



CITY OF OAKLAND

AGENDA REPORT

TO: Steven Falk
Interim City Administrator

FROM: Sara Bedford
Director, Human Services

SUBJECT: OFCY 2020 Summer Grant Renewals

DATE: May 6, 2020

City Administrator Approval

Date: 5-14-2020

RECOMMENDATION

Staff Recommends That The City Council Adopt A Resolution Awarding Oakland Fund For Children And Youth Grants In A Total Amount Not To Exceed \$1,507,424 To Public And Non-Profit Agencies To Provide Direct Services For Children And Youth For An Additional One Year Term From June 1, 2020 – May 31, 2021.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The proposed resolution will authorize renewal of grant agreements with agencies providing direct services to children and youth through the Oakland Kids First! Children’s Fund in the amount of \$1,507,424 for programming in summer 2020 in Fiscal Year (FY) 2020-2021, starting June 1, 2020. The Oakland Fund for Children and Youth (OFCY) Planning and Oversight Committee (POC) recommended grant renewal for thirteen (13) summer programs for year two of funding in the current three-year FY 2019-2022 OFCY funding cycle on May 6, 2020 with reductions to the original award amounts due to anticipated reduction in the revenue allocation for the Kids First Children’s Fund in FY 2020-2021.

OFCY summer grants will provide enrichment and learning opportunities by engaging children and youth remotely, support workforce learning and internship opportunities remotely, and assist with basic food, health, and safety needs. All programming will have the public health and safety as paramount concern during summer 2020. Agencies will support the messaging and direction of local and state health guidelines as they connect with families and engage youth during the summer when the importance of encouraging social distancing for youth remains high. Nearly all programs have developed virtual learning and enrichment programming. In-person activities will be supported only when safe to conduct within the guidelines provided by local and state health officials.

BACKGROUND / LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

The Kids First! Oakland Fund for Children and Youth Amendment to the Oakland City Charter requires that three percent (3%) of General Purpose Funds be set aside as annual revenues, along with interest accrued and any unspent funds from prior years, to be appropriated to the Fund. Ninety percent (90%) of the annual revenues is made available for grants to non-profit

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and public agencies to address the well-being of Oakland children and youth from birth through age 21. Ten percent (10%) is available for administration and evaluation.

Based on approval of the 2019-22 OFCY Strategic Investment Plan, the release of the OFCY Request for Proposal (RFP) in November 2018, and the consideration and recommendation of grant awards by the POC in spring of 2019, the City Council approved 154 grant awards totaling \$19,819,772 annually for the three year OFCY grant cycle (Resolution No. 87660, 87753, and 87860 C.M.S.) which began June 1, 2019.

On March 4, 2020, OFCY's fifteen summer awards were recommended for renewal by the POC in their original amounts totaling \$1,939,697. On May 6, 2020, the POC met for a public meeting via zoom and recommended approval of the revised summer 2020 grant awards for thirteen programs totaling \$1,507,424.

ANALYSIS AND POLICY ALTERNATIVES

The OFCY summer grant awards include four summer youth workforce development programs, ten programs supporting summer engagement for elementary and middle school children, and the Oakland Unified School District's Summer Pre-kindergarten Readiness Program.

Due to the global pandemic and in anticipation of the continuation of social distancing measures, programs were asked to reassess plans for direct services and to submit revised scopes of work for summer 2020. All awards greater than \$75,000 were reduced by 10 percent, based on expectation of revised Kids First revenues for FY 2020-21 and the uncertainties presented this summer. Two programs declined OFCY grant funding for summer 2020. As a result, 13 programs are recommended to support children, youth and families this upcoming summer with revised total funding of \$1,507,424.

The four summer youth workforce development programs include three youth workforce grants coordinated and funded in partnership with the Oakland Workforce Development Board (OWDB) and one grant provided directly to Oakland Unified School District (OUSD) for summer internships. Agencies are planning virtual training opportunities and considering options for virtual internships with reduced hours and creative alternatives to allow youth to access wages and stipends.

OFCY summer programs for elementary and middle school youth provide both enrichment and learning opportunities, often in partnership with OUSD summer learning sites. Agencies are adjusting programs to offer virtual services in anticipation of the continuation of distance learning at school sites and the need to support safety for children and youth this summer. The East Bay Asian Youth Services (EBAYC) Camp Thrive has declined summer 2020 grant awards but will continue to serve the community through other funds. The Oakland Parks, Recreation and Youth Development (OPRYD) Oakland Fine Arts Summer Program (OFASS) will not be provided in summer 2020.

OUSD's Summer Pre-Kindergarten Program will be reduced by 57 percent, to offer a shorter program in late summer for children and provide family check-ins and learning opportunities in support of kindergarten readiness in August.

