

FIRST 5 FRESNO COUNTY

ADMINISTERED BY CHILDREN & FAMILIES COMMISSION OF FRESNO COUNTY

Date: Wednesday, September 27, 2017

Lighthouse for Children
2405 Tulare Street
Fresno, CA 93721

Time: 11:30 a.m. – Regular Meeting

AGENDA

ITEM	SUBJECT	PRESENTER
1.	CALL TO ORDER	Chair Pacheco
2.	POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST Any Commission Member who has potential conflict of interest may now identify the item and recuse themselves from discussing and voting on the matter.	Chair Pacheco
3. Action Pg. 1	CONSENT AGENDA – ITEMS 3a-3b See attached Consent Agenda. Overview: These matters are routine in nature and are usually approved by a single vote. Prior to action by the Commission, the public will be given the opportunity to comment on any Consent Item.	Chair Pacheco E. Reyes, E.D.
4. Action Pg. 6	FINANCIAL REPORT FOR PERIOD ENDING JULY 2017 Supporting Documents	E. Reyes, E.D. A. Hillis, Staff
5. Action Pg. 10	CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION OF FRESNO RESOLUTION FOR DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE CLEARANCE Supporting Documents	E. Reyes, E.D. A. Hillis, Staff
6. Action Pg. 12	PROPOSED AGREEMENT WITH FRESNO COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS	E. Reyes, E.D. K. Hernandez, Staff
7. Action Pg. 14	PROPOSED AGREEMENT WITH FRESNO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT	E. Reyes, E.D. L. Assadourian, Staff
8. Information	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT	E. Reyes, E.D.
9. Information	PUBLIC COMMENT Limit two minutes per speaker. Public Comment is also taken on individual agenda items throughout the meeting at the conclusion of each agenda item.	E. Reyes, E.D.
10. Information	ANNOUNCEMENTS / INFORMATION SHARING	Chair Pacheco
11.	CLOSED SESSION A. CLOSED SESSION – PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION Title: Executive Director	Chair Pacheco K. Price, Legal
12.	ADJOURNMENT	Chair Pacheco
<u>NOTE:</u>	REGULAR MEETING – October 25, 2017 11:30 a.m.	2405 Tulare St. Fresno, CA 93721

NOTE: If you need disability modification or accommodation in order to participate in this meeting, please contact the Commission office at (559) 558-4900 at least 48 hours prior to the start of the meeting. Government Code Section 54954.2(a).

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CONSENT AGENDA

(Any Commissioner may pull any Consent Item for discussion or separate vote.)

ITEM	SUBJECT	PRESENTER
3a. Action Pg. 2	MINUTES FROM AUGUST 16, 2017 REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING Supporting Document	E. Reyes, E.D.
3b. Action Pg. 5	RENEW AGREEMENT WITH UNITY IT LLC. FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES Supporting Documents	E. Reyes, E.D. A. Hillis, Staff

We encourage the public to attend. If you have a disability and need accommodations to participate in a meeting, please contact the Commission office at (559) 558-4900 at least 48 hours prior to the start of the meeting. Government Code Section 54954.2(a).

FIRST 5 FRESNO COUNTY
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Regular Business Meeting
September 27, 2017 – 11:30 a.m.

2405 Tulare Street
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CONSENT AGENDA ITEM 3a

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approve Commission Minutes – August 16, 2017 Regular Meeting

ACTION SUMMARY MINUTES
August 16, 2017– 11:30 A.M.

Present: **Commissioners:** Brian Pacheco, Kari Gilbert, Shannon Koontz, Hugo Morales, Dawan Utecht

Absent: None

Staff: Emilia Reyes, Fabiola González, Lilith Assadourian, Elizabeth Campos, Alix Hillis, Hannah Norman, Hope Castro, Vianey Chairez, Melissa Cook, Victoria Cuevas, Renee Dayton, Mayra Diaz, Kristina Hernandez, Brittany Loera, Jorge Marquez, Cecilia Paredes, Karina Perez, Karen Rangel, Liliana Salcedo, Zaira Valeriano, Chia Vue, Ken Price (Legal Counsel)

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST: Any Commission Member who has a potential conflict of interest may now identify the item and recuse themselves from discussing and voting on the matter.

None heard.

