

W.S.D.1.

Memorandum Date: March 23, 2011

Order Date: April 6, 2011

TO: Board of County Commissioners

DEPARTMENT: Lane County Department of Children and Families

PRESENTED BY: Alicia Hays, Department Director

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING THE SUBMITTAL AND, IF AWARDED, ACCEPTANCE OF A GRANT TO THE STATE OF OREGON IN THE AMOUNT UP TO \$900,000 PER YEAR FOR UP TO THREE YEARS FOR MATERNAL, INFANT, AND EARLY CHILDHOOD HOME VISITING PROGRAM SERVICES; AND DELEGATING AUTHORITY TO THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO SIGN GRANT AWARD DOCUMENTS AND APPROPRIATE FUNDS UP TO \$900,000 TO THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

I. MOTION

Move to approve submittal and, if awarded, acceptance of a grant to the State of Oregon in the amount up to \$900,000 per year over three years for Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program services.

II. AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

The State of Oregon through its State Home Visiting Steering Committee is seeking applications for funding Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program (MIECHV) services. This funding is through the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 which included a provision authorizing the creation of the MIECHV. MIECHV was designed to strengthen and improve the programs and activities carried out under Title V, improve coordination of services for at-risk communities, and identify and provide comprehensive services to improve outcomes for families who reside in at-risk communities. Lane County was identified as one of thirteen at-risk counties in Oregon through an extensive needs assessment and invited to propose plans to implement an evidenced based home visiting model for funding.

III. BACKGROUND/IMPLICATIONS OF ACTION

A. Board Action and Other History

Lane County has not previously applied for funding under the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting program.

B. Policy Issues

This grant application is in line with the County's policies and procedures as well as the purpose and objectives of the Department of Children and Families. If awarded, the department will administer the grant and subcontracts.

C. Board Goals

The supports and services encompassed by this funding opportunity address areas of need as defined in the updated Comprehensive Community Plan for Services to Children and Families, as approved by the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) on January 2, 2008(BO08-1-2-8). This plan identified three key areas of focus, including "reduce child maltreatment". The key strategy identified in this focus area is enhancement of evidence-based home visiting.

D. Financial and/or Resource Considerations

The grant budget will include funding for staff to carry out grant administration duties, including development of any contracts and/or intergovernmental agreements and submission of required fiscal and program reports.

E. Analysis

Awards under this grant will be made based on the agreement with the State of Oregon not to exceed a 36 month (three year) period. Our grant application will request funding of up to \$900,000.

The Lane County Commission on Children and Families identified three priorities in a community outreach effort in 2007 to update the Comprehensive Plan for Children and Families (SB555). These priorities included reducing child maltreatment for high risk families, increasing the quality of childcare, and a focus on transitional services for youth with moderate to severe mental health issues. The Early Childhood Planning Team, as an advisory group to the Commission on Children and Families, along with other collaborative partners identified home visiting as a strategy for reducing child maltreatment and infant mortality.

We seek this funding to: 1) Increase capacity in the community to use evidenced based home visiting to serve at risk populations described in the grant. 2) Develop a comprehensive, coordinated and culturally responsive cost effective home visiting system to help children and families achieve optimal physical, mental, and social well-being through partnerships, prevention and access 3) Make progress on meeting the legislatively mandated benchmarks which include maternal health, child health, child development and school readiness, prevention of child injuries and maltreatment, parenting skills, reduction in crime or domestic violence, improvement in family economic self-sufficiency, and improvement in the coordination and referrals for other community resources and supports.

At the time of this writing, staff are in the process of completing the application packet, and therefore it is not attached to the Board Order. The application must be submitted electronically by 12:00 pm Pacific Time on Monday, April 11, 2011.

The application will be available for review, in the Board of County Commissioners' office, by 1pm on Monday, April 11, 2011.

The grant award requested, up to \$900,000 per year for the period of three years, exceeds the County Administrator's delegated authority to sign. Therefore, this order requests the Board to delegate authority to the County Administrator to sign the application and, if successful, sign grant acceptance materials and allocate funds up to \$900,000 into Fund 265.

Administrative Policies and procedures questions for Grant Applications:

1. What is the match requirement, if any, and how is that to be covered for the duration of the grant?

There is no match requirement.

2. Will the grant require expenditures for Material and Services or capital not fully paid for by the grant?

No, all expenditures will be fully paid for by the grant.

3. Will the grant funds be fully expended before county funds need to be spent?

There are no county funds in the grant budget for this application.