Programs will engage children, youth, and families in a variety of ways during summer 2020. Summaries of the programs and their proposed activities in summer 2020 are provided as **Attachment A**. Examples of how programs are adjusting to provide more remote and virtual programming that meets community needs during this summer in response to the pandemic and need to support learning and engagement while encouraging social distancing include:

- Virtual learning including online science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and academic classes via Zoom and other online meeting venues
- Providing technology – computers, laptops, e-readers, and other tools – to children that cannot currently participate in remote activities.
- Phone calls and other virtual contacts for wellness check-ins with children and youth to keep them engaged and support their families.
- Online educational games and projects.
- Community-building and wellness activities to support fun and play as families shelter in place.
- Providing safe drop-off of educational materials including books and science kits and other essential health and hygiene supplies to families' homes.
- Online job training and employability workshops for older youth.
- Virtual college readiness courses covering financial literacy, study skills, high school graduation and A-G requirements, and office hours for students.
- Virtual work experiences to familiarize youth with online applications, teleconferencing, electronic intake, and other remote work activities.
- Virtual internships to connect youth remotely with employers and employment experiences at reduced hours compared to normal summer internship experiences.
- Short summer pre-k programming to start 2 to 3 weeks before the beginning of the school year to acclimate new young students to classroom learning, along with virtual family sessions and parent orientations.

Programs may continue to adjust plans and programming as they work in new ways to meet new community needs. As health guidance and circumstances continue to change in the coming weeks and months, OFCY will work with programs to be flexible and creative in their work.

Policy Alternatives

Alternative #1	The City Council may reject the recommendation to renew summer 2020 program grants for children and youth due to the health crisis and subsequent reduction in city revenues.
Pro	Rejection results in additional funds available to sustain the approved grant awards for Years 2 and 3 of the OFCY cycle.
Con	Rejection of the funding recommendation results in reduced support for children, youth, and families during summer 2020 as they address the unprecedented health crisis and seek to prepare children and youth for the 2020-2021 school year. Programming will help support families to safely shelter in place during summer 2020.
Reason for Not Recommending this Alternative	The summer programs will operate at reduced and modified scopes of services to reach children, youth and families during summer 2020. Programs can help connect families to important resources and supports

	as families struggle to shelter in place and comply with health guidelines. Programs recommended will support the priorities identified by the POC and the City Council and are consistent with the goals and strategies of the OFCY which serve children, youth and families.
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FISCAL IMPACT

The total project cost of these grant agreements is \$1,507,424 for FY 2020-2021. Funds totaling \$1,507,424 will be available for these OFCY grants from Project 1004172 OFCY FY 2018-2019 Grants.

A breakdown of the project funding sources is as follows:

Fund Source	Organization	Account	Project	Program	Amount
(1780) - Oakland Fund for Children and Youth (OFCY) - Kids First Oakland Children's Fund	(78251) - Youth Services Organization	(54912) Services: Contract	(1004172) OFCY FY2018-2019 Grants	(YS04) - OFCY Program	\$1,507,424
Total Project:					\$1,507,424

There is no impact on the General Purpose Fund.

PUBLIC OUTREACH / INTEREST

The Planning and Oversight Committee hosted noticed public meetings on March 4, 2020 at Oakland City Hall and via Zoom on May 6, 2020 to receive public input prior to approving the recommendations for forwarding to Oakland City Council.

COORDINATION

This report and the proposed legislation have been reviewed by the Office of the City Attorney, Budget Bureau, and Contracts and Compliance Division of the City Administrator's Office.

PAST PERFORMANCE, EVALUATION AND FOLLOW-UP

The programs recommended have been reviewed by staff and POC for performance in summer 2019 and were successful in delivery of the direct services proposed. The programs will be evaluated for their performance in summer 2020 will be included in the annual evaluation by an independent consultant. The OFCY evaluation includes assessment of program quality and outcomes for children and youth.

SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

Economic: OFCY funding will provide employment opportunities through these local public and non-profit agencies, which are primarily Oakland-based, and all of which employ local staff and have a positive economic impact. OFCY funds will provide direct compensation to youth through subsidized summer internships and work experience. OFCY funds are used to leverage and match additional local, state, federal, and private philanthropic funds, bringing additional resources into Oakland.

Environmental: Programs will support community health and safety by supporting virtual activities during the health crisis.

Race and Equity: OFCY prioritizes funding for services that reach youth and families with the greatest needs. Programs will work to support children, youth and families in need with basic health, education, enrichment, and employment services through a variety of means. The overwhelming majority of program participants are projected to be African American, Latinx, and Asian, based on prior service outcomes. Programs are intended to serve children, youth and families that may not otherwise have the ability to participate in enriching, academically supportive, and socially engaging programming free of charge.

ACTION REQUESTED OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Staff Recommends That The City Council Adopt A Resolution Awarding Oakland Fund For Children And Youth Grants In A Total Amount Not To Exceed \$1,507,424 To Public And Non-Profit Agencies To Provide Direct Services For Children And Youth For An Additional One Year Term From June 1, 2020 – May 31, 2021.

For questions regarding this report, please contact Sandra Taylor, Human Services Manager, Children and Youth Services Division, at 238-7163.

Respectfully submitted,



SARA BEDFORD,
Director, Human Services Department

Reviewed by:
Sandra Taylor, Manager
Children & Youth Services Division

Prepared by:
Mike Wetzel, HHS Planner
Children & Youth Services Division
Human Services Department

Attachment (1):

A: Summer 2020 Grant Award Summary