

Investing in our future
**portland
children's
levy**

Request for City Council Approval

Background

In November 2002, Portland voters approved the Portland Children's Levy (PCL). The Levy was approved by voters for a five-year renewal in fall 2008 and again in spring 2013. The Levy generates \$10 -15million annually for programs benefitting Portland children in early childhood, after-school, mentoring, child abuse prevention and intervention, foster care and hunger relief. Administrative costs for the fund are capped at 5% of revenues and the fund obtains annual audits to assure compliance with the administrative cap. A copy of the 2013 ballot language for the Children's Levy is attached as "Exhibit A: Children's Levy 2013 Ballot Language."

An Allocation Committee governs PCL and grants funds to programs serving children and families residing in the City of Portland. The Allocation Committee is comprised of a City Commissioner (Dan Saltzman), a County Commissioner (Deborah Kafoury), a representative of the Portland Business Alliance (Mitch Hornecker), a citizen member appointed by the County Board (Serena Stoudamire-Wesley), and a citizen member appointed by the City Council (Julie S. Young).

In July 2015, City Council approved recommendations for allocating Levy resources as set forth in "Exhibit B: Ordinance: Approve funding recommendations made by Children's Levy Allocation Committee," and Exhibit C: 2015 Allocations. This ordinance included approval of a \$200,000 allocation to support system partners in working to build and improve systems that affect children and families. The Allocation Committee recently recommended funding two system building grants for which approval is now sought.

System Building and Supporting System Partners

PCL works with various system partners on policy and service coordination where these efforts share goals similar to Levy goals, and in an effort to coordinate, build and/or improve the systems in which Levy grantees operate to serve children and families. The Allocation Committee has voted to recommend funding the grants described below to support system partners.

1. Joint Investment in Improving Professional Development System for Childcare Providers

The Early Childhood Funders' Learning Circle (ECFLC), of which the Levy is a part, has been working for the past year to develop a joint funding initiative to support system improvements in early childhood. The ECFLC is a group of funders (private, community, corporate and family foundations, Social Venture Partners), that have been meeting for the past nine years to develop their collective knowledge base on important issues in early childhood care and education, to stay abreast of early childhood system developments in the state, and to network with each other on early childhood investment priorities.

After research on other early childhood funding collaboratives, consultation with member organizations, early childhood experts, researchers, and staff of Oregon's Early Learning Division, the ECFLC created a joint investment opportunity for members to collectively fill a particular gap in the professional development system for childcare providers as described below.

Oregon recently implemented a Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) for childcare providers. Among other things, the rating system includes a domain for qualifications of personnel providing care, and uses the state system (Oregon Registry) for documenting and recognizing professional development "steps" as the means for evaluating the level of quality in this domain. In order for childcare providers to move up the "steps" in the Oregon Registry, they must complete specified types of training. Culturally and linguistically diverse providers, and those providers located in rural areas lack access to these trainings which prevents providers from improving their quality rating, and, in turn, becoming eligible for a higher rate of reimbursement under the state's Employment Related Day Care reimbursement system. The proposed project seeks to assist in remedying this situation by undertaking the following:

- Develop more master trainers (trainers who train cadres of other trainers) from under-represented communities and language groups, and who live in rural areas to increase the number of people who can provide professional development to childcare providers serving communities of color, English language learners and rural areas.
- Increase the pool of culturally and linguistically diverse trainers and trainers living in rural areas who can provide culturally and linguistically specific trainings to childcare providers serving communities of color, English language learners and rural areas.
- Identify and develop culturally responsive training curricula improvements in partnership with trainers and the communities they serve.

Project Details:

Grantee: Oregon Community Foundation as fiscal agent to collect funding from partner organizations

Timeline: 3 years beginning in January 2017.

Estimated Project Cost: \$810,000 over 3 years.

PCL Contribution: \$100,000 over 2.5 years; funds to be spent on training trainers and childcare providers in the City of Portland.

Evaluation: Project plan and budget includes funding to evaluate effort.

Investment Committee: PCL staff will sit on the investment committee charged with monitoring implementation.

2. Joint Investment in Improving Equity/Inclusion Practices among Non-Profits and Funders

The Center for Equity and Inclusion (CEI), a recently formed non-profit dedicated to developing systemic approaches to closing disparities faced by under-represented communities in Oregon, has recently piloted a cohort learning model for community-based organizations and funders designed to embed equity and inclusion within organizational practices and procedures. The model is designed to inform the broader funding community on how to best advance equity both organizationally and systemically.

With initial investments from foundations (Collins, Meyer, Miller, MRG, Oregon Community, Trailblazers), CEI began providing ongoing consultation and training to all levels of several community-based organizations in early 2016. Training and support is focused on operationalizing equity and inclusion policy and procedure at all levels of the organization, including board leadership.

Organizations participating in the 2016 cohort included several PCL grantees (Friends of the Children, New Avenues for Youth and Boys and Girls Clubs).

