



WASHOE COUNTY

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: September 24, 2019

DATE: Friday, September 20, 2019

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Andrea Tavener, Development Officer, Library
775-327-8360, atavener@washoecounty.us

THROUGH: Jeff Scott, Library Director

SUBJECT: Recommendation to approve a Library Services and Technology Act Grant in Aid award through the State Library, Archives and Public Records, Department of Administration from the State of Nevada in the amount of [\$10,000.00, no local match required] for a retroactive term of July 17, 2019 through June 30, 2020, direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments and authorize the Director to sign the grant award document. (All Commission Districts.)

SUMMARY

The Library System is requesting Board's approval of Library Services and Technology Act Grant in Aid award through the State Library, Archives and Public Records, Department of Administration from the State of Nevada in the amount of [\$10,000.00, no local match required] for a retroactive term of July 17, 2019 through June 30, 2020, direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments and authorize the Director to sign the grant award document.

County Priority/Goal supported by this item: Stewardship of our community

PREVIOUS ACTION

No previous action

BACKGROUND

Washoe County Library System (WCLS) will implement Stay and Play activities at 8 library locations by purchasing early literacy materials and manipulatives materials. Currently, less than half of Washoe County children can read at grade level by the third grade.

WCLS will incorporate periods of both objective (or exploratory) play for ages 0-2 and pretend (imaginative or dramatic) play into our daily early literacy library programming because of the direct correlation between play and early literacy skills. The target age group for children for WCLS Stay and Play constructive Play is primarily ages 3-5,

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though certain brick and construction sets. This program increases our Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) educational programming.

WCLS will emphasize the importance of constructive play, and its effect on early childhood literacy skills and help improve children's future success in reading and writing. Play is vital for early learning, and it is the way young children learn. WCLS will provide Stay and Play activities after the daily Toddler/Story Times offered at 8 of the library locations, including three urban and five suburban WCLS branches. Because block play is so important for children from a young age, WCLS will be able to engage children in constructive play during programming scheduled for some of our youngest patrons. Skills and abilities developed through block play are essential for success in reading and writing.

This award request is retroactive, as the approval letter was received in late July, and this item was placed on the soonest available BCC agenda.

GRANT AWARD SUMMARY

Project/Program Name: Toddler Stay and Play State Grant-In-Aid (SGIA) Funds

Scope of the Project: These funds are non-competitive monies used to supplement program budgets for all public libraries throughout the state of Nevada. The \$10,000.00 awarded to the WCLS will be used to purchase new early literacy manipulatives for 8 public libraries in the system..

Benefit to Washoe County Residents: As part of the the Library System's Strategic Planning process, early literacy was identified as a major initiative in order to increase the number of children who are school ready and can read at grade level. This funding will help WCLS provide responsive learning environments for Nevada residents, and specifically families and young children. WCLS is committed to taking a lead role in expanding the importance of constructive play and the role in early literacy programming. These funds help the library fulfill that responsibility.

On-Going Program Support: Grant funds will not be used to support costs of ongoing programs.

Award Amount: \$10,000.00

Grant Period: July 17, 2019 – June 30, 2020

Funding Source: Federal - Institute of Museum and Library Services

Pass Through Entity: State of Nevada

CFDA Number: 45.310

Grant ID Number: 2019-08

Match Amount and Type: None.

Sub-Awards and Contracts: N/A

FISCAL IMPACT

Should the board accept this grant award and approve these amendments, the FY20 adopted budget will be increased by \$10,000.00 in both revenues and expenditures in the following accounts:

| Cost Object | G/L Account | Amount |
|----------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| 11607 - 431100 | Federal Grant-Revenue | \$10,000.00 |
| 11607 - 710300 | Operating Supplies | \$10,000.00 |

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners approve a Library Services and Technology Act Grant in Aid award through the State Library, Archives and Public Records, Department of Administration from the State of Nevada in the amount of [\$10,000.00, no local match required] for a retroactive term of July 17, 2019 through June 30, 2020, direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments and authorize the Director to sign the grant award document.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: "Move to approve a Library Services and Technology Act Grant in Aid award through the State Library, Archives and Public Records, Department of Administration from the State of Nevada in the amount of [\$10,000.00, no local match required] for a retroactive term of July 17, 2019 through June 30, 2020, direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments and authorize the Director to sign the grant award document.