3. CONSENT AGENDA – ITEM 3a-3e

These matters are routine in nature and are usually approved by a single vote. Prior to action by the Commission, the public is given the opportunity to comment on a consent item. Any Commission Member may pull any consent item for discussion or separate vote.

New action item added to the agenda: 5a Approve Letter of Opposition AB 1250

Public Comment: None heard.

Motion by: Gilbert Second by: Utecht
Ayes: Gilbert, Pacheco, Koontz, Morales, Utecht
Noes: None heard.

4. UNIFIED FRAMEWORK FOR SUCCESS - DEVELOPING AN INTEGRATED APPROACH TO EARLY CHILDHOOD SYSTEM OF CARE

Public Comment: Dr. Kitty Catania, Deputy Superintendent of Fresno County Superintendent of Schools provided an additional overview of the importance this partnership.

Motion by: Morales Second by: Utecht
Ayes: Gilbert, Pacheco, Koontz, Morales, Utecht
Noes: None heard.

5. COMMUNITY RELATIONS UPDATE

Public Comment: None heard.

No action required.

5a. LETTER OF OPPOSITION AB 1250

Public Comment: None heard.

Motion by: Morales Second by: Koontz
Ayes: Gilbert, Pacheco, Koontz, Morales, Utecht
Noes: None heard.

6. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Emilia Reyes, Executive Director, provided the following updates:

New First 5 staff members:

- Renee Dayton, Project Manager for GLOW! Group Prenatal Care project
- Brittany Loera, Program Administrative Assistant
- Hope Castro, 2017-2018 AmeriCorps VISTA

Reyes and Dayton will be traveling to San Francisco for the GLOW! Investigators Meeting August 24th, 2017 to meet with University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) representatives about the launch of Group Prenatal Care at the Lighthouse for Children.

Next Commission Meeting is scheduled for the 4th Wednesday of the month (September 27th, 2017) to accommodate for the Fresno County Budget Hearing Schedule.

Public Comment: None heard.

No action required.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment: None heard.

No action required.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS / INFORMATION SHARING

Commissioner Morales provided an update on Assembly Bill 1665 “Internet for All Now Act” which increases internet broadband access to low-income households.

Public Comment: None heard.

No action required.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Public Comment: None heard.

Motion by: Gilbert Second by: Utecht
Ayes: Gilbert, Pacheco, Koontz, Morales, Utecht
Noes: None heard.

FIRST 5 FRESNO COUNTY
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Regular Business Meeting
September 27, 2017 – 11:30 a.m.

2405 Tulare St.
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CONSENT AGENDA ITEM 3b

TO: Children & Families Commission of Fresno County

FROM: Emilia Reyes, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Renew Agreement with Unity IT LLC. for Information Technology Services

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approve a renewed agreement with Unity IT LLC. to perform Information Technology services for in an amount not to exceed \$31,500 with the option to renew, based on performance, for an additional two years and delegate signing authority to the Executive Director.

BACKGROUND:

The Commission contracts with outside vendors for required services which are not fulfilled by staff. Among these services is Information Technology (IT). The Commission is currently in a month-to-month contract with Unity IT LLC. (Unity IT) to perform workstation management, weekly on-site support, server and email monitoring and system security for staff work stations, managed email accounts and 2 servers for an approximate amount of \$16,500 annually. In addition, Unity IT provides services at an a-la-carte rate of \$100 per hour to the AmeriCorps members and the AmeriCorps VISTA. On average, annual costs for IT provided to AmeriCorps members and the VISTA is \$5,100.

Procurement: In August 2017, a Request for Quotation (RFQ) was released to select a firm to perform IT services for the Commission for one year with an option to renew based on performance and availability of funds. Through this competitive process, five firms submitted quotes and after review by an interdepartmental panel, Unity IT was selected. The recommendation from staff is to renew the agreement with Unity IT.

This renewal includes the cost for Commission staff, AmeriCorps members, one AmeriCorps VISTA for a total 34 managed workstations and licenses, two servers, and 12 network devices along with cloud backup storage, anti-virus security and email security monitoring for an annual amount of approximately \$31,500.

Fiscal Impact: Funding for this agreement has been allocated from the Commission 2017-2019 Approved Two Year Budget: Operating – Services and Supplies –Equipment Rental/Maintenance Expense line item in an amount not to exceed \$31,500.