CEI is currently securing commitments to begin the process with a second cohort of community-based organizations, and is seeking to form a learning community of funders to move through a parallel process. The learning community will meet quarterly with a focus on the following objectives:

- Understanding the process that a community-based organization goes through to advance equity and build a culturally responsive organization;
- Learning how to best support this process as a funder;
- Developing a shared standard for assessing grantees' capacity to use grant funding in an equitable and inclusive manner;
- Building a shared commitment to and competence in advancing issues of equity, diversity and inclusion in the funding community.

CEI has asked PCL to participate in the second cohort which will begin shortly. Meyer, Oregon Community Foundation, United Way, Collins and the Trailblazer foundations have all committed to participating in this cohort. CEI is soliciting 6 non-profit organizations to participate in the second cohort. Saturday Academy's board has recently approved their participation, and others are in the works. Saturday Academy is a grantee of the Children's Levy.

Project Details

Grantee: Center for Equity and Inclusion

Timeline: January 2017 – February 2018.

Estimated Project Cost: \$295,000

Proposed PCL Contribution: \$25,000

Deliverables: Mid-Year Progress report focused on outputs (e.g. progress on training, policy development, and funder cohort meetings); Cohort Completion Report that includes an impact and learnings report, as well as individual project reports prepared by the participating community-based organizations.

Request for City Council Approval

PCL is requesting that City Council accept these recommendations of the Allocation Committee to fund the investments in improving the professional development system for childcare providers and improving equity and inclusion practices for non-profits and funders.

Exhibit A: 2013 Children's Levy Ballot Measure

Ballot Language for PCL Renewal in May 2013

Question: Shall Portland continue abuse, neglect prevention, children's programs; five-year levy \$0.4026 per \$1,000 assessed value beginning 2014; require audits? This measure renews current local option taxes.

Summary:

Renews the Portland Children's Levy; supports proven programs designed to prevent childhood hunger, prevent child abuse and neglect, help children arrive at school ready to learn, provide safe constructive after-school alternatives for kids and help foster children succeed.

Funds can only be used for:

- **Preventing childhood hunger:** giving hungry children healthy, nutritious meals and food.
- **Child abuse prevention and intervention:** addressing juvenile crime, school failure, drug and alcohol abuse, homeless youth.
- **Early childhood programs:** making childcare more affordable and preparing children for success in school.
- **After-school, summer and mentoring programs:** promoting academic achievement, reducing the number of juveniles victimized by crime, increasing graduation rates.
- **Children in foster care programs:** helping foster children who have been abused and neglected succeed.

Accountability measures include:

- Investments subject to annual audits.
- Programs funded must be cost effective and have a proven record of success.
- Investments subject to oversight by a citizen committee.
- Administrative costs cannot exceed 5 percent.

It is estimated the levy will raise an average of \$10.56 million per year for five years.

ORDINANCE No. 187274

* Approve funding recommendations made by Children's Levy Allocation Committee for July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2017. (Ordinance)

The City of Portland ordains:

Section 1. The Council finds:

1. The City proposed and voters approved a local option property tax levy at the November 5, 2002, general election to fund programs to help children in Portland.
2. The levy created the Portland Children's Levy to make targeted investments in proven programs in the areas of: early childhood development to support children and families to prepare for kindergarten; after school and mentoring to provide students a safe place to learn and offer vital one-to-one help to increase academic and social skills; and child abuse prevention and intervention to reach at-risk children and stressed families. A five-person citizen Allocation Committee was created to make recommendations regarding the expenditure of levy fund.
3. In November 2008 voters approved a renewal of the local option property tax levy to continue supporting the Portland Children's Levy to make targeted investments in proven programs adding a new investment category for programs that help foster children succeed through a wide array of services that support their educational and social development.
4. In May 2013 voters approved a second renewal of the local option property tax levy to continue supporting the Portland Children's Levy to make targeted investments in proven programs adding a new investment category for hunger relief to provide nutritious and healthy meals to mitigate hunger's devastating effects on a child's health and well-being.
5. In June 2014, City Council approved the Allocation Committee's recommendations to fund \$32,881,078 in grants over a three year period (2014-2017) as detailed in Exhibit B to the Memorandum attached hereto.
6. In January 2015, the City economist notified the Portland Children's Levy that the Levy would generate an additional \$8.1 million in revenues available for granting in fiscal years 2015 through 2017.
7. In a series of public meetings held between February and July 2015, The Allocation Committee voted to allocate these additional revenues as set forth in Exhibit C to the memorandum attached hereto.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Council directs:

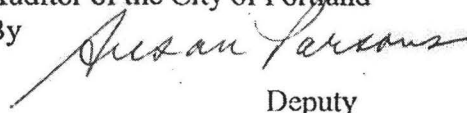
- a. The funding recommendations made by the Children's Levy Allocation Committee described in the memorandum attached hereto are approved. The Commissioner of Public Affairs is authorized to enter into agreements awarding grants substantially similar to those contemplated in the Allocation Committee funding recommendations to the organization identified in the funding recommendation.
- b. In the event that any grantee becomes unwilling or unable to use City grant funds in a manner consistent with a grant agreement that is authorized by this ordinance, the Commission in charge is hereby authorized to terminate the grant agreement in accordance with its terms, and execute a new grant agreement with a different grantee provided that (1) the funding allocated for the new grant agreement is equal to the amount of unspent funds allocated by this ordinance for the terminated agreement, and (2) the scope of work stated in the new agreement is substantially the same as the scope of work in the terminated agreement.

