



PCL Staff Recommendations for Grant Renewal Process and Allocation Options for Additional Revenue 2016- 2017

Background: PCL Staff considered the following parameters in developing the renewal process and allocation options for the additional accrued revenue:

- **Current Allocation of PCL Funds:** Staff initially analyzed all current investments, including the additional investments made in 2015 to re-evaluate the percentage of overall Levy resources invested in each program area, and in the strategies selected for funding in each program area to understand the current relative allocation of resources.
- **Past public input and Previous funding process:** Staff reviewed the public input gathered and documented in the last competitive funding round; feedback received from applicants, reviewers, and Committee members during the last process; and current local data on relevant populations to look for opportunities to address issues raised in feedback, and information on developing needs in the community. Staff also reviewed unsuccessful applicants from the 2014 funding round to gauge level and type of competition in each program area.
- **Administrative Capacity:** Staff weighed approaches that would keep the administrative burden for grantees, applicants, Allocation Committee members and staff reasonable considering that grants will be for 2 years with future funding dependent on voter reauthorization of the Levy (current levy expires 6/30/2019), and if authorized, another round of competition for funding.
- **Timeframe:** Staff recognized the short time frame for approving and executing a process to make allocations for a July 1, 2017 contract start including sequencing of decisions on renewal of existing grants, potentially increasing some subset of existing grants, and potentially allowing applications for new programs.
- **Program quality support:** Staff considered ways to leverage current quality improvement work in all program areas, and whether additional funding would be needed for grantee staffing to improve program quality.
- **Local context:** Staff considered information it collectively gathers from other funders and from participating in a variety of policy and practitioner groups that operate in the children's policy arena. These groups and partners raise, discuss, and seek to address emerging community needs, present new reports and data on current efforts, and bring to light state and national priorities and issues that have local dimensions. These groups and partners include: Early Learning Multnomah, Multnomah County Home Visiting Community of Practice, All Hands Raised Partnership governance and collaborative groups, SUN Coordinating Council, United Way Successful Families 2020, Oregon ASK and regional STEM hubs, Institute for Youth Success, Grantmakers of Oregon and Southwest Washington, Grantmakers for Education, and Prevent Child Abuse America – Oregon Chapter.
- **Allocation Committee member input:** Staff talked individually with each Allocation Committee member over the summer to hear his/her perspective on allocation options for additional, accrued revenue. Staff refined its recommendations based on each member's feedback.

PCL Staff Recommendations for Current Grant Renewal Process

1. Consider renewal of all current grants plus a 2% COLA (compounded) pending review of program and financial performance
2. Provide grantees with staff's renewal recommendations, including grant and financial performance summary, by February 24, 2017. Grantees have one week, until March 3, 2017 to review and to add comments to the performance summary and return to PCL staff.
3. Final versions of staff recommendations, including any additional grantee comments, sent to Allocation Committee members no later than Tuesday, March 7.
4. Renewal decisions to be made by the Allocation Committee the third week of March, date TBD.

PCL Staff Recommendations for Allocation of Additional Revenue

Timeline and process for these options will be discussed in later Allocation Committee meetings pending committee's decisions regarding pursuing these options. Staff's recommendations focus on allocating funding to current grantees using the following policy options:

1. Reduce Caseloads for Home Visiting Programs/Require Minimum Level of Reflective Supervision:

Allocate up to \$1.5 million over 2 years for up to 25 grantees. Builds on quality improvement work undertaken in early childhood, child abuse prevention/intervention and foster care program areas to support programs becoming more trauma-informed in their practices. Improves quality of services by reducing workload for home visitors to an average of 8 home visits per week and assures they have additional supervisory support for their work.

2. Mental Health Consultation Services for Home Visiting Programs

Allocate up to \$300,000 to add at least 2 FTE to existing mental health consultation grant in early childhood, and broaden its scope to serve 20 - 25 grantees across child abuse prevention/intervention, foster care, and early childhood program areas. Include requirement that bilingual/bicultural mental health consultants are part of the team or are sub-contracted to provide services. Builds on quality improvement work started in spring 2016 in early childhood, child abuse prevention/intervention and foster care by providing additional supports to home visitors, their supervisors, and their clients.

3. Increase Funding for Summer Programming in After School Program Area:

Allocate up to \$1.5 million over 2 years. Allow only currently funded after-school programs that provide summer programming to increase the number of youth served, lengthen the weeks of service offered, and/or increase the number of locations at which they offer services to avert summer learning loss, to engage youth in constructive activities, and to assist working parents with childcare needs. The specific need for more summer programming that supports academics and provides enrichment was noted by stakeholders in the public input gathered prior to the 2014 funding round, and is a national priority in the out-of-school-time field.

4. Increase the Community Childcare Initiative:

Allocate up to \$1.1 million over 2 years. Would allow more families to receive subsidy for quality care and education. Keeps childcare costs for families earning up to 200% of the Federal Poverty Level to no more than 10% of income.