

4 R Kids Program and Service Committee

Friday May 5, 2023

9:00 A.M.

Meeting held at the Madison County Extension Office in Winterset Iowa

Attendance

Nancy Hopkins, Wendy Sawyer, Colleen Strohmaier, Brittany Shinn, Jessica Petter and Debra Schrader were in attendance.

Housekeeping *(information)*

Overview of the grant renewal process was reviewed. Conflict of interest was discussed, there was no conflict of interest noted by committee members that would impact recommendations. Board member Jess Petter will be the reporter for the board meeting May 18, 2023. Director Schrader will draft the minutes for the meeting.

FY23 3rd Quarter reports *(information)*

The committee reviewed the 3rd quarter reports prior to the meeting. One contractor will receive a letter regarding concerns of not meeting ECI family support eligibility enrollment requirements in the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd quarter. There are ongoing reporting issues with a child care nurse consultant contract. A high level report will be provided to the board.

FY24 Request for Renewal Review and Comments *(information)*

- The draft FY24 early childhood grant is expected to be \$247,706 or (7%) more than FY23. The FY24 draft school ready grant amount is expected to be \$959,791 or (4.6%) more than FY23, for a total of early childhood funding and school ready funding increase expected from FY22 to FY23 of \$58,351. Potential carryover is \$110,000. The funding is considered draft until the Governor signs the Health and Human Services budget bill.
- The FY24 Request for Renewal process was not an open competition and is the last year of three year grant cycle. The next open Request for Proposal process will be FY25. The Board reserves the right to have an open request for proposal process at any time.
- The committee reviewed the 4 R Kids strategic plan and focused on priorities as well as the guiding principles.
- The request for renewal process consisted of a cover page, community impact page, no more than two pages of six narrative questions, and a budget. Additional items required were, proof of insurance, assurances, board of directors roster and several quality verifications.
- Agencies were to request no more than the allocations received in FY23, however a question was asked “if there were additional funding available what need would they fill and how much additional funding would they need.” Of the ten applications, there were eight applicants requested additional funding.
- A technical review was conducted on each application and four applications did not meet the technical review, but was included in the funding plan/recommendations. Contractors will be reminded to always check their work before submitting future applications.
- The board administrative support budget increased over last year and includes fiscal agent fees and other expenses related to board operations. Central Iowa Juvenile Detention Center has agreed to continue as the fiscal agent and record of employer. The ECI director budget changed slightly due to the increase in compensation.

FY24 Funding Plan (recommendation)

The following are recommendations for FY24 programming pending FY23 carryover, state allocations, state program criteria, 4 R Kids Early Childhood Iowa Area board approval, Early Childhood Iowa office approval and Department of Health and Human Services approval. The recommendations are as follows:

FY24 Funding Recommendations for Programming		
Lutheran Services of Iowa	New Parent Program HFA – long term home visitation	\$176,031.00
Short Years Partnership	Parents as Teachers – long term home visitation	\$272,000.00
Southwestern Community College	Parents as Teachers – long term home visitation	\$111,716.62
Warren County Health Services	Child Care Nurse Consultant	\$43,617.00
Every Step (Formally VNS)	Child Care Nurse Consultant	\$32,250.84
MATURA	Child Care Nurse Consultant	\$11,661.56
Dallas County ISU Extension	Child Care Quality Improvement Project (Training, Mini Grants, IECMHC)	\$165,461.00
Orchard Place/CCRR	Child Care Provider Incentives (QRS, ChildNet, BIP, Safe Sleep supplies)	\$22,575.00
Orchard Place/CCRR	Child Care Provider Consultation and Technical Assistance	\$23,029.00
Dallas County ISU Extension	Preschool Enrichment Project	\$84,574.00
Dallas County ISU Extension	Preschool Scholarship Tuition	\$153,700.00
Dallas County ISU Extension	Preschool Transportation	\$2,120.00
Dallas County ISU Extension	Preschool Dental Screening	\$9,010.00
Dallas County ISU Extension	Preschool Professional Development	\$3,285.00
Total		\$1,112,532.02

Additional Comments

- The FY24 budget has \$63,082.43 unallocated funding and it will be reserved to assist with interpretation needs, preschool tuition, and other needs.
- A process will be developed for contractors to request additional funds in the event there are emerging needs during the FY24 fiscal year.
- Lutheran Services in Iowa is encouraged to serve families in Adair County in FY24; as of the 3rd quarter no Adair County families have been served.
- All family support programs are reminded that starting July 1, 2023, 80% of new enrollments are to meet 80% of the ECI enrollment criteria.
- Dallas County ISU Extension, Warren County Health Services, MATURA, Orchard Place and Every step is to collaborate with each other to avoid duplication on incentives for child care providers.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 A.M.