



WASHOE COUNTY

Integrity Communication Service

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: *August 22, 2023*

DATE: Thursday, August 17, 2023

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Ryan Gustafson, Acting Director, Human Services Agency
(775) 785-8600, rgustafson@washoecounty.gov

THROUGH: Kate Thomas, Assistant County Manager

SUBJECT: Recommendation to authorize the implementation of the LifeSet Program by Human Services Agency's Independent Living Program. The LifeSet Program is an evidence-based model program designed to provide intensive clinical and individualized services to youth aging out of foster care, or recently aged-out of foster care, with the goal of achieving a successful transition to adulthood by:

1. Acceptance of a grant award for the implementation of LifeSet Program developed by the Youth Villages, Inc., a private foundation, in the amount of [\$1,288,783.00; \$2,836,528.00 county match] for a four (4) year award period retroactive from June 1, 2023, and through November 30, 2027;
2. Approval of the creation and funding of the following positions, one (1) FTE Human Services Supervisor (salary grade 17) and two (2) FTE Human Services Case Worker III (salary grade 15), salary grade implemented through the Korn Ferry class and compensation study, as reviewed and evaluated by the Job Evaluation Committee (JEC) effective August 22, 2023; with the recognition that if grant funding is reduced or eliminated, the position hours will be reduced and/or the position will be abolished accordingly unless additional funding is secured; and
3. Authorization of the Acting Director of Human Services Agency to execute the award and related documents; direction of the Human Resources Department to make the necessary staffing adjustments as evaluated by the Job Evaluation Committee and direction to the Comptroller's office to make the necessary budget amendments. (All Commission Districts.)

SUMMARY

Recommendation to authorize the implementation of the LifeSet Program by Human Services Agency's Independent Living Program. The LifeSet Program is an evidence-based model program designed to provide intensive clinical and individualized services to youth aging out of foster care, or recently aged-out of foster care, with the goal of achieving a successful transition to adulthood by:

AGENDA ITEM # _____

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Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item: Vulnerable Populations

PREVIOUS ACTION

There is no previous action associated with this item.

BACKGROUND

Youth Villages' mission is to help children, young adults, and their families find long-term success and has been in operation 35 years serving the most difficult to engage youth and families. LifeSet is an established service designed to help young people in and aging out of child welfare, juvenile justice, or children's mental health systems accomplish a good start on independent adulthood and achieve positive outcomes. The evidence-based model program outcomes include the domains of permanent relationships, employment and earnings, housing stability, mental and emotional health, economic well-being, reduced legal involvement, and education. The youth drive services through their input into their service plans and goal development. The LifeSet core areas of service include establishing positive relationships and connections, education, employment housing, independent living skills, physical and mental health, expectant and/or parenting if applicable, safety planning and crisis intervention, trauma-informed care, and continuous assessment and planning.

The Agency would like to implement the evidence based LifeSet Program in the Independent Living Program that provides youth aging or aged out of foster care with adequate support through an intensive, clinical, and individualized services that help youth achieve permanent relationships, employment and earnings, housing stability, mental and emotional health, economic well-being, reduced legal involvement, and education as they transition to adulthood successfully.

The program model includes a LifeSet Team of a Human Services Coordinator, Human Services Supervisor, three Human Services Caseworkers, and one Human Services Support Specialist to serve 32 to 36 youth on any given day. The duration of the program for each youth is six to 12 months. LifeSet is designed to address the needs of a broad spectrum of young people in diverse communities. The grant award funding supports 50% of program implementation and operation costs in year one and reduces the requested amount in subsequent years by 40% in year two, 25% in year three, and 10% in year four with year five fully supported by WCHSA. The intention for this program is to incorporate the model program as the structure for providing services for the youth aging or aged out of foster care services.

The two staff supported through the State of Nevada Division of Child and Family Services annual Chafee grant will serve on the LifeSet Team. Youth Villages approved their salaries and benefits to be used for the required match for the LifeSet grant award. The grant award includes the addition of three new positions in the Agency's Independent Living program. The positions are two Human Services Caseworker III and a Human Services Supervisor. Travel is included in the budget for mileage reimbursement for staff.

GRANT AWARD SUMMARY

Project/Program Name: Youth Villages LifeSet Program

Scope of the Project: Implement an evidenced-based model program to help youth aging out of foster care accomplish a successful transition to adulthood and achieve positive outcomes in education, a living wage, healthy relationships, and housing.

Benefit to Washoe County Residents: This program provides a structured and evidence-based program that supports services to youth in the foster care system successfully transition to adulthood and living independently and receive the adequate support necessary to succeed.

On-Going Program Support: The program will be integrated into the Independent Living Program.

Award Amount: \$1,288,783.00; \$372,756.00 indirect

Grant Period: June 1, 2023 – November 30, 2027

Funding Source: Youth Villages, Inc. Private Foundation

Pass Through Entity: N/A

Assistance Listing #/CFDA: N/A

Grant ID Number: N/A

Match Amount and Type: \$2,836,528.00

Sub-Awards and Contracts: The Agency will follow the County and Federal grant procurement guidelines for subawards and contracts. Youth Villages, Inc. is the identified contractor included in the grant award budget for startup fees and model implementation costs.

FISCAL IMPACT

Should the board accept this grant award and approve these amendments, the FY24 Children Services Fund (228) budget will be increased by \$522,760.00 for Year 1 of the grant award in both revenues and expenditures in the following accounts. No amendment is necessary for the indirect revenue.

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount of Increase/(Decrease)</u>
IO 29044	-484195 Non-Govt'l Grants	\$ 522,760.00
	Total Revenue	\$ 522,760.00
IO 29044	-701412 Salary Adjustments	\$ 280,471.00
	-705360 Benefit Adjustment	\$ 118,689.00
	-710100 Professional Fees	\$ 81,600.00
	-711210 Travel	\$ 2,500.00
	-710509 Seminars & Meetings	\$ 2,250.00
	-710300 Operating Supplies	\$ 31,250.00
	-710734 Residence Assistance	\$ 6,000.00
	Total Expenditures	\$ 522,760.00

Indirect costs in the amount of \$90,502.00 are included in the grant award at 10% of the total Year 1 grant award and included in the grant budget. Match will be captured in Internal Order 60967.

As this award funds personnel, if grant funding is reduced or eliminated, the position(s) hours will be reduced and/or the positions abolished accordingly, unless additional funding is secured.

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation to authorize the implementation of the LifeSet Program by Human Services Agency's Independent Living Program. The LifeSet Program is an evidence-based model program designed to provide intensive clinical and individualized services to youth aging out of foster care, or recently aged-out of foster care, with the goal of achieving a successful transition to adulthood by:

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POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: *"More to authorize the implementation of the LifeSet Program by Human Services Agency's Independent Living Program. The LifeSet Program is an evidence-based model program designed to provide intensive clinical and individualized services to youth aging out of foster care, or recently aged-out of foster care, with the goal of achieving a successful transition to adulthood by:*

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