CONCLUSION:

If approved, staff will finalize the agreement for IT services with Unity IT for an amount not to exceed \$31,500 to begin on October 1, 2017 for one year. Based on performance and availability of funds, the contract will have an option to renew for an additional two years.

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Regular Business Meeting
September 27, 2017 – 11:30 a.m.

2405 Tulare Street
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AGENDA ITEM NO. 4

TO: Children & Families Commission of Fresno County

FROM: Emilia Reyes, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Financial Report for Period Ending July 2017

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Accept the financial report for period ending July 31, 2017.

BACKGROUND:

This item is intended to keep the Commission apprised of financial activity as of July 31, 2017 and to provide an opportunity to discuss and review financial activities for the reporting period.

KEY POINTS:

Revenues (8%)

- Prop 10 Revenue (10%) – Revenues are 2% higher than projected.
- Investment Income (102%) – The investment portfolio experienced a higher market value gain than anticipated.

Operating (6%) – All expenses are within budget limits.

Strategic Plan Investments (35%) - Development of contracts are on target and within budget constraints.

- Accountability and Evaluation (100%) – Evaluation, contract management and technical assistance contracts have been awarded for the fiscal year.
- Non-Prop. 10 Funded Programs (100%) – Non-Prop.10 funded programs have been awarded for the fiscal year.

Operations Contingency Fund (100%) – Per the Commission’s Accounting Policies and Procedures, the Contingency Fund is awarded at the beginning of the fiscal year.

FY 2017-2018 Service Provider Expenses (6%) – The majority of First 5 Fresno County Service Providers are reimbursed on a quarterly basis. Expenses for quarter one will be reported in the November financial report.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Overall, expenses are within budget constraints for fiscal year 2017 – 2018.

**FIRST 5 FRESNO COUNTY
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
JULY 2017 (8%)**

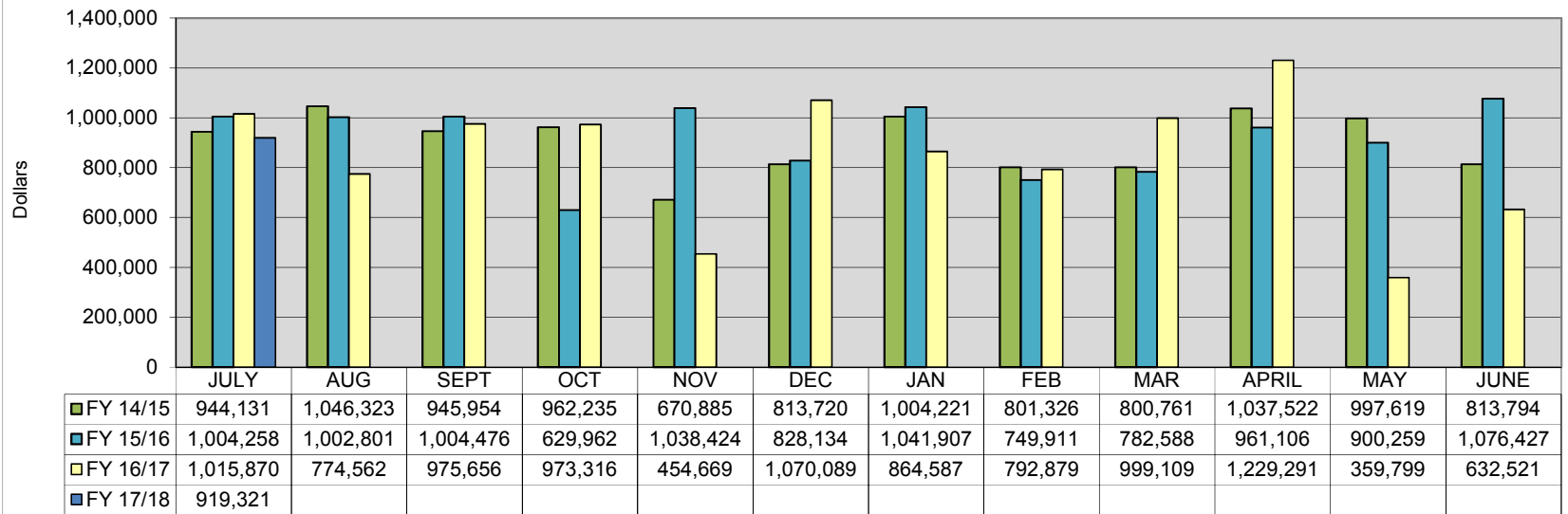
Revenues				
	Budget Amounts	Actual Amounts	Variance	Percent Variance
	07/01/2017-6/30/2018	07/01/2016-07/31/2017		
Prop 10 Revenue	\$9,636,598	\$919,321	\$8,717,277	10%
Non-Prop. 10 Revenue				
First 5 CA IMPACT Revenue	\$1,408,325	\$0	\$1,408,325	0%
UCSF Grant	\$638,138	\$0	\$638,138	0%
Interest Revenue - County Treasury	\$25,000	\$1,819	\$23,181	7%
Investment Income	\$50,000	\$51,214	(\$1,214)	102%
Other Revenue	\$0	\$130	(\$130)	0%
Total Revenues	\$11,758,061	\$972,484	\$10,785,577	8%

