

# children's levy

Allocation Committee
April 18, 2023



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Revised Foster Care Policy Proposal

# **Background**

#### **Current policy**

 Children served in foster care programs must be in substitute care at program enrollment, or at some time prior to enrollment

#### Change proposed Feb. 2023

 Allow programs to serve children and families with Oregon Department of Child Welfare (ODHS) involvement who are/were not in substitute care

#### Rationale

- Declining number of children in foster care
- Align with ODHS focus on foster care prevention



## **Additional Data**

In FY 2021-22, PCL-funded foster care programs:

- Served 41% of the population of children in foster care in Multnomah County
- As a group, served 90.6% of youth they projected to serve



## **Revised Proposal**

- Allow programs to serve some youth who are not in substitute care
- Cap the percentage of children served who are not in substitute care at 10% of the program's service goal for youth
- Require prior written approval from PCL grant manager to exceed the 10% cap



## Rationale

- PCL-funded programs are reaching a substantial portion of foster youth in Multnomah County
- Some programs have capacity to serve additional youth
- Services may help prevent foster care placement
- Prioritizes serving youth in substitute care





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**Grant Renewal** 

### **Grant Renewal Process Overview**

## February Allocation Committee Meeting:

- Renewal funding recommendations calculated using base amount of 40% of 3-year grant
- 4% compounded COLA added to base amount for 2-year grant total
- Staff may recommend reduced funding where grantees were not able to return to pre-pandemic service levels
- Grantees notified of renewal recommendation approach



## **Grant Renewal Process Overview**

#### February - April 2023:

- Reviewed grantees' mid-year progress reports and spending trends
- Met w/ grantees to discuss results, any performance concerns
- Developed and sent renewal recommendations to grantees by March 31
- Grantees had option to send written response to staff recommendations
- Staff recommendations and grantee written responses sent to AC



## **Mid-Year Data Analysis**

#### **Positive Trends**

- 83% of grantees on track to meet goals for number of people served
- 78% of grantees on track to meet at least half of service activity delivery goals

#### **Challenges**

- 64% of grantees reported ongoing staffing challenges
  - 31% said staffing issues affected the number of people they served
  - 65% said staffing issues affected the number of service activities they could provide



# **Mid-Year Spending**

### **Pre-Pandemic:**

44%-45% of budget

### **Pandemic:**

38% of budget

### **Current Year:**

42% of budget



## **Staff Funding Recommendations**

- 76 of 80 grants recommended for renewal at full formula
- 3 grants recommended for reductions
- 1 grant declined renewal
- Continuing and significant issues meeting service goals and/or underspending at end of fiscal year may result in annual budgets of less than the maximum allowed

