



MEMORANDUM
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
CHILDREN'S SYSTEMS OF CARE DIVISION
County of Placer

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors **DATE:** April 19, 2022
FROM: Robert Oldham, Director of Health and Human Services
BY: Joey Wojtowicz, Staff Services Analyst II
SUBJECT: Family First Prevention Services Program Allocation

ACTION REQUESTED

Authorize the Children's System of Care Division Director, and Chief Probation Officer's execution of the Director's Certification intending to participate in acceptance of Family First Prevention Services Program allocated funding beginning October 1, 2021, and to sign any related documentation with County Counsel and Risk Management concurrence, and to accept any rollover funds not used by other counties during this time period.

BACKGROUND

The Federal Families First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) was enacted under Public Law 115-123 in 2018. Amongst its many provisions, it created a prevention services program that allows states the option to access Title IV-E federal financial participation for the provision of specified evidence-based mental health, substance use, and in-home parent skill-based services to children at imminent risk of entry into foster care, their parents or kin caregivers, and pregnant or parenting youth in foster care. This includes kin caregivers of children who are not under the placement and care of a Title IV-E agency and are qualified for prevention services. The intent of this legislation is to increase the availability and early access to quality prevention services for children, parents, and kin caregivers to help children remain at home while simultaneously reducing the use of foster care placements.

In July of 2021, California's FFPSA program was established in WIC §16585 through 16589 as an opt-in program for county and tribal Title IV-E agencies to develop and implement Title IV-E prevention services as part of comprehensive prevention, early intervention services and to address child well-being. The California Department of Social Services acknowledged that counties were at various stages of development of their Children's System of Care (AB 2083) Memorandum of Understanding and encouraged local Title IV-E agencies to align their State FFPSA program with the System of Care (AB 2083) framework to include comprehensive prevention. Within California's framework for prevention, Title IV-E prevention services under Part I of FFPSA are a fundamental component of the broader comprehensive prevention planning for the State FFPSA program. ACIN I-73-21 provides an overview describing the requirements of the State FFPSA program, including the populations to be served, allowable services, and prevention services case requirements.

In accordance with WIC §16588, a local Title IV-E agency opting into the FFPSA Program is required to submit a Comprehensive Prevention Plan (CPP). The components in a CPP will include primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention and intervention strategies and services that support the ability of parents and families to provide safe, stable, and nurturing environments for

their children. The Title IV-E agency must include Title IV-E prevention services as a required strategy within the CPP when opting into the FFPSA Program in order to receive State FFPSA Program Block Grant (State Block Grant) funds. Cross sector partners may vary by community, but at a minimum, must include representation from the child welfare agency, probation department, behavioral health agency, local Office of Education, community-based service providers, family resource centers, local Child Abuse Prevention Council, and those with lived experience (parents and youth). Additionally, counties must engage and invite Indian Tribes to participate or develop a process to engage Indian Tribes in the development of the CPP in accordance with WIC§16587.

Submission of a completed Letter of Intent (All County Letter No. 22-23, Attachment A) is required for county Title IV-E agencies to inform the state of their early intent to opt into the FFPSA program and to begin accessing their local State Block Grant allocation. State Block Grant allocations are eligible to be claimed retroactively beginning October 1, 2021.

FISCAL IMPACT

The State and Federal funds attached to this allocation are included in the Department's FY 2021-22 Budget and will be included in the Department's FY 2022-23 Budget. No County General Fund match is required.

ATTACHMENTS

None

The Director's Certification is on file with Clerk of the Board.