Operating				
Salaries & Benefits				
Salary Expense	\$1,090,564	\$83,764	\$1,006,799	8%
Payroll Tax Expense	\$117,183	\$6,279	\$110,905	5%
Retirement Expense	\$95,359	\$8,305	\$87,054	9%
Employee Benefits Expense	\$437,104	\$23,528	\$413,576	5%
Worker's Compensation Expense	\$2,400	\$0	\$2,400	0%
Ed. Allowance/ Child Care Reimbursement Stipend	\$12,200	\$1,000	\$11,200	8%
Total Salaries & Benefits Expenses	\$1,754,810	\$122,876	\$1,631,934	7%
Services & Supplies				
Advertising Expense	\$2,000	\$0	\$2,000	0%
Audit Expense	\$25,000	\$0	\$25,000	0%
Capital & Equipment Expense- Computers & Software	\$7,500	\$0	\$7,500	0%
Commissioner/Advisory Expense	\$5,005	\$0	\$5,005	0%
Dues & Subscriptions Expense	\$42,125	\$310	\$41,815	1%
Equipment Rental/Maintenance Expense	\$32,622	\$450	\$32,172	1%
General & Administrative Expense	\$15,000	\$1,631	\$13,369	11%
Insurance Expense	\$11,389	\$1,597	\$9,792	14%
Materials & Supplies Expense	\$11,000	\$0	\$11,000	0%
Overhead Expense	\$90,000	\$8,435	\$81,565	9%
Program Development/Strategic Planning Expense	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000	0%
Professional Services Expense	\$182,620	\$412	\$182,208	0%
Staff Training & Conference Expense	\$30,000	\$94	\$29,906	0%
Telephone Expense	\$21,640	\$419	\$21,221	2%
Local Travel Expense - Local Mileage	\$7,000	\$0	\$7,000	0%
Total Services & Supplies Expenses	\$487,901	\$13,348	\$474,552	3%
Total Operating Expenses	\$2,242,710	\$136,224	\$2,106,486	6%

Strategic Plan Investments				
	Budget Amounts	Actual Amounts	Variance	Percent Variance
Strategic Plan Investments				
Tier 1: Children and Families				
Goal 1 - Health Promotion	\$212,668	\$0	\$212,668	0%
Goal 2 - Early Learning	\$1,952,586	\$5,629	\$1,946,956	0%
Goal 3 - Strong Families	\$2,191,426	\$0	\$2,191,426	0%
Total Tier 1	\$4,356,679	\$5,629	\$4,351,050	0%
Tier 2: Community Partners				
Early Childhood Partner Capacity Building	\$180,000	\$0	\$180,000	0%
Community Learning Center	\$522,895	\$12,092	\$510,803	2%
Total Tier 2	\$702,895	\$12,092	\$690,803	2%
Tier 3: Early Childhood System of Care				
Community Relations	\$484,312	\$0	\$484,312	0%
Multi-Sector Partnerships	\$25,000	\$0	\$25,000	0%
Total Tier 3	\$509,312	\$0	\$509,312	0%
Accountability and Evaluation				
Accountability Services	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$0	100%
Evaluation Services	\$600,000	\$600,000	\$0	100%
Total Accountability and Evaluation	\$900,000	\$900,000	\$0	100%
Non-Prop. 10 Funded Programs				
First 5 CA IMPACT Program	\$826,594	\$826,594	\$0	100%
First 5 CA IMPACT Regional Hub Program	\$581,731	\$581,731	\$0	100%
UCSF- Group Prenatal Care Program	\$638,138	\$638,138	\$0	100%
Total Non-Prop. 10 Funded Programs	\$2,046,463	\$2,046,463	\$0	100%
Total Strategic Plan Investments	\$8,515,349	\$2,964,184	\$5,551,164	35%
Operations Contingency Fund	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$0	100%
Total First 5 Fresno County Budget	\$11,758,061	\$4,100,409	\$7,657,653	35%

