WASHOE COUNTY

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: March 10, 2026

DATE: December 23, 2025

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Kendra A. Materasso, Family Services Manager
Second Judicial District Court – 775-328-3854
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THROUGH: Alicia Lerud, District Court Administrator and Clerk of Court

SUBJECT: Recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners to retroactively acknowledge a grant of [$20,000, no County match required], awarded to the Second Judicial District Court from the Lee F. Del Grande Foundation, for Family Peace Center operating expenses; and direct Finance to make the necessary budget amendments. District Court. (All Commission Districts.)

SUMMARY

The Second Judicial District Court has received $20,000 in grant funds from the Lee F. Del Grande Foundation to continue access to visitation services at the Family Peace Center (FPC) for court-involved families. Grant funds will be used to support supervised contact between children and parents when visitation rights have been interrupted or when visitation is unsafe after separation or divorce. Courts struggle with just remedies to visitation disputes, supporting the integrity of the child's time with each parent and fostering a child's relationship with siblings and extended family. These are key reasons supervised visitation programs are needed. This grant covers operating costs of the Family Peace Center such as funding for two Washoe County Sheriff's Office ("WCSO") Deputies to be on site at the Family Peace Center during all non-court hours when visitation and exchange services are being provided. This ensures a safe environment, particularly when there are concerns about domestic violence, substance abuse, or a parent's mental health. By making safe contact possible between a child and non-custodial parent during the pendency of legal proceedings, important family relationships are supported and maintained.

Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item:

County Priority supported by this item: Vulnerable Populations

AGENDA ITEM # _____

PREVIOUS ACTION

On March 22, 2016, the Board of County Commissioners acknowledged item 6C, the Second Judicial District Court's request to accept $25,000, from the Lee F. Del Grande Foundation, to support the Family Peace Center, retroactive to November 13, 2015, through November 12, 2016.

On August 8, 2017, the Board of County Commissioners acknowledged item 6G (2)m the Second Judicial District Court's request to accept $30,000, from the Lee F. Del Grande Foundation, to support the Family Peace Center, retroactive to July 1, 2017, through June 30, 2018.

On January 23, 2018, the Board of County Commissioners acknowledged item 6.F.1, the Second Judicial District Court's request to accept $10,000, from the Lee F. Del Grande Foundation, to support the Family Peace Center, retroactive to December 1, 2017, through June 30, 2018.

On August 28, 2018, the Board of County Commissioners acknowledged item 10.I.1, the Second Judicial District Court's request to accept $20,000, from the Lee F. Del Grande Foundation, to support the Family Peace Center, retroactive to May 11, 2018, through October 1, 2018.

On January 8, 2019, the Board of County Commissioners acknowledged item 8.C.2, the Second Judicial District Court's request to accept $20,000, from the Lee F. Del Grande Foundation, to support the Family Peace Center, retroactive to January 1, 2019, through May 31, 2019.

On July 23, 2019, the Board of County Commissioners acknowledged item 5.G.1, the Second Judicial District Court's request to accept $20,000, from the Lee F. Del Grande Foundation, to support the Family Peace Center, retroactive to June 1, 2019, through December 31, 2019.

On February 11, 2020, the Board of County commissioners acknowledged item 6C, the Second Judicial District Court's request to accept $20,000, from the Lee F. Del Grande Foundation, to support the Family Peace Center, retroactive to January 1, 202, through May 31, 2020.

On November 15, 2022, the Board of County Commissioners acknowledged item 9.D.2, the Second Judicial District Court's request to accept $81,000, from the Lee F. Del Grande Foundation, to support the Family Peace Center, retroactive to July 1, 2022.

On March 28, 2023, the Board of County Commissioners acknowledged item 7.D.1, the Second Judicial District Court's request to accept $20,000, from the Lee F. Del Grande Foundation, to support the Family Peace Center, retroactively to December 31, 2022.

