



COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR  
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TO: Conan Smith  
Chair, Ways & Means Committee

THROUGH: Robert E. Guenzel  
County Administrator

FROM: Patricia J. Horne McGee, Director  
Washtenaw County Head Start

DATE: June 3, 2009

SUBJECT: 2009-2010 Competitive Grant Application for The Great Start  
Readiness Program (GSRP)

**BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:**

The Washtenaw County Head Start program is requesting ratification of the Administrator's signature on the grant application to the Michigan Department of Education for the Competitive Great Start Readiness Program for the period of October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010 in the amount of \$68,000 to serve 20 existing Head Start children and families who are at risk, in full day classrooms.

It is further requested that the Board of Commissioners authorize the Administrator to sign the Notice of Grant Award, approve the budget, and authorize the Administrator to sign delegate contracts.

**BACKGROUND:**

Washtenaw County has administered the Head Start program for eligible children and their families in Washtenaw County for forty- four (44) years, and currently directly operates a program in Ypsilanti, and child care partnerships, for 262 children and families and delegate programs at Ann Arbor, Whitmore Lake and Willow Run for 299 children and families.

Under Public Act 268 of 2008, Head Start programs are allowed to apply as a competitive grantee for funds available through the Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP), previously known as The Michigan School Readiness Program (MSRP). The purpose of the funding is to provide preschool programs for four-year-old children who may be "at risk" of school failure. Each child must have at least two of 25 identified risk factors and more than 50 percent of the children served must be low income (defined as 300% of the federal poverty level or below). GSRP policies and regulations require

strong family involvement and parent education components as well as preschool education and thus align well with Head Start goals and objectives.

**DISCUSSION:**

The most recent community assessment conducted by Head Start in 2008 indicates an increase in the number of children receiving free and reduced lunch in the Ypsilanti School District. The 20 children to be served in this grant have multiple risk factors such as income below the federal poverty guidelines, low educational attainment of the parent(s), teenage parent, homelessness, unemployment, mental health issues, incarcerated parent, domestic violence in the home. These children will be fully integrated into the program and programming at the Ypsilanti site. The goal is for seamless quality services for all children in this site irrespective of funding.

The GSRP program will be administered in two, blended, full day classrooms with GSRP and Head Start children in a center-based model. The full day option will provide programming for children whose parents are either working, in school full time, or participating in job training. Children will attend school five days per week for a minimum of six hours each day, for at least 35 weeks. No additional children will be added. The aggregate number of children at the Ypsilanti site will remain at 243.

**IMPACT ON HUMAN RESOURCES:**

None

**IMPACT ON BUDGET:**

This grant supplements existing funding Head Start receives from the Department of Health & Human Services. No general fund appropriation is-requested or required.

**IMPACT ON INDIRECT COSTS:**

None

**IMPACT ON OTHER COUNTY DEPARTMENTS OR OUTSIDE AGENCIES:**

This action reflects the ongoing community collaboration with Success by Six to ensure age-eligible children who are at risk are served in the most appropriate preschool setting.

**CONFORMITY TO COUNTY POLICIES:**

The requested board action is in conformity with county policies.

**ATTACHMENTS/APPENDICES:**

Competitive Grant Application for the Great Start Readiness Program

A RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE SIGNATURE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR ON THE 2009-10 COMPETITIVE GREAT START READINESS PROGRAM (GSRP) GRANT APPLICATION TO THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOR WASHTENAW COUNTY HEAD START IN THE AMOUNT OF \$68,000 FOR THE PERIOD OF OCTOBER 1, 2009 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2010; AMENDING THE BUDGET; AND AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR TO SIGN DELEGATE CONTRACTS

WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

June 3, 2009

WHEREAS, Washtenaw County Head Start submitted a grant application to the Michigan Department of Education for the administration of a Competitive Great Start Readiness Program (GRSP) in the amount of \$68,000 for the period of October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010 to serve 20 current Head Start children and families who are at risk, in full day classrooms; and

WHEREAS, Washtenaw County Head Start has worked collaboratively with Success by Six to develop a county-wide database to ensure the recruitment and enrollment of eligible four year old children and their families in the most appropriate preschool settings; and

WHEREAS, the most recent Community Assessment conducted by Washtenaw County Head Start indicates a continuing need to serve children and families residing in Ypsilanti who have risk factors that include income below the federal poverty guidelines, unemployment, homelessness, mental health issues, single parent families, low educational attainment, and incarcerated parent; and

WHEREAS, if awarded the funding would provide for additional educational materials for children in two, blended, full day classrooms with GSRP and Head Start children in the Ypsilanti Head Start program and enhanced parent trainings; and

WHEREAS, the goal of the Washtenaw County Head Start is to provide seamless quality services for all children in the Ypsilanti site irrespective of funding; and

WHEREAS, this matter has been reviewed by the Head Start Policy Committee, County Administrator's Office, Corporation Counsel, the Finance Department, Human Resource Department, and the Ways and Means Committee.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners hereby ratifies the submission of the grant application to the Michigan Department of Education for The Competitive Great Start Readiness Program in the amount of \$68,000 for the period of October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010 for the Ypsilanti Head Start program, as on file with the County Clerk.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners takes the following actions contingent upon receipt of the grant award in conformity with the application:

1. Authorizing the Administrator to sign the notice of grant award
2. Amending the budget as attached hereto and made a part hereof
3. Authorizing the County Administrator to sign delegate contracts upon review of Corporation Counsel to be filed with the County Clerk.

Head Start  
Great Start Readiness Program  
2760099450  
October 1, 2009 – September 30, 2010

	<u>Current</u>	<u>Revised</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Revenue:			
54000 State Revenue	\$0	\$68,000	\$68,000
Total Revenue	\$0	\$68,000	\$68,000
Expenditures:			
70050 Personal Services	\$0	\$58,000	\$58,000
72600 Supplies	\$0	\$3,000	\$3,000
80000 Other Services & Charges	\$0	\$7,000	\$7,000
Total Expenditures	\$0	\$68,000	\$68,000
Indirect Costs = \$0			