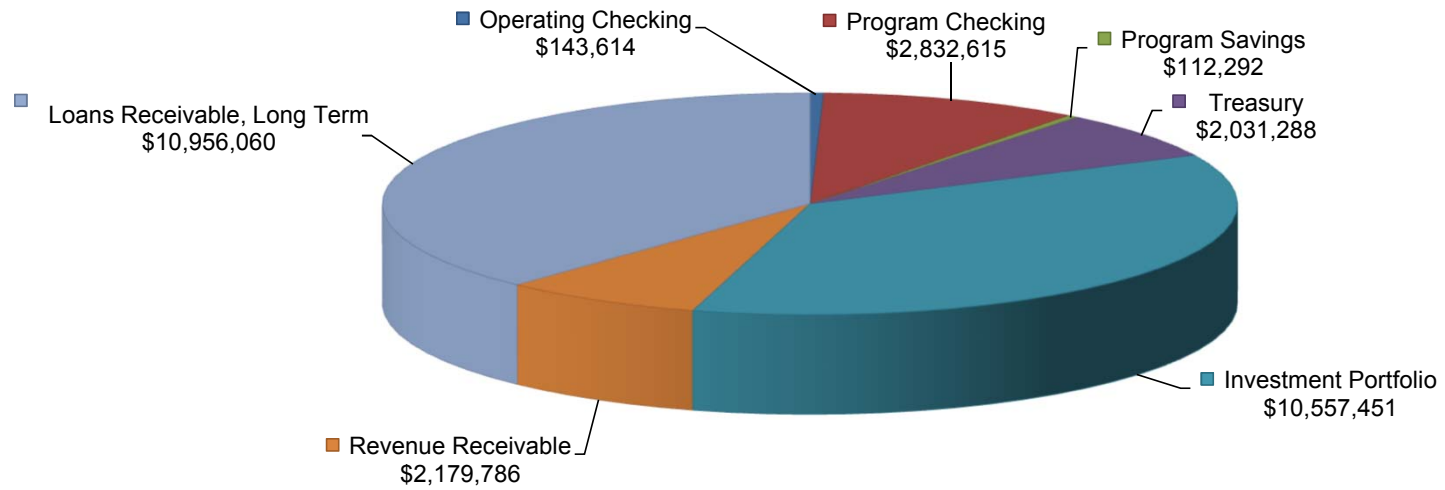
FY 2017-2018 Service Provider Expenses				
	Budget Amounts	Actual Amounts	Variance	Percent Variance
Tier 1: Children And Families	\$7,397,477	\$597,833	\$6,799,643	8%
Tier 2: Community Partners	\$219,250	\$180	\$219,070	0%
Tier 3: Early Childhood System of Care	\$706,696	\$20,968	\$685,728	3%
Accountability and Evaluation	\$900,000	\$0	\$900,000	0%
Non-Prop. 10 Funded Programs	\$2,136,221	\$6,766	\$2,129,455	0%
Total Service Provider Expenses	\$11,359,644	\$625,747	\$10,733,896	6%

