WASHOE COUNTY

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STAFF REPORT
BOARD MEETING DATE: *November 28, 2023*

DATE: October 31, 2023

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Ryan Gustafson, Interim Director, Human Services Agency
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THROUGH: Kate Thomas, Assistant County Manager

SUBJECT: Recommendation to retroactively accept Subaward Amendment #5 to the Family First Prevention Services Act, Family First Transition Act grant from the State of Nevada, Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) that increase the subaward by [$69,858.49] to [$708,162.00; no county match] and extends the grant period from September 30, 2023 to September 30, 2024; authorize the Interim 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

Recommendation to retroactively accept Subaward Amendment #5 to the Family First Prevention Services Act, Family First Transition Act grant from the State of Nevada, Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) that increase the subaward by [$69,858.49] to [$708,162.00; no county match] and extends the grant period from September 30, 2023 to September 30, 2024; authorize the Interim Director of the Human Services Agency to retroactively execute the grant award; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments.

The Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA), Family First Transition Act supports implementation of evidence-based practices to promote the well-being of children, youth, and families and prevent unnecessary foster care placements. The request to accept Subaward Amendment #5 will increase the funding by $69,858.49, to the full amount awarded by DCFS September 16, 2020, and will support year four of a five-year grant subaward.

Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item: Vulnerable Populations

PREVIOUS ACTION

On January 11, 2022, the Board of County Commissioners approved item #12, the Department's request to accept a FFY22 Family First Prevention Services Act, Family

AGENDA ITEM # _____

First Transition Act Subaward Amendment #2 from the State of Nevada, Division of Child and Family Services to increase the subaward by $406,775.51 to a total amount of $638,351.51; no county match retroactively and extended the grant period from October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2022 to support services that prevent children entering the child welfare system as well as improve outcomes for children and families in the child welfare system affected by trauma.

On March 23, 2021, the Board of County Commissioners approved item #15, the Department's request to accept a FFY21 Family First Prevention Services Act, Family First Transition Act subaward from the State of Nevada, Division of Child and Family Services in the amount of $231,525; no county match retroactive from October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021 to provide services that prevent children entering the child welfare system as well as improve outcomes for children and families in the child welfare system affected by trauma.

BACKGROUND

The Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) was enacted on February 9, 2018 to amend sections of Title IV-B and Title IV-E of the Social Security Act. The FFPSA supports the use of evidence-based practices to promote the well-being of children, youth, and families and to maintain children with their birth families. For children who enter foster care, the law encourages use of family-based care and places limits on the availability of Title IV-E foster care funding for congregate care placements unless they meet specific requirements.

To support implementation of FFPSA and further its family first goals, Congress passed the Family First Transition Act on December 20, 2019. Among other provisions, the Act authorized $500,000,000 for federal FFPSA Transition Grants. WCHSA was approved a five-year FFPSA Transition Grant for the period of October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2025 for a total subaward amount of $708,162.00.

The first year of funding for this subaward was approved at $231,525.00 for the period of October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021. Subaward Amendment #2 added an additional $406,778.51 to the budget for year two and extended the grant period through September 30, 2022. Year three of the subaward grant, FFY23, did not include additional funding from the Division of Child and Family Services. Year four of the subaward grant will extend the grant period to September 30, 2024 and add an additional $69,858.49 to fully allocate the total subaward amount of $708,162.00. The subaward grant will continue supporting evidence-based practices that promote the well-being of children, youth, and families and improve outcomes for children and families.

WCHSA received DCFS the executed Subaward Amendment #5 October 13, 2023 with an effective date of October 1, 2020; therefore, the request is to retroactively accept this award amendment.

GRANT AWARD SUMMARY

Project/Program Name: Promoting Safe and Stable Families Program, Title IV-B, Subpart 2: Families First Prevention Services Act

Family First Transition Act Grant

Scope of the Project: This grant will enable WCHSA to closely align with the objectives and strategies of the Family First Prevention Services Act, Family First Transition Act by: (1) integrating new evidence-based models to support children and families; (2) enhancing internal systems and integrating new training models for staff; (3) partner with UNR Early Head Start to provide parent training and support for expectant parents and parents of young children; and (4) increasing evidence-based practices available for families as required by the Act.

Benefit to Washoe County Residents: To support children and families engaged with child welfare in multiple ways. (1) Provide additional prevention services for families in crisis to avoid removal of children from their birth families as often as possible. Research continues to show that trauma is reduced for most families, and children see more successful outcomes when they can remain with their birth family. (2) When removal from the home is deemed necessary, promote use of home-based foster care rather than group/congregate homes. (3) Increased and integrated evidence-based practices in internal systems for serving children and families.

On-Going Program Support: The FFPSA Transition Subaward Amendment represents year four of the five-year award totaling $708,162.00 to assist with local level transition expenses to comply with updated FFPSA regulations and standards. It is anticipated that the multi-year award will fund all related transition expenses, and ongoing program support will not be necessary.

Award Amount:	$231,525.00	Original Award (no indirect)
	$406,778.51	Amendment #2 Increase (no indirect)
	$ 69,858.49	Amendment #5 Increase (no indirect)
	$708,162.00	Total Five-Year Award

Grant Period: October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2024

Funding Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Administration on Children, Youth and Families

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

Assistance Listing #/CFDA: 93.556

Grant ID Number: 93556-20-303

Match Amount and Type: Match is not required

Sub-Awards and Contracts: Multiple contracts will be funded through this award. All contracts will follow the County's competitive bid process and Federal grant procurement guidelines as defined in 2 CFR 200 – Uniform Guidance.

FISCAL IMPACT

Should the board accept this grant award and approve these amendments, the FY24, Human Services Agency's Child Protective Services Fund (228) adopted budget will be increased by $69,858.49 in both revenues and expenditures in the following accounts:

Account Number		Description	Amount of Increase/(Decrease)	
IO 11817	-431110	Federal Grants	$	69,858.49
		Total Revenue	**$**	**69,858.49**
IO 11817	-710100	Professional Services	$	69,858.49
		Total Expenditures	**$**	**69,858.49**

The grant has no county match requirement and there are no indirect costs included in the grant budget.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners accept Subaward Amendment #5 to the Family First Prevention Services Act, Family First Transition Act grant from the State of Nevada, Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) that increases the award amount to [$708,162.00; no county match] and extends the grant period to September 30, 2024; authorize the Interim 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 retroactively accept Subaward Amendment #5 to the Family First Prevention Services Act, Family First Transition Act grant from the State of Nevada, Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) that increase the subaward by [$69,858.49] to [$708,162.00; no county match] and extends the grant period from September 30, 2023 to September 30, 2024; authorize the Interim Director of the Human Services Agency to retroactively execute the grant award; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments."*