On September 12, 2023, the Board of County Commissioners acknowledged item 6.D.4, the Second Judicial District Court's request to accept $20,000, from the Lee F. Del Grande Foundation, to support Family Peace Center operating expenses.

On May 21, 2024, the Board of County Commissioners acknowledged item 8.B.1, the Second Judicial District Court's request to accept $20,000, from the Lee F. Del Grande Foundation, to support Family Peace Center operating expenses.

On August 27, 2024, the Board of County Commissioners acknowledged item 8.D.6, the Second Judicial District Court's request to accept $20,000, from the Lee F. Del Grande Foundation, to support Family Peace Center operating expenses.

On March 11, 2025, the Board of County Commissioners acknowledged item 7.B.3, the Second Judicial District Court's request to accept $20,000, from the Lee F. Del Grande Foundation, to support Family Peace Center operating expenses.

On July 8, 2025, the Board of County Commissioners acknowledged item 7.E.1, the Second Judicial District Court's request to accept $20,000, from the Lee F. Del Grande Foundation, to support the Family Peace Center operating expenses.

BACKGROUND

The Second Judicial District Court has provided supervised visitation and exchange services for court-referred families since 1996. In 2003, Washoe County received funding through the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Violence Against Women, Safe Havens to provide visitation services for adult and child victims of domestic violence. The grant supported a stand-alone visitation center known as the Family Peace Center. The Safe Havens grant ended in 2006. Visitation and exchange services continued as the Family Peace Center with funding from the Second Judicial District Court, supplemented with grants and donations.

In July 2010, the Family Peace Center relocated to the courthouse due to the lack of funding for a building lease. The Family Peace Center operated in a small space on the second floor of the District Court where services were provided five days a week. It was imperative for the District Court to continue to provide these much-needed services to the community.

In June 2023, the Family Peace Center relocated to the 350 South Center Street building on the first floor. The new location provides visitation space, approximately two (2) times that of the space at the courthouse. The Center currently maintains visitation and exchange services five (5) days per week. The larger space allows for an increase in the number of families on each visitation track, when needed, and the Center can add Wednesday visitation tracks if capacity warrants.

The Family Peace Center operates visitation and exchange services as follows:

- Monday 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- Tuesday 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- Wednesday 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. (if needed / Judicial request)
- Thursday 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- Friday 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

This grant contributes to the funding of two WCSO Deputies to be on site at the Family Peace Center during all non-court hours when visitation services are being provided.

Providing safe access of children to parents they would not otherwise see is central to Family Peace Center services. In circumstances where abusive behavior has been part of the family fabric, ensuring participants feel physically and emotionally safe is a priority. Providing a safe environment for visitation and exchanges also protects the public, as these visits and exchanges would otherwise occur in an unsupervised public setting where the potential for violence exists. This grant ensures safeguards are in place to make sure a child's contact with a non-custodial parent is safe and appropriate.

FISCAL IMPACT

Should the Board acknowledge this grant, the Second Judicial District Court adopted FY2025/FY2026 budget will be increased by $20,000.00 in both revenues and expenditures charged directly to the following accounts:

Cost Object & Description	G/L Account & Description	Amount
IO#29006 Lee F. Del Grande – Family Peace Center	484195 – Non-Gov't Grant	$20,000.00
IO#29006 Lee F. Del Grande – Family Peace Center	701300 – Overtime	$20,000.00

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended for the Board of County Commissioners to retroactively acknowledge a grant of [$20,000, no County match required], awarded to the Second Judicial District Court from the Lee F. Del Grande Foundation, for Family Peace Center operating expenses; and direct Finance to make the necessary budget amendments. District Court.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with the Second Judicial District Court's recommendation, a possible motion would be: Recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners to retroactively acknowledge a grant of [$20,000, no County match required], awarded to the Second Judicial District Court from the Lee F. Del Grande Foundation, for Family Peace Center operating expenses; and direct Finance to make the necessary budget amendments. District Court.