

CITY OF OAKLAND

AGENDA REPORT

FILED
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
OAKLAND

2009 JUN 11 PM 8:05

TO: Office of the City Administrator
ATTN: Dan Lindheim
FROM: Department of Human Services
DATE: June 23, 2009

RE: **Resolution Authorizing The City Administrator, On Behalf Of The City Of Oakland, To Apply For Early Head Start ARRA Expansion Grant Funds Made Available Through The American Recovery And Reinvestment Act Of 2009 (Federal Government's "Stimulus Package") To Support The Enrollment Of Additional Children And Families As Well As Create New Teaching And Other Positions In Early Head Start Programs**

SUMMARY

Staff requests that the City Council approve a resolution authorizing the City Administrator to apply for, accept and appropriate Early Head Start Expansion grant funding, from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families (DHHS/ACF). If approved, funding will support the enrollment of additional children and families as well as create new teaching and other positions in Early Head Start programs.

The Oakland Early Head Start Program will, directly and through contract agreements and MOU's with strategic community partners, provide Early Head Start services to approximately 96 families, including pregnant women, infants and toddlers, in Oakland, during the program year that begins September 1, 2009 through August 31, 2011.

The ceiling amount of individual awards is \$5,000,000 per budget period. The average projected award amount is \$965,000 per budget period. The length of project period is two years and the application deadline is July 9, 2009.

FISCAL IMPACT

At this juncture, staff is still working on the program design and related budget, including the cost per child. When the program budget has been confirmed, staff will submit this information for the City Council's approval. The proposed resolution will authorize the application for, acceptance and appropriation of an Early Head Start Expansion grant.

Federal grant regulations require a local match totaling 20% of the grant, which will be provided by in-kind contributions. In-kind support, typically parent and community volunteers to the program, will enable Oakland's program to meet the match requirements.

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At this time, no further fiscal impacts are included, as the details of the funding request are yet to be determined.

BACKGROUND

On May 8, 2009, under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), the US Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families released a Request for Application (RFA), making Early Head Start program expansion opportunities available, to local public and local non-profit and for-profit private entities, including Early Head Start and Head Start grantees. The funding opportunities, in the amount of \$619 million, are to be competitively awarded for the purpose of expanding enrollment by approximately 55,000 low-income children and their families. The expansion is only to increase the number of pregnant women, infants and toddlers served in Early Head Start. Successful applicants will be subject to reporting requirements consistent with the Act and with current Head Start regulations.

Established in 1995, Early Head Start is a program for low-income families with infants and toddlers and pregnant women. Evidence from research and practice, indicates that the time from conception to age three is critical for human development and that for infants and toddlers to develop optimally, they must have healthy beginnings and a continuity of responsive and caring relationships. Early Head Start programs provide family-centered services designed to promote the development of the youngest children, and enables their parents to fulfill their roles as parents and move toward self-sufficiency.

The City of Oakland has been a grantee for the Head Start Program since January 1972. Head Start is a national early childhood education program that promotes school readiness by enhancing the social and cognitive development of preschool children through the provision of educational, health, nutritional, social and other services to economically disadvantaged children and families.

In 1988, the City entered into a grantee-delegate relationship with the Unity Council to serve children and families in the Fruitvale District. Multiple regional and local approvals were required for the designation of the Unity Council as the delegate agency. As the City's delegate agency, the Unity Council meets all of the complex state childcare licensing and federal Head Start requirements, and was selected and approved by the Head Start Policy Council and California Head Start Regional Office in addition to the City Council. The Unity Council is located in a service area with high need, and has the capacity to provide childcare for over 500 children.

In 1998, the City delegated to the Unity Council the operation of the Early Head Start Program, which serves 200 low-income pregnant women, children from birth through age three and their families. The program provides early, individualized child development and parent education

services to low-income infants and toddlers and their families according to a plan developed jointly by the parents and staff.

The Unity Council Early Head Start program currently operates three Early Head Start (EHS) programs in East, Central (Fruitvale District) and West Oakland. The program locations include Foothill Square EHS (10700 MacArthur Blvd., #10); DeColores EHS (1155 35th Avenue) and Thurgood Marshall EHS (1117 10th Street).