MONTHLY PROPOSITION 10 REVENUE COMPARISON

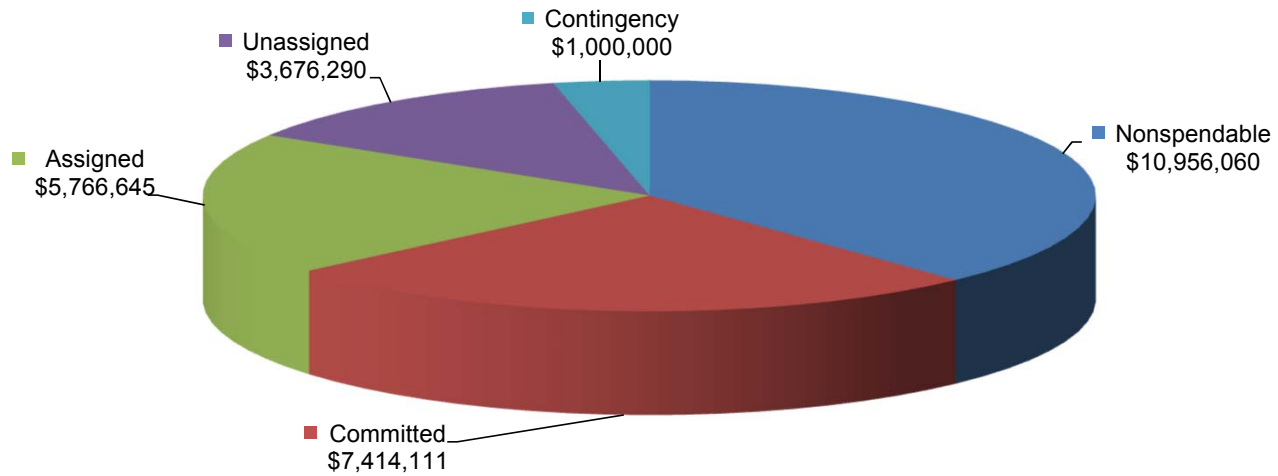


**FIRST 5 FRESNO COUNTY
BALANCE SHEET
JULY 2017**

ASSETS



FUND BALANCE



FIRST 5 FRESNO COUNTY
ADMINISTERED BY CHILDREN & FAMILIES COMMISSION OF FRESNO COUNTY

Regular Business Meeting
September 27, 2017 – 11:30 a.m.

2405 Tulare St.
Fresno, CA 93721

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5

TO: Children & Families Commission of Fresno County

FROM: Emilia Reyes, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Children and Families Commission of Fresno Resolution for Department of Justice Clearance

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Adopt the Children and Families Commission of Fresno Resolution for Department of Justice Clearance.

BACKGROUND:

With the Lighthouse for Children Community Learning Center providing services to the public, the Commission is required to submit an Application for Authorization to receive Criminal Offender Record Information from the Department of Justice. In order to do so, the Commission must adopt a resolution to authorize access to gather fingerprints and in turn, criminal history of all Commission staff and volunteers. Legal Counsel, Ken Price, recommended to bring the attached resolution before the Commission for approval and signature by the Chair.

Fiscal Impact: With the adoption of this resolution, one staff member would be responsible to monitor this information and verification. This designated staff person will be required to go through a fingerprinting background clearance record check through the Department of Justice, a cost of \$32.00. Subsequently staff will be fingerprinted for the same cost per individual.

CONCLUSION:

If this resolution is adopted by the Commission, staff will complete the Application for Authorization to receive Criminal Offender Record Information from the Department of Justice and implement required next steps to complete to obtain fingerprints as required for services.



CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION OF FRESNO COUNTY

RESOLUTION 001

WHEREAS, Penal Code sections 11105(b)(11) and 13300(b)(11) authorize cities, districts and joint powers authorities to access state and local summary criminal history information for employment, licensing or certification purposes; and

WHEREAS, Penal Code sections 11105(b)(11) and 13300(b)(11) require that there be a requirement or exclusion from employment, licensing, or certification based on specific criminal conduct on the part of the subject of the record, and

WHEREAS, Penal Code sections 11105(b)(11) and 13300(b)(11) requires the city council, board of supervisors or governing body of a city, county, district or joint powers authorities to specifically authorize access to summary criminal history information for employment, licensing, or certification purposes, and

WHEREAS, the Children and Families Commission of Fresno County was formed pursuant to California Health and Safety Code section 130140.1 as established by the County of Fresno and by this resolution specifically authorizes access to summary criminal history information for employment, licensing or certification purposes.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Children and Families Commission of Fresno County is hereby authorized to access state summary criminal history information for employment (including at-will employees, contract employees and volunteers), licensing, or certification purposes and may not disseminate the information to private entity.

Resolved this ___ day of _____, 2017

by the Children and Families Commission of Fresno County

Brian Pacheco, Commission Chair

ATTEST:

Kenneth J. Price, Legal Counsel

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FIRST 5 FRESNO COUNTY
ADMINISTERED BY CHILDREN & FAMILIES COMMISSION OF FRESNO COUNTY

Regular Business Meeting
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AGENDA ITEM NO. 6

TO: Children & Families Commission of Fresno County
FROM: Emilia Reyes, Executive Director
SUBJECT: Proposed Agreement with Fresno County Superintendent of Schools

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Review and approve an agreement with Fresno County Superintendent of Schools (FCSS) in an amount not to exceed \$500,000 to support and further integrate the systems serving young children and families as recommended by the Finance and Program Review Committee.

