



STAFF REPORT

Program and Evaluation Committee

September 29, 2005

ACTION: X

DISCUSSION: _____

TOPIC TITLE: Undesignated/Unallocated Funds

BACKGROUND

At the end of FY 05 the Commission released 4 million dollars that had previously been included as part of the Commission's Operating Funds account. The release of these funds created 4 million dollars of undesignated/unallocated funds for the Commission.

Subsequently, staff examined the Short-term Restricted Fund and identified an additional \$6 million that is undesignated/unallocated. This \$6 million is a combination of interest accrued on the Short-term Restricted Fund and the accumulation of prior fiscal years unspent budget allocations in all areas of the Commission's budget. Additionally, the Commission has not experienced the expected decline in Prop 10 Tax Apportionment.

The undesignated/unallocated funds that currently exist are available as one time amount not as reoccurring funds. These funds will not be available on a yearly basis. In future fiscal years there may be unexpended funds as a result of under spending of the budget during a fiscal year but the funds will not be at this level. The Commission will need to make a decision about how it wants to handle unexpended fiscal year funds in the future.

At the August 1, 05 Commission meeting \$1,416,000 of these funds was allocated for enhanced ECE strategy for 3 years as a pilot program.

At the August and September meetings of the Program and Evaluation Committee, the following recommendations were discussed and it was decided to forward these recommendations to the full Commission for consideration.

RECOMMENDATION

The following are recommendations for the remaining funds that are currently unallocated/undesignated:

1. One-time funding to develop and establish a Home Visiting Database System to enhance and support the Commission's Home Visiting strategy. Recommended allocation: Up to \$750,000 over a three-year period.
2. One-time funding to complete the PFA Planning process that the Commission has worked on during the past 14 months in partnership with the County Office of Education and the Contra Costa Child Care Council. Recommended allocation: Up to \$300,000 for the remainder of FY 05-06 and through FY 06-07.
3. Allocation of additional program funds for First 5 Centers creating a base funding allocation of \$250,000 for Antioch, Bay Point and the Far East centers. Additional funding would be applied when the site is fully up and running for a complete program year. Recommended allocation: An additional \$81,500 a year to be added to the First 5 Center strategy line item in the budget.
4. Enhance, coordinate and link the Commission's strategies (Home Visiting, Perinatal Substance Abuse Services, Early Childhood Mental Health and First 5 Centers) that provide family support services to families in the county's highest risk communities by funding and or otherwise supporting services and activities such as: Child Welfare Redesign Path I and II Services, Family, Maternal and Child Health Life Course, domestic violence services for children (Safe and Bright Futures) and enhancements to Perinatal Substance Abuse Services activities.

Implementation of the fourth recommendation would require lengthy discussion and a planning process.

ATTACHMENTS

- NO