



# WASHOE COUNTY

Integrity Communication Service  
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## STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: *January 20, 2026*

**DATE:** December 4, 2025  
**TO:** Board of County Commissioners  
**FROM:** Ryan Gustafson, Director, Human Services Agency  
(775)785-8600, [RGustafson@washoecounty.gov](mailto:RGustafson@washoecounty.gov)  
**THROUGH:** Kate Thomas, 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 [\$19,979,596.00; \$9,915,705.00 county match] for Washoe County Child Welfare Services retroactive from July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026; authorize the Director of the Human Services Agency to retroactively execute the 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 [\$450,000.00], retroactive from July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026; direct Finance to make the necessary budget amendments; and authorize the Purchasing and Contracts Manager to sign the agreement between Washoe County and the Washoe County School District and approve the Resolution (R26-0000008) necessary for same. (All Commission Districts.)

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### **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 [\$19,979,596.00; \$9,915,705.00 county match] for Washoe County Child Welfare Services retroactive from July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026; authorize the Director of the Human Services Agency to retroactively execute the 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 [\$450,000.00] retroactive from July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026; direct Finance to make the necessary budget amendments; and authorize the Purchasing and Contracts Manager to sign the agreement between Washoe County and the Washoe County School District and approve the Resolution (R26-0000008) necessary for same.

**Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item:** Vulnerable Populations

**PREVIOUS ACTION**

On November 19, 2024, the Board of County Commissioners approved item #22 the Agency's request 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 [\$19,329,378.00; \$9,048,580 county match] for Washoe County Child Welfare Services retroactive from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. The Board of County Commissioners also approved a Subgrant Agreement between Washoe County and the Washoe County School District to pass-through Title IV-E Federal funds in the estimated amount of \$450,000.00 retroactive from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.

On October 17, 2023, the Board of County Commissioners approved the Agency's request 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 [\$19,547,034.00; \$9,422,012.00 county match] for Washoe County Child Welfare Services retroactive from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. The Board of County Commissioners also approved a Subgrant Agreement between Washoe County and the Washoe County School District to pass-through Title IV-E Federal funds in the estimated amount of \$450,000.00 retroactive from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

On October 11, 2022, the Board of County Commissioners approved the Agency's request 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 \$20,724,454.00; \$9,544,764.00 county match for Washoe County Child Welfare Services retroactive from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. The Board of County Commissioners also approved a Subgrant Agreement between Washoe County and the Washoe County School District to pass-through Title IV-E Federal funds in the estimated amount of \$450,000.00 retroactive from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

On January 11, 2022, the Board of County Commissioners approved the Agency's request to accept \$20,446,299.00; \$9,442,687.00 county match for Washoe County Child Welfare Services retroactively from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. The Board of County Commissioners also approved a Subaward Agreement between Washoe County and the Washoe County School District to pass-through Title IV-E Federal funds in the estimated amount of \$450,000.00 retroactive from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022.

On January 12, 2021, the Board of County Commissioners approved the Agency's request to accept \$20,446,299.00; \$9,442,687.00 county match as a Title IV-E Subgrant award from the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child and Family Services retroactive from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. The Board of County Commissioners also approved a Subaward Agreement between Washoe County and the Washoe County School District to pass-through Title IV-E Federal funds in the estimated amount of \$450,000.00 retroactive from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

On September 24, 2019, the Board of County Commissioners approved the Agency's request to accept \$18,908,244.00; \$11,063,178.00 county match as a Title IV-E Subgrant award from the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child and Family Services retroactive from July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. The Board of County Commissioners also approved a Subaward Agreement between Washoe County and the Washoe County School District to pass-through Title IV-E Federal funds in the estimated amount of \$300,000.00 retroactive from July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020.

On February 4, 2019, the Board of County Commissioners approved the Agency'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 \$450,000.00 retroactive from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019.

On January 8, 2019, the Board of County Commissioners approved the Agency's request to accept \$17,143,440.00 as a Title IV-E Subgrant award from the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child and Family Services retroactive from July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019.

## **BACKGROUND**

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 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 for 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.

Retroactive approval is requested due to the State of Nevada, Department of Health and Human Services issuing a Notice of Subgrant Award (NOSA) on November 6, 2025.

### **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:** Washoe County receives these funds annually in support of the Child Welfare System.

<b>Award Amount:</b>	\$11,300,928.00	Title IV-E Foster Care
	\$ 8,589,681.00	Title IV-E Adoption
	<u>\$ 88,987.00</u>	Title IV-E Guardianship
	\$19,979,596.00	(\$19,329,378.00 direct/\$0 indirect)

**Grant Period:** July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026

**Funding Source:** Department of Health and Human Services

**Pass Through Entity:** State of Nevada  
Division of Health and Human Services

**Assistance Listing #/CFDA:** 93.658 - Title IV-E Foster Care  
93.659 - Title IV-E Adoption  
93.090 - Title IV-E Guardianship

**Grant ID Number:** 314113-26-001

**Match Amount and Type:** \$9,915,705

**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 FY26 adopted budget. Budget authority was approved as part of the FY26 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 March 25, 2025, 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 FY26 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 March 25, 2025, and subsequent approved CAPs should the CAP be approved by the appropriate State and Federal Agencies.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners 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 [\$19,979,596.00; \$9,915,705.00 county match] for Washoe County Child Welfare Services retroactive from July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026; authorize the Director of the Human Services Agency to retroactively execute the 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 [\$450,000.00] retroactive from July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026; direct Finance to make the necessary budget amendments; and authorize the Purchasing and Contracts Manager to sign the agreement between Washoe County and the Washoe County School District and approve the Resolution (R26-0000008) necessary for same.

### **POSSIBLE MOTION**

Should the Board agree with 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 [\$19,979,596.00; \$9,915,705.00 county match] for Washoe County Child Welfare Services retroactive from July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026; authorize the Director of the Human Services Agency to retroactively execute the 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 [\$450,000.00] retroactive from July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026; direct Finance to make the necessary budget amendments; and authorize the Purchasing and Contracts Manager to sign the agreement between Washoe County and the Washoe County School District and approve the Resolution (R26-0000008) necessary for same."*

*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 [\$450,000.00] retroactive from July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026; direct Finance to make the necessary budget amendments; and authorize the Purchasing and Contracts Manager to sign the agreement between Washoe County and the Washoe County School District and approve the Resolution (R26-0000008) necessary for same.”*