



Webb County Head Start

Tel. (956)795-1515 Fax (956)791-2149 P.O. Box 2397 Laredo, Texas 78044



Letter of Intent to Apply REVISED 01/08/2018

May 3, 2020

Honorable Tano Tijerina
Webb County Judge
Webb County Courthouse
1000 Houston Street (3rd Floor)
Laredo, Texas 78040

Re: Letter of Intent to apply for Head Start and Early Head Start Cost-of-Living and Quality Improvement Funds

Dear Judge Tijerina:

In accordance with the Webb County Single Point of Contact (SPOC) Policy and Procedures – revised 3/29/17, please accept this “*Letter of Intent to Apply*” for grant funds under the Department of Health and Human Services. The Head Start Policy Council and the Webb County Head Start/Early Head Start Program requests authorization to apply for a grant of \$558,156 (Federal) and \$139,539 (Non Federal In-Kind) for a total amount of \$697,695 from September 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021 for the continuation of Head Start and Early Head Start comprehensive services (Education, Health, Mental Health, Disability, Nutrition, Parent Involvement, and Family Engagement). Your favorable review of the following information required under the SPOC policy and authorization to develop and submit the grant proposal shall be appreciated.

General Information:

A. Project Title: Head Start (HS) and Early Head Start (EHS)

Project Description: The HS and EHS program promotes school readiness of children ages birth to five from low-income families by supporting their development through a comprehensive approach to service delivery which includes early childhood education, health, mental health, disability, nutrition, and parent engagement services. The program's services and resources are designed to foster stable family relationships, enhance children's physical and emotional well-being, and establish an environment to develop strong cognitive skills. The transition from preschool to elementary school imposes diverse developmental challenges that include requiring the children to engage successfully with their peers outside the family network, adjust to the space of a classroom, and meet the expectations the school setting provides.

C. Contact Person: Aliza Oliveros

D. Department/Office Telephone number: (956) 795-1515

Modified on 01/08/2018

E. All departments that request grant application authorization from the County Commissioner's Court are required to participate in the County Biometric Time Clock Plus system in order to ensure compliance with existing County policy. Please acknowledge compliance with the signature of the designated Contact Person:

Aliza Oliveros/Signature

F. For all grant-funded projects involving current county employees that propose grant funding for overtime will be required to use the County Biometric Time Clock Plus system and have GPS monitors in their vehicles, except for those involved in undercover work. Please acknowledge the intent to comply with the signature of the designated Contact Person:

Aliza Oliveros/Signature

G. All future grant-funded programs involving current County employees will include only Full Time Equivalency (FTE) percentages in a project's budget and will also apply to all future renewal projects; Please acknowledge this criteria with the signature of the designated Contact Person:

Aliza Oliveros/Signature

H. A complete hard copy of the grant application is required to be submitted to the Economic Development Department inclusive with the "Letter of Intent to Apply" at least two (2) weeks before the grant application is presented to the County Commissioners Court requesting authorization to submit the grant application to the State or Federal funding agency. The complete hard copy of the grant application shall include at a minimum - Project Narratives, Performance Statement, Budget, Personnel Budget breakdown and Budget Narratives. This policy will be effective February 27, 2017; If not provided at submission of the Letter of Intent, then it must be submitted with ample time for review and approval by the Grant Application Review Committee (GARC)? Extenuating circumstances for not adhering to this procedure must be provided in writing for review and approval. Please acknowledge this requirement with the signature of the designated Contact Person:

Aliza Oliveros/Signature

I. Any and all budget amendments, budget modifications and/or line item transfer requests that may arise from grant-funded activity shall be submitted through the Economic Development Department - Single Point of Contact (whether Competitive or Formula grants, County (Federal and State allocations) that use the Webb County General Fund first then receives reimbursement at a later time). The budget request will be forwarded for review by the Grant Application Review Committee (GARC) for possible placement on the Webb County Commissioner's Court Agenda. Please acknowledge this requirement with the signature of the designated Contact Person:

Aliza Oliveros/Signature

J. All departments that request a refunding or continuation grant application authorization from the County Commissioner's Court are required to provide documentation from the Funding Agency confirming/verifying previous or on-going grant compliance. The documentation shall be submitted to the Economic Development Department - Single Point of Contact at least two (2) weeks before the grant application is presented to the County Commissioners Court. Please acknowledge this requirement with the signature of the designated Contact Person:

Aliza Oliveros/Signature

K. A representative from the Department requesting authorization to apply for a grant must be present at the Commissioner's Court meeting to respond to any questions from Commissioner's Court regarding the proposed grant application. Please acknowledge this requirement with the signature of the designated Contact Person:

Aliza Oliveros/Signature

L. Project Time Frames: Start Date: September 1, 2020
Ending Date: August 31, 2021
Project Duration: 12 months

L. Project Area: Webb County (Laredo, Rio Bravo, and El Cenizo)

Project Analysis:

- 1) What County needs, services or problems will be addressed by this project? Early childhood education, health, mental health, disability, nutrition, and social service needs. Specifically:
- **Early learning:** Children's readiness for school and beyond is fostered through individualized learning experiences. Through relationships with adults, play, and planned and spontaneous instruction, children grow in many aspects of development. Children progress in social skills and emotional well-being, along with language and literacy learning, and concept development
 - **Health:** Each child's perceptual, motor, and physical development is supported to permit them to fully explore and function in their environment. All children receive health and development screenings, nutritious meals, oral health and mental health support. Programs connect families with medical, dental, and mental health services to ensure that children are receiving the services they need.
 - **Family well-being:** Parents and families are supported in achieving their own goals, such as housing stability, continued education, and financial security. Programs support and strengthen parent-child relationships and engage families around children's learning and development.
- 2) What is the grant matching amount of local funds or in-kind that will be proposed?
All in-kind will come from parents and community providers. Projections are as follows:

Source	Service	Rate	Projected Amount
Parent Volunteers	Various classroom activities and Curriculum / Educational Material @21.81 (AA Teacher Assistant Salary with benefits).	21.81 per hour @ 5,878.9087 hours	\$128,219

EHS - Non-Federal Share PROJECTIONS

\$11,320

Type/Source	Rate Per Hour	Number of Hours	Projected In-Kind
Parent Volunteers – to assist with various classroom activities, curriculum related activities, preparation of educational material, and all activities that related to the accomplishment of compliance with Head Start Program Performance Standards.	\$20.25 (EHS AA Teacher Salary with benefits)	\$20.25 per hour @ 576.37474 hours	\$11,320

- 3) Will this proposed project add cost, services or any financial responsibility to the County’s General Fund after the project ends? No.
- 4) Will this project add employees to the county payroll if and when the grant is terminated? No.
- 5) Does this project propose any monetary grant-funded stipends, incentive pay, supplement pay or any other pay that exceeds County General Fund salary? No.
- 6) What are the operating and maintenance costs of the grant funded project activities that will be funded by the county? None.
- 7) How many citizens will be served and in what way? 1,218 Head Start children and their families and 72 Early Head Start children and their families.
- 8) Please provide the name of the department representative responsible for providing the Economic Development staff with the copy of the submitted grant application. Aliza Oliveros

Financial Analysis

A. Type of Request: Grant () Loan () Combination ()
 Amount of Request: \$ 558,156
 Amount of Cash Match/In-Kind \$ 139,539
 Total Project Costs: \$ 697,695
 New () Continuation ()

Funding Agency: Department of Health and Human Services

B. Is there any assurance that the grant will be continued/refunded by the funding agency? Yes. This Refunding application is for the second year of a five year funding cycle.

C. What wording or commitments will be included in the grant application for ‘continuity of activities’, ‘project sustainability plan’ or ‘funding of activities’ after the grant has ended? The Head Start and Early Head Start grant is funded on a five year cycle with a “Full Application” required for year one of each five year cycle.

For Economic Development Department Office Use Only:

IV. APPLICATION REVIEW COMMENTS

A. STAFF COMMENTS:

Staff Signature: _____

Date: _____