Section 2. The Council declares that an emergency exists because a delay in approving the attached agreement would jeopardize the ability of the City to fund these vital programs in a timely manner; therefore this ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage by Council.

Passed by the Council:
Commissioner Dan Saltzman
Prepared by: Lisa Pellegrino
Date Prepared: July 15, 2015

JUL 29 2015

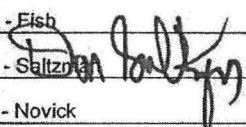
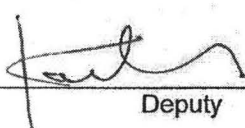
Mary Hull Caballero
Auditor of the City of Portland
By



Deputy

Agenda No.
ORDINANCE NO. 18 7 27 4
Title

*Approve recommendations made by Children's Levy Allocation Committee for grant funding July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2017. Ordinance)

INTRODUCED BY Commissioner/Auditor: Commissioner Saltzman	CLERK USE: DATE FILED <u>JUL 24 2015</u>
COMMISSIONER APPROVAL	Mary Hull Caballero Auditor of the City of Portland
Mayor—Finance and Administration - Hales	
Position 1/Utilities - Fritz	
Position 2/Works - Fish	
Position 3/Affairs - Saltzman 	
Position 4/Safety - Novick	By:  Deputy
BUREAU APPROVAL	ACTION TAKEN:
Bureau: Portland Children's Levy Bureau Head: Lisa Pellegrino	
Prepared by: Lisa Pellegrino Date Prepared: 7/15/15	
Financial Impact & Public Involvement Statement Completed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amends Budget <input type="checkbox"/>	
Portland Policy Document If "Yes" requires City Policy paragraph stated in document. Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
City Auditor Office Approval: required for Code Ordinances	
City Attorney Approval: required for contract, code, easement, franchise, comp plan, charter	
Council Meeting Date July 29, 2015	

AGENDA
TIME CERTAIN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Start time: Total amount of time needed: (for presentation, testimony and discussion)
CONSENT <input type="checkbox"/>
REGULAR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Total amount of time needed: minutes <u>15</u> (for presentation, testimony and discussion)

FOUR-FIFTHS AGENDA	COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:	
	YEAS	NAYS
1. Fritz	✓	
2. Fish	—	—
3. Saltzman	✓	
4. Novick	✓	
Hales	✓	

Exhibit C - Portland Children's Levy

2015 Allocations

Allocation	Amount
Cost-of-Living Adjustment for Current Grantees	\$465,000
Early Childhood Initiatives (Organization: Program)	\$4,499,000
Mt Hood Community College Childcare Resource & Referral: Childcare Quality & Affordability Initiative	\$2,000,000
Albina Head Start: Head Start/Oregon Pre-Kindergarten	\$1,326,000
Mt Hood Community College: Head Start/Oregon Pre-Kindergarten	\$810,000
Portland Public Schools: Head Start/Oregon Pre-Kindergarten	\$363,000
Additional Funding for 2014 Grantees	\$1,004,000
Immigrant & Refugee Community Organization: INSPIRE After-School Program	\$100,000
Human Solutions: Learn Links After-School Program	\$112,000
Saturday Academy: After School Program	\$75,000
Impact NW: Safe & Together Foster Care Program	\$40,000
Pathfinders of Oregon: Center for Family Success	\$50,000
Salvation Army West Women's Shelter: Parent Child Involvement Program	\$115,000
Boys & Girls Aid: Permanency Recruitment Project	\$100,000
Native American Youth & Family Center: After School Program	\$60,000
Self Enhancement, Inc.: After School Program	\$150,000
Lifeworks Northwest: Family and Community Alliance	\$40,000
Impact NW: aka Science After-School Program	\$50,000
New Avenues for Youth: Avenues to College	\$50,000
Impact NW: Urban Opportunities After-School Program	\$62,000
Additional Grants to 2014 Unfunded Applicants	\$1,422,667
Immigrant & Refugee Community Organization: Hunger Relief Program	\$225,000
Metropolitan Family Services: Healthy Schools/Communities Hunger Relief	\$200,000
Janus Youth Programs: Village Gardens Hunger Relief	\$166,667
Portland Opportunities Industrialization Center: Young Parenting	\$233,000
Self Enhancement, Inc.: Intensive Parenting Program	\$233,000
Impact NW: Parent Child Involvement Project	\$185,000
College Possible: David Douglas High School Mentoring Program	\$180,000
Training/Technical Assistance/Quality Improvement	\$500,000
System Building/Supporting System Partners	\$200,000
GRAND TOTAL	\$8,090,667

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