BACKGROUND:

At the August 2017 Commission meeting, the Commission approved staff to enter into negotiations with FCSS to explore customized strategies for enhancing early childhood services for children ages 0 to 5 and their families served through FCSS.

This proposed agreement builds upon the Commission's previous investment in the Birth-Through-Third Grade Initiative (B3), a partnership with five school districts (Central Unified, Firebaugh-Las Deltas Unified, Fowler Unified, Fresno Unified and Kings Canyon Unified) to raise the percentage of students reading on grade level by third grade through integrated systems, quality educators and increased family and community engagement. In 2016, the Commission's evaluation firm, Harder+Company Community Research conducted a B3 Exploratory Study to identify lessons learned and opportunities to sustain and scale the B3 efforts in Fresno County. The study highlighted the commitment of school districts and FCSS to continue systems change work and strengthen connections between districts and early childhood service providers.

FCSS is the intermediary agency between the California Department of Education and thirty-two school districts in Fresno County providing a full range of support programs and services including early learning, special education, professional training and staff development, curriculum, business and finance support, health and pupil personnel services, as well as legislative and public policy leadership and advocacy at the local, state and federal level. Partnering with FCSS supports the current community momentum around systems integration, collaboration and existing partnerships in Fresno County and directly aligns with the Commission's mandate to facilitate the creation and implementation of an integrated, comprehensive, and collaborative system of services for young children and families.

The overall goal of this project is to develop an integrated approach within FCSS through alignment of multiple departments to improve services to children ages 0 to 5 and their families and ensure a smooth transition into the K-12 school system. Staff met with FCSS to discuss integration objectives, a pilot project, and an evaluation framework. The following strategies were identified as part of this partnership with FCSS:

- Pilot a Mid- Level Developmental Assessment (MLDA) Project to launch an approach for department integration, track and measure progress. MLDA is an assessment for children ages birth to 5 years with mild to moderate developmental or behavioral concerns providing a comprehensive clinical assessment along with the development of an integrated family services plan.
- Asset Mapping of all FCSS departments that must be involved in implementing an effective MLDA project across all school districts under FCSS's jurisdiction. Departments identified include but are not limited to: Special Education, Health Services, Foster Youth Coordinating Services, Migrant Education, Prevention and Intervention and Curriculum Instruction.
- Development of an evaluation component to track progress, inform implementation, highlight areas of improvement and opportunities for scaling.
- Align with the larger system of care in Fresno County through participation in Help Me Grow Strategic Planning efforts and the Leadership Team.

Alignment with 2013-2020 Strategic Plan: The proposed recommendation directly aligns with the intent of the Proposition 10 mandate “to facilitate the creation and implementation of an integrated comprehensive and collaborative system of information and services to enhance the optimal early childhood development and to ensure that children are ready to enter school.” These efforts also align with Tier 3: Early Childhood System of Care – Goal 5: Early Childhood Systems and Network Improvement as the recommendation will address both the quality and the efficiency with which FCSS will deliver services to build more effective pathways to connect children and families with needed services in Fresno County.

Short-term goal(s) and long-term outcomes: If approved, Commission staff will work closely with FCSS to further define the scope of work and budget line items (activities and deliverables) to carry out the objectives of the integration project between October 1, 2017 through June 30, 2019. The long-term outcome of this recommendation is to support FCSS on strengthening early childhood services and supports to ensure a smooth academic transition to the K-12 system to all children across county school districts.

Procurement: At the August 2017 Commission meeting, the Commission approved a Sole Source Procurement option for this project given the unique services provided to children ages 0 to 5 and families by FCSS and the support to 32 schools districts with specialized services throughout the county.

Fiscal Impact: The Commission has set aside funds in 2015-2017 Approved Two Year Budget: Strategic Plan Investments – Tier 3: Early Childhood Systems of Care. Proposed funding amount not to exceed \$500,000 assigned from the Commission’s Goal 5: Early Childhood Systems and Network Improvement. Up to 7% of the allocated funding amount will be assigned to develop an appropriate evaluation framework by the Commission’s evaluation firm, Harder+Company.

