



WASHOE COUNTY

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: September 24, 2019

DATE: September 4, 2019

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Amber Howell, Director, Human Services Agency
775-785-8600, ahowell@washoecounty.us

THROUGH: Kate Thomas, Assistant County Manager

SUBJECT: Recommendation to accept a Federal Title IV-E Subgrant award from the State of Nevada, Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child and Family Services in the amount of [\$18,908,244; \$11,063,178 county match] for Washoe County Child Welfare Services retroactive July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020; authorize the Director of the Human Services Agency to execute the Resolution for sub-grant award and related documents; authorize a Subgrant Agreement between Washoe County and the Washoe County School District to pass through Title IV-E federal funds to reimburse for actual expenses incurred to provide out of zone transportation for children in foster care allowed under Title IV-E of the Social Security Act which is estimated to be an annual cost of [\$300,000]; and approve the Resolution necessary for same. (All Commission Districts)

SUMMARY

Recommendation to accept a Federal Title IV-E Subgrant award from the State of Nevada, Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child and Family Services in the amount of [\$18,908,244; \$11,063,178 county match] for Washoe County Child Welfare Services retroactive July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020; authorize the Director of the Human Services Agency to execute the Resolution for sub-grant award and related documents; authorize a Subgrant Agreement between Washoe County and the Washoe County School District to pass through Title IV-E federal funds to reimburse for actual expenses incurred to provide out of zone transportation for children in foster care allowed under Title IV-E of the Social Security Act which is estimated to be an annual cost of [\$300,000]; and approve the Resolution necessary for same.

Strategic Objective supported by this item: Safe, secure and healthy communities.

PREVIOUS ACTION

On January 8, 2019 item #23, the Board of County Commissioners approved the Department's request to accept \$17,143,440 as a Title IV-E Subgrant award from the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child and Family Services retroactively from July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2020.

AGENDA ITEM # _____

On February 4, 2019, the Board of County Commissioners approved the Department's request to approve a Subaward Agreement between Washoe County and the Washoe County School District to pass-through Title IV-E Federal funds in the amount of \$450,000 for a retroactive period from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019.

BACKGROUND

Retroactive approval is requested due to the State of Nevada, Department of Health and Human Services issuing a Notice of Subgrant Award (NOSA) on August 28, 2019.

Historically, the State has not issued NOSA for Title IV-E funding, with the FY2019 subaward being the first.

Title IV-E of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. §§ 671-679b) is an important funding stream for foster care costs. It provides for federal reimbursement for a portion of the maintenance and administrative costs of foster care for children who meet specified federal eligibility requirements. The federal funds help offset the State and local costs of providing foster care to children.

Title IV-E of the Social Security Act provides federal funds to provide foster care, transitional independent living programs for children, guardianship assistance, and adoption assistance for children with special needs.

Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) effective December 10, 2015 requires formal collaboration between Child Welfare agencies and School Districts to ensure the needs of children in foster care are met.

Pursuant to ESSA, WCHSA will utilize Title IV-E funds (CFDA number 93.658) as available and appropriate for the partial reimbursement of WCSD Transportation Department expenses to maintain foster students in their out of zone enrollments. Title IV-E funds are available to cover out of zone transportation costs for foster children who meet Title IV-E eligibility criteria. The Federal funds requested will be 50% of the eligible costs as submitted by WCSD. The offsetting 50% must be "matching" funds in the WCSD budget that are not federal funds or utilized as matching funds for any other funding source. The amount to be reimbursed shall be based on actual costs reported by WCSD to WCHSA and corresponding funds received by WCHSA. WCHSA shall absorb all administrative costs incurred through the processing of Title IV-E reimbursements to WCSD.

The actual reimbursement amount will be based on the calculation of prior quarter eligible participants, the corresponding Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) and the percentage of students who are eligible for support under Title IV-E funds in the claiming quarter.

GRANT AWARD SUMMARY

Project/Program Name: Washoe County Child Welfare

Scope of the Project: Adoption, Foster Care and Guardianship administration and placement costs.

Benefit to Washoe County Residents: Funds will be utilized to support costs associated with children in the Washoe County child welfare system.

On-Going Program Support: N/A

Award Amount: \$ 6,398,552 Title IV-E Adoption
\$12,509,692 Title IV-E Foster Care
\$18,908,244 (**\$18,908,244 direct/\$0 Indirect**)

Grant Period: July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020

Funding Source: Department of Health and Human Services

Pass Through Entity: State of Nevada
Division of Child and Family Services

CFDA Number: 93.659 - Title IV-E Adoption
93.658 - Title IV-E Foster Care

Grant ID Number: 314113-20-001

Match Amount and Type: \$11,063,178

Sub-Awards and Contracts: The Agency will contract for professional services following the County's competitive bid process, and federal grant procurement guidelines as defined in 200 CFR.

FISCAL IMPACT

Should the board accept this grant award, no adjustments will be necessary to the Human Services Agency's FY20 adopted budget. Budget authority was approved as part of the FY20 annual budget process in the following Revenue Only Internal Orders:

IO-11385-431100 Federal Grants
IO-11386-431100 Federal Grants
IO-11370-431100 Federal Grants
IO-11371-431100 Federal Grants

Expenditures for this award are tracked in cost centers and general ledger accounts identified in the approved Washoe County Department of Social Services Cost Allocation Plan (CAPs) dated July 1, 2017 and subsequent approved CAPs should the CAP be approved by the appropriate State and Federal Agencies.

Should the Board approve the Subgrant Award issued to Washoe County School District there will be no additional fiscal impact to the Human Services Agency's FY20 adopted budget as there is sufficient authority in Internal Order 11385 (Title IV-E Foster Care Admin) and GL#710119 (Subrecipient Payments).

County match is provided by State block grant funding in IO 11391. Expenditures for the match are tracked in cost centers and general ledger accounts identified in the approved Washoe County Department of Social Services Cost Allocation Plan (CAPs) dated July 1, 2017 and subsequent approved CAPs should the CAP be approved by the appropriate State and Federal Agencies.

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation to accept a Federal Title IV-E Subgrant award from the State of Nevada, Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child and Family Services in the amount of [\$18,908,244; \$11,063,178 county match] for Washoe County Child Welfare Services retroactive July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020; authorize the Director of the Human Services Agency to execute the Resolution for sub-grant award and related documents; authorize a Subgrant Agreement between Washoe County and the Washoe County School District to pass through Title IV-E federal funds to reimburse for actual expenses incurred to provide out of zone transportation for children in foster care allowed under Title IV-E of the Social Security Act which is estimated to be an annual cost of [\$300,000]; and approve the Resolution necessary for same.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with the staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: "Move to accept a Federal Title IV-E Subgrant award from the State of Nevada, Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child and Family Services in the amount of [\$18,908,244; \$11,063,178 county match] for Washoe County Child Welfare Services retroactive July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020; authorize the Director of the Human Services Agency to execute the Resolution for sub-grant award and related documents; authorize a Subgrant Agreement between Washoe County and the Washoe County School District to pass through Title IV-E federal funds to reimburse for actual expenses incurred to provide out of zone transportation for children in foster care allowed under Title IV-E of the Social Security Act which is estimated to be an annual cost of [\$300,000]; and approve the Resolution necessary for same."