



Agenda Item 2
May 4, 2016

DATE: April 20, 2016

TO: Children and Families Commission of Orange County

FROM: Christina Altmayer, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: Neighborhood Resource Network/Prevention and Early Intervention

ACTION: Receive status report on the Neighborhood Resource Network/Prevention and Early Intervention Program.

SUMMARY:

During fiscal year 2015/16 the Children and Families Commission of Orange County approved \$525,000 of Round 2 catalytic funding to support the evaluation and implementation of the Neighborhood Resource Network program, formerly known as the Prevention and Early Intervention Program. The program design included both a Randomized Control Trial (RCT) evaluation and a payment structure that heavily leveraged the Commission’s learning’s on the previous *Pay for Success* grants. As reported to the Commission in April, multiple grant opportunities have been pursued to continue progress on *Pay for Success* and generate support for the RCT. The Commission has successfully been awarded two grants: a grant from the Laura and John Arnold Foundation to implement the RCT evaluation; and a technical assistance award to conduct a *Pay for Success* feasibility analysis by the Institute for Child Success.

DISCUSSION:

The Commission funding for this program is intended to be one-time launch funding. Sustainability planning has been done in parallel with program planning and implementation. From the outset, opportunities have been explored to fund the evaluation and expand the implementation of the *Pay for Success* model within this program, and two grant applications were submitted last February. The Commission was notified last month that the RCT would be fully funded by the Laura and John Arnold Foundation. In April, notification was received confirming that the Commission’s Neighborhood Resource Network program was selected to receive technical assistance from the Institute for Child Success to further explore the feasibility of a *Pay for Success* funding model.

The application to the Institute for Child Success was submitted in partnership with the Orange County Social Services Agency for technical assistance to explore how a *Pay for Success* model could be integrated within this program. The Institute for Child Success is a recipient of a federal grant designed to expand the use of *Pay for Success* financing as a means of driving government resources toward evidence-based social programs that prove effective at achieving results for the people who need them most. The design of the Neighborhood Resource Network program includes payments that will be made to community service providers for successful outcomes, such as engagement of families into services, retention of families through the completion of services, and achievement of the program goal. These metrics are indicators of progress toward the ultimate outcome of reducing substantiated reports of child abuse or maltreatment six months post service completion.

The technical assistance provided through this support would likely focus on the identification of all potential end payors and structure of a *Pay for Success* project. The year long technical assistance grant begins in June 2016 at the national *Pay for Success* conference hosted by the Institute for Child Success and sponsored by Ready Nation and the Sorensen Impact Center. Commission staff and Social Service Agency staff will attend the conference. The Commission will continue to be updated on the details of the technical assistance timeline and key deliverables.

STRATEGIC PLAN & FISCAL SUMMARY:

The proposed project has been specifically reviewed in relation to the Strategic Plan and is consistent with the Commission Strong Families goal area. Round 2 Catalytic Funding and unspent funding from fiscal year 2014/15 in the amount of \$500,000 has been allocated. An additional \$25,000 has been allocated to support the evaluation design from unspent funds in fiscal year 2014/15.

PRIOR COMMISSION ACTIONS:

- April 2015 – Received program update
- October 2015 – Approved Funding for Program Implementation
- July 2015 – Approved evaluation design
- April 2015 – Program Update
- December 2014 – Approved release of the Request for Proposal
- October 2014 – Released contingency on Title 4E waiver and confirmation of prevention early intervention scope
- January 2013 – Programmatic update and funding set aside
- March 2012 – Funding Allocation as part of the Round 2 Catalytic Investment

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Receive status report on the Neighborhood Resource Network/Prevention and Early Intervention Program.

Contact: Kim Goll