



WASHOE COUNTY

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: July 20, 2021

DATE: July 1, 2021

TO: Board of County Commissioners

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

THROUGH: Kate Thomas, Assistant County Manager

SUBJECT: Recommendation to accept a FY21 Children's Justice Act (CJA) subgrant award from the State of Nevada Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) in the amount of [\$2,500; no county match] retroactive from May 1, 2021 to September 30, 2021 to support printing and distribution of The Child Welfare Court Process Guide for Families Handbook and Quick Guide; authorize the Director of the Human Services Agency to retroactively execute the grant award; and direct the Comptroller's office to make the necessary budget amendments. (All Commission Districts)

SUMMARY

The Washoe Board of County Commissioners must accept grant awards. The Agency recommends acceptance of a FY21 Children's Justice Act subgrant award from the State of Nevada Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) in the amount of [\$2,500; no county match] retroactive from May 1, 2021 to September 30, 2021, to support printing and distribution of The Child Welfare Court Process Guide for Families Handbook and Quick Guide.

Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item: Safe, Secure and Healthy Communities

PREVIOUS ACTION

On August 31, 2020, the Board of County Commissioners accepted item 5.G.2, the Department's request to accept Children's Justice Act funds for July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

On August 27, 2019, the Board of County Commissioners accepted item 7.K.2, the Department's request to accept Children's Criminal Justice Act funds for July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020.

AGENDA ITEM # _____

On September 25, 2018, the Board of County Commissioners accepted item 6.K.4, the Department's request to accept Children's Criminal Justice Act funds for July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019.

On September 27, 2016, the Board of County Commissioners accepted item 8.C, the Department's request to accept Children's Criminal Justice Act funds for July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017.

BACKGROUND

The State of Nevada Division of Child and Family Services awards federal Children's Justice Act (CJA) funding to assist qualifying agencies in developing, establishing, and operating programs designed to improve the assessment and investigation of suspected child abuse and neglect cases including child sexual abuse and neglect-related fatalities; the investigation of cases of suspected child abuse and neglect, including child sexual abuse and exploitation; and, the assessment and investigation of cases involving children with disabilities or serious health-related problems who are suspected victims of child abuse or neglect.

As part of the Program Improvement Plan (PIP) for child welfare, a court process for families' guide has been developed. The Child Welfare Court Process Guide for Families Handbook and a Quick Guide provides parents with access to written educational materials explaining the dependency court process, timeframes and clarifying expectations for parents and families. This guide aims to improve families' involvement in the court hearing process for families. The purpose of the subgrant award is to aid in the distribution of the guide and increase knowledge of parents in understanding the laws that govern legal child welfare cases.

The Agency received the Notice of Subaward for the subgrant on May 27, 2021; therefore, the request to accept this grant is retroactive.

GRANT AWARD SUMMARY

Project/Program Name: FY21 CJA Court Process Handbook

Scope of the Project: To print and distribute of The Child Welfare Court Process Guide for Families Handbook and Quick Guide.

Benefit to Washoe County Residents: The benefit will be families' increased understanding and involvement in the court hearing process when they are working with Child Protective Services.

On-Going Program Support: This is a one-time only grant award that will enhance ongoing services.

Award Amount: \$2,500 (\$2,500 direct/\$0 indirect)

Grant Period: May 1, 2021 to September 30, 2021

Funding Source: Administration for Children & Families
Children's Justice Act

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

CFDA Number: 93.643

Grant ID Number: 93643-18-007

Match Amount and Type: n/a

Sub-Awards and Contracts: The Agency will follow the County and federal grant procurement guidelines for any subawards and contracts.

FISCAL IMPACT

Should the board accept this grant, the FY22 Human Services Agency, Child Protective Services Fund (F228) adopted budget will be increased by \$2,500 in both revenues and expenditures in the following accounts:

<u>Account Number</u>		<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount of Increase/(Decrease)</u>
IO 11845	- 431100	Federal Grants	\$ 2,500.00
		Total Revenue	\$ 2,500.00
IO 11845	- 710300	Operating Supplies	\$ 2,500.00
		Total Expenditures	\$ 2,500.00

Indirect costs are not allowable on this grant award as no salary or wages are included in the grant budget.

This grant does not require a match.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners accept a FY21 Children's Justice Act (CJA) subgrant award from the State of Nevada Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) in the amount of [\$2,500; no county match] retroactive from May 1, 2021 to September 30, 2021 to support printing and distribution of The Child Welfare Court Process Guide for Families Handbook and Quick Guide; authorize the Director of the Human Services Agency to retroactively execute the grant 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 accept a FY21 Children's Justice Act (CJA) subgrant award from the State of Nevada

Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) in the amount of [\$2,500; no county match] retroactive from May 1, 2021 to September 30, 2021 to support printing and distribution of The Child Welfare Court Process Guide for Families Handbook and Quick Guide; authorize the Director of the Human Services Agency to retroactively execute the grant award; and direct the Comptroller's office to make the necessary budget amendments."