



Department of County Management

MULTNOMAH COUNTY OREGON

Budget Office

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TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Jennifer Unruh, Senior Budget Analyst

DATE: 9/3/2014

SUBJECT: General Fund Contingency Request of \$1,000,000 for Programs to Eradicate Socio-economic Disparities in Multnomah County

Budget Modification DCHS-21-15 requests that \$1,000,000 of General Fund contingency be appropriated for programs to eradicate socio-economic disparities in Multnomah County.

The funding is to support programs that follow the federal Promise Neighborhoods Initiative model in response to a range of socio-economic disparities identified in reports by the Coalition of Communities of Color.

General Fund Contingency Policy Compliance

The Budget Office is required to inform the Board if contingency requests submitted for approval satisfy the general guidelines and policies for using the General Fund Contingency.

In particular,

- Criteria 1 states contingency requests should be for one-time-only purposes. **This request is for one-time-only funding.**
- Criteria 2 addresses emergencies and unanticipated situations. **This item is not an emergency but was anticipated during the FY 2015 Budget process.**
- Criteria 3 address items identified in Board Budget Notes. **This item was identified in a Fiscal Year 2015 Board Budget Note that states:**

Since 2010, the Coalition of Communities of Color has published several reports documenting disparities in a wide range of outcomes and services experienced by communities of color living in Multnomah County. The Board of Commissioners is placing \$1.0 million in General Fund Contingency for programs to eradicate socio-economic disparities in Multnomah County. The Board is interested in programs following the template of the federal Promise Neighborhoods Initiative, including efforts to improve the quality of life for youth experiencing generational poverty and discrimination. The Board is seeking to develop evidence-based solutions tailored to the cultural specifics of each community through a collaborative infrastructure that promotes long-term impact and positive results.

A multi-departmental team led by the Department of County Human Services and including the Department of Community Justice, the Office of Diversity and Equity, along with community stakeholders, and philanthropic community shall work together to plan how this funding will be used to address socio-economic disparities, inclusive of school retention, completion and reduction in school suspensions and expulsion.

This team will report back to the Board by August 31, 2014, with a program proposal that includes:

- Identification of how County resources will be used and leveraged to eliminate disparities in services experienced within the community;*
- Descriptions of the programs that will be implemented with this funding;*
- Which communities the programs will be designed to serve;*
- How many people can be served with the funding;*
- The programs' desired outcomes, including performance measures and targets that directly respond to the "Unsettling Profile" reports;*
- Development of successful training and consultancy methods that establish competencies to support successful families and youth residing in Multnomah County.*

Funding will be released by the Board upon approval of the program proposal. After program implementation begins, the team will report back to the Board on program progress including successes, challenges, and/or implementation barriers. One report should occur by December 31, 2014 and another by March 31, 2015.