CONCLUSION:

Proactively engaging with FCSS to implement customized approaches to systems integration will build upon the shared goal of developing a coordinated early childhood system of care in Fresno County to improve access and increase quality in services. Overall, the success of these efforts will be dependent upon open collaboration, partnership, and communication between the Commission and FCSS to ensure accountability for contract administration, oversight and performance evaluation. Doing so will deliver on our shared promise of a brighter future for all families with young children.

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AGENDA ITEM NO. 7

TO: Children & Families Commission of Fresno County

FROM: Emilia Reyes, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Proposed Agreement with Fresno Unified School District

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Review and approve an agreement with the Fresno Unified School District in an amount not to exceed \$500,000 to enhance and support an integrated approach in support of an Early Childhood System of Care.

BACKGROUND:

At the August 2017 Commission meeting, the Commission directed staff to enter into discussions with Fresno Unified School District (FUSD) to explore customized strategies for enhancing early childhood services within the district for children ages 0 to 5 and their families, using the Sole Source Procurement.

FUSD is the largest school district in Fresno County and 4th in the state of California, serving over 73,000 students annually. There are a number of departments and programs within FUSD that offer a wide range of supports and services for young children and their families with different quality regulations, funding streams, and goals. The overall goal of this project is to develop an integrated approach within the district through alignment of multiple departments to improve service delivery for children ages 0 to 5 and their families and ensure a smooth transition into the K-12 school system.

Building upon the Commission's previous investment in the Birth Through 3rd Grade Challenge Initiative to further increase the current community momentum around systems integration, collaboration and existing partnerships in Fresno County, staff engaged in discussions with FUSD staff and the following key strategies were identified as a priority to organize and advance the district's integration efforts:

- Improve current data tracking system to 1) identify systemic strengths and gaps to better integrate internal subsystems and funding streams and 2) inform improvement efforts in coordination of services
- Facilitate appropriate linkages to needed services (both internal and external) to appropriately meet children's developmental needs with a particular focus on young children at risk or with mild to moderate developmental delays or concerns who do not meet eligibility for early intervention or special education services

- Improve and strengthen regular and consistent communication across district's administrative staff, board of trustees, and staff to promote shared accountability and create a culture of continuous improvement targeting services focusing on young children and their families
- Implement an integration pilot project to learn, adopt, and scale effective integration strategies district-wide

An evaluation component will be embedded to track progress, inform implementation, highlight areas of improvement and outline opportunities for scaling.

Alignment with 2013-2020 Strategic Plan: The proposed recommendation directly aligns with the intent of the Proposition 10 mandate “to facilitate the creation and implementation of an integrated comprehensive and collaborative system of information and services to enhance the optimal early childhood development and to ensure that children are ready to enter school.” These efforts also align with Tier 3: Early Childhood System of Care – Goal 5: Early Childhood Systems and Network Improvement of the Commission’s 2013-2020 Strategic Plan.

Short-term goal(s) and long-term outcomes: If approved, short term goals include identifying the leadership team within the district responsible for developing the workplan (scope of work with deliverables and budget line items) and carrying out the objectives of the integration project between November 1, 2017 through October 31, 2019. The long term intended outcome is to improve district’s policies and practices to build stronger internal and external connections that support integration and improve access to needed services and streamlining transition to the K-12 education system for all children and families.

Procurement: At the August 2017 Commission meeting, the Commission approved a Sole Source Procurement option for this project given the unique services provided by FUSD to a substantial proportion of the county’s children ages 0 to 5 and their families.

Fiscal Impact: The Commission has set aside funds in 2015 – 2017 Approved Two Year Budget: Strategic Plan Investments – Tier 3: Early Childhood Systems of Care. Proposed funding amount not to exceed \$500,000 will be assigned from the Commission’s Goal 5: Early Childhood Systems and Network Improvement budget line item. Up to 7% of the allocated funding amount will be assigned to develop an evaluation framework by the Commission’s evaluation firm, Harder & Company.

CONCLUSION:

Proactively engaging with FUSD to implement customized approaches to systems integration will build upon the shared goal of developing a coordinated early childhood system of care in Fresno County to improve access and increase quality in services. Overall, the success of these efforts will be dependent upon open collaboration, partnership, and communication between the Commission and FUSD to ensure accountability for contract administration, oversight and performance evaluation. Doing so will deliver on our shared promise of a brighter future for all families with young children.