KEY ISSUES AND IMPACTS

Early Head Start services for families with children, birth through 3, are currently being provided in East, Central and West Oakland, as indicated above. However, responses from the Oakland Head Start's 2009 Parent Needs Survey and Community Assessment Update, along with Alameda County Public Health Department (ACPHD), Community Assessment Planning and Education (CAPE) Unit's 2007 Medi-Cal birth data, indicate a substantial unmet need for services for children birth through 3, and their families, in Oakland.

While the ACPHD 2008 Medi-Cal birth data will not be available until the spring of 2010, anecdotal assessment of Medi-Cal births in Oakland also suggests a continued need for early care and education services for families with children, birth through 3.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Oakland Head Start management staff, along with strong community partners, has developed a collaborative service delivery model for the Oakland Early Head Start program, which will include approximately 96 slots for families with infants (birth – 18 months) and toddlers (18-36 months).

In order to expand the reach of Early Head Start services for income eligible families, with children, birth through 3, throughout Oakland, Oakland Head Start proposes to offer the following three program options:

- **Home-Based:** Grantee operated, in-home, Early Head Start services provided for families by an Early Head Start Home Visitor; 1x/week; 1.5-2 hours/session. The Home-Based option also provides a center-based, group oriented Socialization session for infants and toddlers and their families, approximately twice a month; 3 hours/session. The Socialization session provides an opportunity for infants and toddlers and their families, to interact socially and gradually develop their social-emotional skills in a center-based, group setting. The Home-Based option is available for mothers who have had a baby and/or who have young toddlers, and would prefer in-home early care and education services to support their children's growth and development.

- **Center-Based:** Grantee operated center-based services, similar to Head Start. The Center-Based option is available to families with infants and toddlers.

- **Center-Based in collaboration with Community Partners:** Oakland Head Start has been meeting with a variety of community partners, who currently provide services to families with children, birth through age three, and have indicated specific interest in developing formal partnerships, in collaboration with Oakland Early Head Start. Through formal Early Head Start partnerships, partners providing services to families with children, birth to three, will provide educational services and Oakland Early Head Start would provide comprehensive services to the same families.

In the first two options, Oakland Early Head Start staff will provide Home-Based and Center-Based services for eligible families who have indicated these needs. In the third option, Oakland Head Start will strategically collaborate with community partners, through referral, to provide coordinated Early Head Start services to families with children, birth – three, who are clients of the community partners. Oakland Early Head Start services will be offered Monday-Friday, full-day and year-round.

The locations for the expansion of Oakland’s Early Head Start program will be confirmed over the program’s initial start-up period.

SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

Economic: The expected economic benefits to the City from the operation of the Early Head Start Program include the creating of jobs, including people directly employed in centers, plus an unknown number of jobs through its economic multiplier effect.

It is expected that most of these jobs are held by residents of Oakland. In addition, Early Head Start will buy goods and services to support its program, and most of these will be purchased from Oakland firms or individuals.

Environmental: It is expected that there will be no direct environmental benefits or impacts from the Early Head Start program to the City of Oakland. Similar to the Oakland Head Start program, the program will use recyclable paper products.

Social Equity: Similar to the Oakland Head Start program, the principal sustainable opportunity of the Early Head Start Program will be in the area of social equity. The Oakland Early Head Start Program will deliver comprehensive, high-quality services to children and families in the City of Oakland. These services are designed to foster healthy development in low-income children. Early Head Start will provide a range of individualized services in the areas of education and early childhood development, medical, dental, and mental health services, nutrition, and parent involvement. The range of services will be responsive and appropriate to each child and family's developmental, ethnic, cultural, and linguistic heritage and experience.

As indicated previously, scientific research has verified what early childhood educators have known for years: that how children are nurtured and educated in their youngest years has a significant impact on later growth and development.

DISABILITY AND SENIOR CITIZEN ACCESS

All existing and future Oakland Early Head Start centers are in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Older Americans Act.

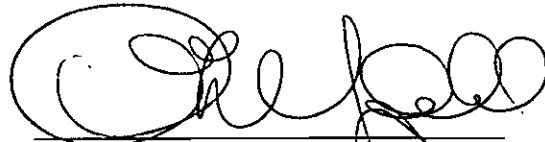
RECOMMENDATION(S) AND RATIONALE

Staff recommends that the City Council approve a resolution authorizing the City Administrator to apply for the Early Head Start Expansion grant. Approval of this report would allow the Head Start Program to apply for federal funding in order to design and deliver high quality comprehensive child development services to Early Head Start eligible children and their families.

