

Federal Grant Application Request

Oregon Health Authority

Project LAUNCH Grant

Analyst: Linda Ames

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 \$680,000 per year for four years to improve early childhood systems, strengthen parenting competencies, and improve children's developmental and behavioral outcomes.

Recommendation: Approve the request.

Analysis: The Oregon Health Authority is requesting approval to apply for the Project LAUNCH (Linking Actions for Unmet Needs in Children's Health) Expansion grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse Mental Health Service Agency (SAMHSA). The grant is for up to \$680,000 per year for four years, and begins October 1, 2015.

The goals of this grant are to improve early childhood systems, strengthen parenting competencies, and improve children's developmental and behavioral outcomes. The grant expands on two previous LAUNCH grants, one in Deschutes County and one in Multnomah County. This grant will allow an expansion into three new counties, and will emphasize decreasing racial and ethnic behavioral health disparities within the Hispanic/Latino community. The three counties will be chosen out of the five counties with the highest Hispanic/Latino population – Hood River, Malheur, Marion, Morrow, and Umatilla counties.

The areas of focus for this grant include maternal mental health, parent-child interaction therapy, and mental health consultation to child care and home visiting. Almost half the funding will go to the three counties for program. Public Health will collaborate with other partners, including Addiction and Mental Health and the Office of Equity and Inclusion within the Oregon Health Authority, the Early Learning Division within the Department of Education, as well as community partners.

No state matching funds are required for the grant, and there is no federal requirement for maintenance of effort. If successful, the agency expects to need one limited duration position for project management.

The Legislative Fiscal Office recommends approval of the request to apply for a grant to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in the amount of up to \$680,000 per year for five years to improve children's health.