4. How will the administrative work of the grant be covered if the grant funds don't cover it?

Administrative expenses will be covered by grant funds. As lead applicant, the Department of Children and Families will be responsible for contract administration. Other responsibilities of the fiscal agent include fiscal and program reporting.

5. Have grant stakeholders been informed of the grant sun-setting policy so there is no misunderstanding when the funding ends? Describe plan for service if funding does not continue.

The partners that are coming together to develop this grant obligations understand there is no guarantee for continued federal support beyond the 36-month period; we further understand there is no guarantee of non-federal support for the program. The collaborative partners agree that we will, as a partnership, seek to sustain efforts through capacity building as well as through collaborative resource development.

6. What accounting, auditing, and evaluation obligations are imposed by the grant

conditions?

Successful applicants under this funding program will be required to submit data showing progress towards meeting the federally mandated benchmarks. The data collection methods and reporting requirements will be determined by the State once the successful applicants have been identified. These requirements will be included in any subcontracts that DCF engages in.

7. How will the department cover the accounting, auditing, and evaluation obligations? How are the costs for these obligations covered, regardless whether they are in the department submitting the grant or a support service department? Does the department acknowledge that the county will need to cover these costs and it is an appropriate cost incurred by support service departments?

Accounting, auditing, and evaluation costs will be covered by the grant funds. DCF will fulfill auditing/accounting activities as required by the grant. As noted above, reporting requirements will be included in contractual work plans.

8. Are there any restrictions against applying the county full cost indirect charge?

The budget to be submitted will include charges intended to support administrative costs otherwise charged as indirect. Should the budgeted amount be inadequate, DCF will absorb the excess with other funding that allows for community mobilization and administrative activities.

9. Are there unique or unusual conditions that trigger additional county work effort or liability, i.e., maintenance of effort requirements or supplanting prohibitions or indemnity obligations?

This grant has a requirement against supplanting state or local funds. This requirement is not unique and exists with other grant agreements currently administered within Lane County.

10. Grants involving technology issues require Information Services department review and approval prior to submission to the Board to ensure compatibility with existing county systems and development tools.

N/A

11. Information Services sign off is required for all agenda items requesting funding for new or enhanced computer applications/systems that will interface with existing county systems/infrastructure.

N/A

12. If this is a grant funded computer/software applications project...

N/A

F. Alternatives/Options

1. Approve the submittal of the grant to the State of Oregon in the amount up to \$900,000 per year for up to three years for Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting program.
2. Decline to submit the grant proposal at this time.

IV. RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommend Option 1: Adopt the Order to authorize the County Administrator to sign the grant application and all related grant award documents and allocate funds up to \$900,000.

V. TIMING/IMPLEMENTATION/FOLLOW UP

The application is due for electronic submission by 12:00 PM Pacific Time, April 11, 2011. Upon Board approval the grant application packet will be finalized and prepared for submission. Program activities are anticipated to begin July 1, 2011.

VII. ATTACHMENTS

Board Order

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, LANE COUNTY, OREGON

ORDER No. IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING THE SUBMITTAL AND, IF AWARDED, ACCEPTANCE OF A GRANT TO THE STATE OF OREGON IN THE AMOUNT UP TO \$900,000 PER YEAR FOR UP TO THREE YEARS FOR MATERNAL, INFANT, AND EARLY CHILDHOOD HOME VISITING PROGRAM SERVICES; AND DELEGATING AUTHORITY TO THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO SIGN GRANT AWARD DOCUMENTS AND APPROPRIATE FUNDS UP TO \$900,000 TO THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

WHEREAS, The State of Oregon through its State Home Visiting Steering Committee is seeking applicants for funding the Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting program services under the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010; and

WHEREAS, The goals and objectives of the Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting grant align with our local Comprehensive Plan for Children and Families and will provide needed supports and services for at risk children and families in our community; and

WHEREAS, the grant application amount is beyond the County Administrator's delegated authority, and

WHEREAS, if the proposal is approved and funding awarded, the revenue agreement will be beyond the County Administrator's delegated authority;

NOW IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT the Board of County Commissioners approve the submission of the grant to the State of Oregon and delegate authority to the County Administrator to sign the application; and, it is further

ORDERED that the Board of County Commissioners delegate authority to the County Administrator to accept the award and sign an agreement with the State of Oregon in the amount of up to \$900,000 over a period of three years and to allocate funds up to \$900,000 to Department of Children and Families Special Fund 265.

APPROVED this _____ day of April, 2011

Chair,
BOARD OF LANE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

APPROVED AS TO FORM
Date 3/29/11 Lane county
J. J. Haidlaw
OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL