

Department: County Management **Program Contact:** Travis Graves
Program Offer Type: Innovative/New Program **Program Offer Stage:** As Proposed
Related Programs:
Program Characteristics:

Executive Summary

This program offer requests \$330,000 of General Funds which will be used to establish and maintain a network of child care providers of discounted child care to County employees. With this funding, the County will pay a percentage (estimated at 10%) of tuition for up to 180 children placed in the Multnomah County Child Care Network. The payment will go directly to providers in the network as tuition for the children of participating County employees. This discount will allow Multnomah County employees to access quality child care at a more affordable rate.

Program Summary

Child care for working parents provides support to both families and employers. According to a national study of employers, availability of quality child care improves productivity and reduces absenteeism and turnover. Access to high-quality child care also affects child development.

A 2013 national study found that Oregon has the least affordable child care in the country. In a survey issued in late 2013, many County employees reported a desire for affordable, high-quality child care near their work sites, and expressed interest in Multnomah County-sponsored child care facilities. For these reasons, Multnomah County seeks to provide child care support to County employees.

With this program offer, Multnomah County will enter into agreements with multiple child care centers around the city to provide discounted rates and priority access for children of County employees. Providers may include both center-based and certified in-home child care. It would also fund the tuition discount for County employees who place their children in the Multnomah County Childcare Network. With this funding, the County will pay a percentage (estimated at 10%) of tuition for employees who place their children in the Multnomah County Child Care Network (up to 180 children). The payment will go directly to providers in the network as tuition for the children of County employees. This discount will allow Multnomah County employees to access high-quality child care at a more affordable rate.

Funding will be used for two purposes:

- a) Management and maintenance of the network of up to 15 child care providers,
- b) Incentives and stipends paid to child care providers in exchange for discounted rates and priority access for children of County employees.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY14 Actual	FY15 Purchased	FY15 Estimate	FY16 Offer
Output	Percent of employee referrals that are able to access care through the network	NA	NA	NA	65%
Outcome	Percent of participating parents satisfied with the quality of childcare received through the network.	NA	NA	NA	100%
Output	Number of children enrolled in the Multnomah County Child Care Network.	NA	NA	NA	125

Performance Measures Descriptions

"Employee Referrals" is defined as: employees who contact Central Human Resources and request assistance placing one or more children in child care through the Multnomah County Child Care Network.

"Participating parents" are those employees with children receiving child care through the Multnomah County Child Care network.

Legal / Contractual Obligation

Because participation would confer an indirect financial benefit to employees, the County will need to negotiate labor representatives' approval of respective bargaining units' membership eligibility. Central HR does not foresee barriers to securing agreement.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2015	2015	2016	2016
Contractual Services	\$330,000	\$0	\$155,000	\$0
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$4,000	\$0
Internal Services	\$0	\$0	\$171,000	\$0
Total GF/non-GF	\$330,000	\$0	\$330,000	\$0
Program Total:	\$330,000		\$330,000	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Program Revenues				
Total Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Explanation of Revenues

This program is supported by General Fund revenues.

In FY 2017, this program will be funded by adjusting the personnel rates charged to departments. Departments will receive a minor increase in their General Fund Contingency to cover the higher cost.

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2015: 72021A Network of Child Care for County Employees

In FY 2015, this program was budgeted in program offers 72021A and 72021B. For FY 2016, these programs have been merged.