ACTION REQUESTED OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Staff requests that the City Council approve resolution authorizing the City Administrator, on behalf of the City Of Oakland, to apply for Early Head Start ARRA Expansion Grant Funds made available through the American Recovery and Reinvestment ACT Of 2009 (Federal Government's "Stimulus Package") to support the enrollment of additional children and families as well as create new teaching and other positions in Early Head Start programs.

Respectfully submitted,

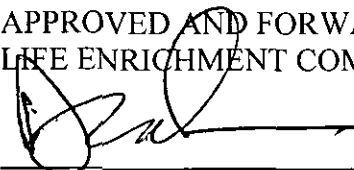


ANDREA YOUNGDAHL
Director, Department of Human Services

Reviewed by:
Usana Pulliam, Manager
Early Childhood & Family Services/HS Program

Prepared by:
Tracey Black, Interim Program Planner

APPROVED AND FORWARDED TO THE
LIFE ENRICHMENT COMMITTEE:



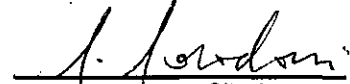
Office of the City Administrator

Item: _____
Life Enrichment Committee
June 23, 2009

FILED
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
OAKLAND

2009 JUN 11 PM 8:06

Approved as to Form and Legality


City Attorney

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION No. _____ C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER _____

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF OAKLAND, TO APPLY FOR EARLY HEAD START ARRA EXPANSION GRANT FUNDS MADE AVAILABLE THROUGH THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009 (FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S "STIMULUS PACKAGE") TO SUPPORT THE ENROLLMENT OF ADDITIONAL CHILDREN AND FAMILIES AS WELL AS CREATE NEW TEACHING AND OTHER POSITIONS IN EARLY HEAD START PROGRAMS

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that the U.S. Government will award Early Head Start Expansion grant funds in the amount of approximately \$ 619,000,000 dollars through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Federal Government's "Stimulus Package") to state and local governments to support the enrollment of additional children and families as well as create new teaching and other positions in Early Head Start programs, and thus stimulate the economy by creating and preserving jobs; and

WHEREAS, it is indicated that the Early Head Start ARRA Expansion funding will be competitively awarded for the purpose of expanding enrollment by approximately 55,000 low-income children and their families, and this expansion is only to increase the number of pregnant women, infants and toddlers served in Early Head Start; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oakland may be eligible to receive a portion of the grants funds, based on established need for such services; and

WHEREAS, the federal government released an Early Head Start ARRA Expansion Funding Request for Application (RFA) on May 8, 2009, which included application guidelines and criteria for funding, as well as the types of programs, projects that will be eligible to apply for funding, and the Mayor, City Administrator and the City Council wish to be in the best posture to (1) to prepare and complete and revise as necessary a timely Early Head Start ARRA Expansion grant application and (2) obtain the maximum amount of grant funds for which the City of Oakland may be eligible; and

WHEREAS, the City wishes to apply for a grant from the DHHS, ACF, Early Head Start ARRA Expansion Grant Package for said purpose, in order to expand on existing Early Head Start services throughout the City of Oakland; and

WHEREAS, the City has learned that the application deadline is July 9, 2009; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council hereby authorizes the City Administrator or his designee to apply for Early Head Start Expansion grant funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Federal "Stimulus Package") for the purpose of expanding enrollment by approximately 55,000 low-income children and their families; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the City Council, hereby authorizes the City Administrator as agent of the City, or his designee to execute all agreements and other documents necessary in connection with the grant and complete any negotiations, certifications, and documentation required to accept, modify, extend or amend the grant award provided no additional funds will be allocated without prior Council approval.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, _____, 20____

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES- BROOKS, DE LA FUENTE, KAPLAN, KERNIGHAN, NADEL, QUAN, REID and
PRESIDENT BRUNNER

NOES-

ABSENT-

ABSTENTION-

ATTEST: _____
LATONDA SIMMONS
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
of the City of Oakland, California