is discontinued or not-renewed, the program would be shifted back to the State.

Award Amount: \$142,545

Grant Period: July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019

Funding Source: Nevada Department of Health and Human Services
Office of Community Partnerships and Grants

Pass Through Entity: N/A

CFDA Number: N/A

Grant ID Number: 1101

Match Amount and Type: There is no required match.

FISCAL IMPACT

Should the board accept this grant award, the Agency's FY19 budget will need to be increased by \$142,545 in both revenues and expenditures in the following accounts:

Cost Object	G/L Account	Amount
IO 11492 – FY19 Differential Response	432100 – State Grants	\$142,545
	Total Revenue	\$142,545
IO 11492 – FY19 Differential Response	701412 – Salary Adjustment	\$94,704.35
IO 11492 – FY19 Differential Response	705360 – Benefit Adjustment	\$40,587.58
IO 11492 – FY19 Differential Response	710100 – Professional Services	\$7,253.07
	Total Expenditures	\$142,545

RECOMMENDATION

The Agency recommends the Board of County Commissioners Approve the FY 2018/2019 Differential Response sub award from the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services in the amount of [\$142,545; no County match], retroactive to July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019 to support Differential Response services to at-risk families in the child welfare system; authorize the Agency to execute the 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 Approve the FY 2018/2019 Differential Response sub award from the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services in the amount of [\$142,545; no County match], retroactive to July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019 to support Differential Response services to at-risk families in the child welfare system; authorize the Agency to execute the Award and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments."