

Analysis

Item 9: Department of Human Services

Adult Protective Services

Analyst: Laurie Byerly

Request: Approve the submission of a federal grant application to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in the amount of up to \$412,000 to enhance adult protective services.

Recommendation: Approve the request.

Analysis: The Department of Human Services (DHS) is asking for approval to apply for a federal grant to help support the agency's Centralized Abuse Management (CAM) system project. A total of \$5.6 million in 2015-17 state resources for CAM was approved in SB 5507 (2015); the new system will support adult abuse data collection and report writing activities. Please note that typically federal funding is not available for adult protective services activities. While this funding is anticipated to cover CAM development and implementation, the project is nearing completion of Stage Gate 2 with a detailed business case, preferred solution, and refined cost estimates expected by fall 2016.

The federal program is offering grants of up to \$206,000 per year for two years to strengthen adult protective services systems. The grant announcement contemplates activities including the development and deployment of technology such as that within the CAM project. While the grant application is not yet complete – it is due on May 31, 2016 – the agency anticipates the final grant work plan to specifically address the need and cost associated with system integrator services. No additional positions are associated with the grant request.

DHS expects to request the total maximum amount available, which is \$412,000 federal funds. The required match of 25% (\$137,334) can be met by state funds already budgeted for CAM to support just under \$550,000 in one-time system integrator work. The federal government set a target date of August 1, 2016 for announcing awards, so it is likely the agency may have feedback on its application before the September 2016 legislative days. At that time, a project update and request to proceed with the next stage(s) of the project should be ready for legislative review. Any additional expenditure limitation needed due to receipt of a grant award can be requested then or as part of a future rebalance action.

The Legislative Fiscal Office recommends approval of the request.

**Oregon Department of Human Services
Brickman**

Request: Authorization to apply for the “State Grants to Enhance Adult Protective Services” in the amount of \$412,000 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Recommendation: Approve the request.

Discussion: This grant is available through the Administration for Community Living (ACL). The request for proposals was received on April 4, 2016, with the application due May 31, 2016. The grant requires a 25 percent state match, either in cash or in-kind, in the amount of \$137,334 for the two year grant period. There is no federal maintenance of effort requirement for this grant. The grant is funded for two years in the amount of \$206,000 and DHS anticipates the grant period lasting from October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2018, for a total of up to \$412,000.

Strengthening Adult Protective Services (APS) systems is the main purpose of the grant. Currently within Oregon, there is no centralized statewide reporting system to monitor and report abuse-related information. In 2015, the department received \$5.6 million in state resources (a mix of General Fund and bond sale proceeds) in Senate Bill 5507 for the 2015-17 biennium to support the department’s Centralized Abuse Management System (CAM). The CAM system will be designed to support statewide adult abuse data collection and report writing activities. DHS is approaching the completion of Stage Gate 2 on this information technology project with expectations to produce a detailed business case, solution preference, and updated cost estimates by the Fall of 2016.

This grant is anticipated to provide supplemental federal funding to support the department’s efforts in developing the CAM system. The department indicates that it will use these funds to supplement existing General Fund and support the procurement of a system integrator’s services for assistance with a record management software platform and any enhancements needed to meet Oregon’s needs in abuse data management, reporting and statewide monitoring efforts.



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Department of Human Services

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April 25, 2016

The Honorable Senator Peter Courtney, Co-Chair
The Honorable Representative Tina Kotek, Co-Chair
State Emergency Board
900 Court Street NE
H-178 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301-4048



Re: Competitive Grant Application Approval Request:
State Grants to Enhance Adult Protective Services

Dear Co-Chairs:

Nature of the Request

The Department of Human Services (DHS) seeks permission to apply for a federal grant. The “State Grants to Enhance Adult Protective Services” grants are for federal funds up to \$206,000 a year for two years, and DHS anticipates the grant period beginning October 1, 2016, and ending September 30, 2018, for a total of up to \$412,000.

The intent of the grant is to strengthen states’ Adult Protective Services (APS) systems. The funding is available through the US Health and Human Services’ Administration for Community Living (ACL). The request for proposals was received on April 4, 2016, and the application is due on May 31, 2016. This grant requires cost-sharing/matching support of at least \$137,334 (25%) for the two-year grant period, either as non-federal cash or in-kind match.

There is not a federal requirement for maintenance of effort.

Agency Action

The Office of Adult Abuse Prevention and Investigation (OAAPI) is a Shared Service providing abuse investigation-related services to DHS and the Oregon

Health Authority (OHA). OAAPI provides direct investigation services to some programs, as well as policy development, training and oversight to other programs that conduct their own investigations or contract with local entities to conduct their investigations. However, information and data regarding those screenings and investigations are in nine different program systems as well as many local, dispersed spreadsheets and databases. In the current state, there is no centralized, statewide reporting system to monitor abuse-related information, creating an unnecessary risk to vulnerable adults and the potential for liability for the State.

This grant provides supplemental federal funding to support the efforts of DHS in developing a Centralized Abuse Management (CAM) system to overcome the current fragmented and localized reporting systems. DHS and the CAM project team have concluded that there are viable commercial software platforms available to meet Oregon's needs, and this grant will supplement the CAM project team's capacity to develop, evaluate, update, and deploy a system that can track reports, investigations and data regarding the resolutions of cases.

Specifically, the grant funds will supplement existing GF funds and support the CAM project team's procurement of a system integrator's services to provide a basic record management software platform and enhance it as needed to meet Oregon's abuse data management, reporting, and statewide monitoring needs.

DHS will provide at least \$137,334 in non-federal cash match (GF) using funding already earmarked for the project as required by the grant to carry out the grant objectives.

No positions will be requested for this grant. There is no expectation that the state will continue to fund these activities at the end of the grant period.

The DHS mission is to help Oregonians in their own communities achieve wellbeing and independence through opportunities that protect, empower, respect choice and preserve dignity. This funding opportunity is consistent with the DHS mission and is a critical step in achieving an important goal – safety – for all vulnerable adults in Oregon. Having a centralized, statewide reporting system will enable the state to “connect the dots” across regions and programs to prevent unnecessary risks to vulnerable adults under today's decentralized and fragmented reporting systems.

Action Requested

The Department of Human Services (DHS), requests authority to apply for the State Grants to Enhance Adult Protective Services from the US Health and Human Services Administration for Community Living. If successful DHS will return to a future rebalance for any limitation authority needs.

Legislation Affected

None.

For additional information, please contact John Thompson, OAAPI Deputy Director at 503-945-9498 or john.s.thompson@dhsosha.state.or.us.

Sincerely,



Eric Luther Moore
DHS Chief Financial Officer

cc: Laurie Byerly, Legislative Fiscal Office
Ken Rocco, Legislative Fiscal Office
George Naughton, Department of Administrative Services
Tamara Brickman, Department of Administrative Services