



# WASHOE COUNTY

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## STAFF REPORT

**BOARD MEETING DATE: March 26, 2019**

**DATE:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019

**TO:** Board of County Commissioners

**FROM:** Amber Howell, Director, Human Services Agency  
775-785-5653

**THROUGH:** Kate Thomas, Assistant County Manager

**SUBJECT:** Recommendation to approve First Amendment to Subaward from Casey Family Programs, in the amount of [\$35,000; no County match] retroactive from January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019 to facilitate family reunification and permanency for children and reduce foster care reentries; retroactively authorize the Director of Human Services Agency to execute grant award documents; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments. (All Commission Districts)

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### **SUMMARY**

The Human Services Agency (HSA) seeks approval to enter into the Child Welfare Collaboration Agreement first amendment with Casey Family Programs in the amount of \$35,000; no county match required. The funding will be utilized to facilitate family reunification and permanency for children and reduce foster care reentries.

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

### **PREVIOUS ACTION**

On February 27, 2018 in item 9.J.1, the Board authorized acceptance of \$35,000 in private funds, through Casey Family Programs, to facilitate family reunification and permanency for children and reduce foster care reentries through December 31, 2018.

### **BACKGROUND**

Retroactive approval is requested as the Human Services Agency received the Amendment from Casey Family Programs on January 29, 2019.

HSA has collaborated with Casey Family Programs for a number of years in an effort to improve outcomes for children in foster care. The Department has initiated a variety of efforts to reduce the number of children entering into our foster care system and to work aggressively toward reunification with parents.

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

The Agency embraces the Quality Parenting Initiative (QPI) which is an approach to strengthening foster care, including kinship care, using branding and marketing principles. It is a process designed to help develop new strategies and practices to ensure that the foster or relative family caring for the child provides loving, committed, skilled care that the child needs, while working effectively with the system to reach the child's long term goals. Other sites that have implemented QPI report measurable improvement in outcomes such as reduced unplanned placement changes, reduced use of group care, reduce numbers of sibling separations, and more successful improvements in reunification. Internal and external stakeholders are included in the "branding process" through a series of meetings to identify mutually agreed upon expectations for caregivers. In addition to the recruitment and retention strategies offered by QPI is the development of web-based training to foster and relative caregivers. Florida has a model QPI program and has developed a site that provides live web-based training to foster parents.

### **GRANT AWARD SUMMARY**

**Project/Program Name:** Casey Family Programs Child Welfare Collaboration

**Scope of the Project:** Promote permanency planning for children in care including older children and children that have been in care for a long period of time. The emphasis is expedited planning by supporting concurrent permanency options and targeted exit programs. Promote practices associated with shared decision making collaborations to produce sustainable family-centered permanency planning for children.

**Benefit to Washoe County Residents:** Children in Washoe County entering the foster care system will find permanency quicker than in the past through the changes identified, thus reducing costs of long term foster care.

**On-Going Program Support:** Casey Family Programs does not support the costs of ongoing programs.

**Award Amount:** \$35,000; no indirect

**Grant Period:** January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019

**Funding Source:** Casey Family Programs

**Pass Through Entity:** N/A

**CFDA Number:** N/A

**Grant ID Number:** CFP# FY18-0158.01

**Match Amount and Type:** N/A

**Sub-Awards and Contracts:** None

**FISCAL IMPACT**

Should the board accept this grant award and approve these amendments, the Human Services Agency's FY19 adopted budget will be amended as follows:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount of Increase/(Decrease)</u>
IO 20453 - 484195	Non-Governmental Grants	\$ 35,000
<b>Total Revenue</b>		<b>\$ 35,000</b>
IO 20453 -701130	Pooled Positions	\$ 25,000
-710508	Telephone Land Lines	\$ 500
-710500	Other Expense	\$ 7,500
-711508	Computer – Non Capital	\$ 1,000
-711504	Equipment – Non Capital	\$ 1,000
<b>Total Expenditures</b>		<b>\$ 35,000</b>

**RECOMMENDATION**

Recommendation to approve First Amendment to Subaward from Casey Family Programs, in the amount of [\$35,000; no County match] retroactive from January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019 to facilitate family reunification and permanency for children and reduce foster care reentries; retroactively authorize the Director of Human Services Agency to execute grant award documents; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments.

**POSSIBLE MOTION**

Should the Board of County Commissioners agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: "Move to approve First Amendment to Subaward from Casey Family Programs, in the amount of [\$35,000; no County match] retroactive from January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019 to facilitate family reunification and permanency for children and reduce foster care reentries; retroactively authorize the Director of Human Services Agency to execute grant award documents; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments."