

Lead Agency: County Human Services **Program Contact:** Peggy Samolinski
Program Offer Type: Innovative/New Program
Related Programs: 25143, 25145A, 25147, 25149, 25151A, 25154, 25155, 25156A
Program Characteristics: Out of Target

Executive Summary

This program offer seeks an additional \$600,000 County General Funds to expand Parent Child Development Services (PCDS). Expanded capacity allows for an additional 375 young children to participate in critical early childhood services.

The PCDS program provides parent education and age appropriate play groups for young children (birth through age 5) and their parents to promote positive parenting, healthy child development and school readiness. PCDS uses a nationally recognized evidence-based curriculum, Parents As Teachers (PAT). This program aligns with the Early Childhood Framework and is part of the SUN Service System, a countywide integrated and coordinated system of care for school-aged youth and their families.

Program Description

Current capacity for PCDS is approximately 792 children or nearly 600 families. Expanded capacity will mean an estimated 375 additional children, and up to 250 more families can participate. Each current agency has an established and growing wait list of families eager to participate in PCDS.

This is an opportune time to invest in early childhood services. During the current recession child poverty rates have increased from 18.0 to 20.7% and are projected to remain above 20% through the end of the current decade. It is well known that poverty is associated with lack of success in school. The research shows that students begin to fall behind at a young age and have difficulty catching up. Participation in preschool and/or early childhood program experience is correlated with readiness for kindergarten. New research by the Casey Foundation further points to the importance of regular attendance in kindergarten as an important predictor of future academic success. Attendance and participation in PCDS gives families an opportunity to build positive habits that translate to kindergarten. The universal PCDS program provides early childhood and parent education opportunities for children who historically have not participated in other formal preschool programs.

Parent Child Development Services include a range of activities designed to promote parent competence and healthy child development to ensure children are prepared to learn. Specific PCDS services include: age appropriate parent-child play groups, parenting education and support services, developmental screening, immunization status checks and follow up, and access to other social and health services. The Ages and Stages child development screening tool is used to determine developmental stage. Children not meeting the relevant stage for their age are referred for early childhood intervention services. Services are delivered in both community and school sites.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	Previous Year Actual (FY09-10)	Current Year Purchased (FY10-11)	Current Year Estimate (FY10-11)	Next Year Offer (FY11-12)
Output	# children served	0	0	0	375
Outcome	% children up to date on immunizations at exit	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	95.0%

Performance Measure - Description

Legal/Contractual Obligation**Revenue/Expense Detail**

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2011	2011	2012	2012
Contracts	\$0	\$0	\$600,000	\$0
Total GF/non-GF:	\$0	\$0	\$600,000	\$0
Program Total:	\$0		\$600,000	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Program Revenues				
Total Revenue:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Explanation of Revenues

\$600,000 – County General Fund

Significant Program Changes

Last year this program was: