



Committee: Directly to Council

Committee Review: N/A

Staff: Vivian Yao, Legislative Analyst

Purpose To receive testimony/final action - vote expected

Keywords: Infants and Toddlers

AGENDA ITEM #16

July 26, 2022

Public Hearing/Action

SUBJECT

Supplemental Appropriation #23-4 to the County Government's FY23 Operating Budget, Department of Health and Human Services, \$316,840 for Extended IFSP Infants and Toddlers Grant (Source of Funds: Grant Funds)

EXPECTED ATTENDEES

None

COUNCIL DECISION POINTS & COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

- No Committee recommendation. A motion is required.
- Special Appropriation was introduced on July 12, 2022.

DESCRIPTION/ISSUE

The Supplemental Appropriation to the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) of \$316,840 for the Extended IFSP Infants and Toddlers Grant will increase family engagement to improve the kindergarten school readiness outcomes of participating 3 to 5-year-old children. The funds will be used to educate early intervention providers about typical preschool development and age/child-appropriate activities to use with children and families and help them develop and implement learning group interventions. A team of interventionists will serve as mentors and coaches to others who will educate parents about child development milestones, school readiness skills, and age-appropriate activities, and help develop and implement learning groups composed of typically developing preschoolers and preschoolers with developmental delays and disabilities.

SUMMARY OF KEY DISCUSSION POINTS

- This increase is needed to improve the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment scores of the preschoolers participating in the "Extended C" option of early intervention services and

ensure that children have the age-appropriate physical, pre-academic, and social-emotional skills necessary to succeed in kindergarten and beyond.

- The grant funding is provided by the Maryland State Department of Education.
- The Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice (ORESJ) found that the supplemental appropriation “addresses educational inequities affecting preschool-age children with disabilities, but it is unclear to what extent activities under this supplemental appropriation will address the root causes of racial and service group disparities in kindergarten readiness.”

This report contains:

Memo from the County Executive

© 1

Appropriation Resolution

© 2-3

Racial Equity Impact Assessment (Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice)

© 4-6

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OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Marc Elrich
County Executive

MEMORANDUM

June 21, 2022

TO: Gabe Albornoz, President
Montgomery County Council

FROM: Marc Elrich, County Executive *Marc Elrich*

SUBJECT: Supplemental Appropriation #23-4 to the FY23 Operating Budget
Montgomery County Government
Department of Health and Human Services
Extended IFSP Infants & Toddlers Grant, \$316,840

I am recommending a Supplemental Appropriation to the FY23 Operating Budget of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) in the amount of \$316,840 for the Extended IFSP Infants and Toddlers Grant. The grant aims to promote engagement between the Montgomery County Infants and Toddlers Program and the diverse families DHHS serves. The grant funds are from the Maryland State Department of Education. This Appropriation will be used to increase family engagement to improve the kindergarten school readiness outcomes of participating 3 to 5-year-old children.

This increase is needed to improve the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment scores of the preschoolers participating in the "Extended C" option of early intervention services. It will also ensure that children have the age-appropriate physical, pre-academic, and social-emotional skills necessary to succeed in kindergarten and beyond. The funds will be used to educate early intervention providers about typical preschool development and age/child-appropriate activities to use with children and families. A team of interventionists will serve as mentors and coaches to others who will educate parents about child development milestones, school readiness skills, and age-appropriate activities. Additionally, they will help develop and implement learning groups composed of typically developing preschoolers and preschoolers with developmental delays and disabilities.

I recommend this Supplemental Appropriation in the amount of \$316,840 and specify the source of funds as grant funds.

I appreciate your prompt consideration of this action.

Attachment: Supplemental Appropriation #23-4

c: Raymond L. Crowel, Psy.D., Director, Department of Health and Human Services
Jennifer R. Bryant, Director, Office of Management and Budget
Sonia Mora, MPH, Assistant Chief Administrative Officer

Resolution No.: _____
Introduced: _____
Adopted: _____

**COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND**

Lead Sponsor: Council President at the Request of the County Executive

SUBJECT: Supplemental Appropriation #23-4 to the FY23 Operating Budget
Montgomery County Government
Department of Health and Human Services
Extended IFSP Infants and Toddlers Grant, \$316,840 (Source of Funds: Grant
Funds)

Background

1. Section 307 of the Montgomery County Charter provides that any supplemental appropriation shall be recommended by the County Executive who shall specify the source of funds to finance it. The Council shall hold a public hearing on each proposed supplemental appropriation after at least one week's notice. A supplemental appropriation that would comply with, avail the County of, or put into effect a grant or a Federal, State or County law or regulation, or one that is approved after January 1 of any fiscal year, requires an affirmative vote of five Councilmembers. A supplemental appropriation for any other purpose that is approved before January 1 of any fiscal year requires an affirmative vote of six Councilmembers. The Council may, in a single action, approve more than one supplemental appropriation. The Executive may disapprove or reduce a supplemental appropriation, and the Council may reapprove the appropriation, as if it were an item in the annual budget.
2. The County Executive has requested the following FY23 Operating Budget appropriation increase for the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS):

<u>Personal Services</u>	<u>Operating Expenses</u>	<u>Capital Outlay</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Source of Funds</u>
\$0	\$316,840	\$0	\$316,840	Grant Funds

3. This increase is needed to increase the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment scores of the preschoolers participating in the “Extended C” option of early intervention services, ensuring children have the age-appropriate physical, pre-academic and social-emotional skills necessary for them to succeed in kindergarten and beyond. The funds will be used to educate early intervention providers about typical preschool development and age/child-appropriate activities to use with children and families. A team of interventionists will serve as mentors and coaches to others who will educate parents about child development milestones, school readiness skills, age-appropriate activities, and develop and implement learning groups composed of both typically developing preschoolers and preschoolers with developmental delays and disabilities.
4. Notice of public hearing was given, and a public hearing was held.

Action

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland, approves the following action:

A supplemental appropriation to the FY22 Operating Budget for the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is approved as follows:

<u>Personnel Services</u>	<u>Operating Expenses</u>	<u>Capital Outlay</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Source of Funds</u>
\$0	\$316,840	\$0	\$316,840	Grant Funds

This is a correct copy of Council action.

Judy Rupp
Clerk of the Council



OFFICE OF RACIAL EQUITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Marc Elrich
County Executive

Tiffany Ward
Director

MEMORANDUM

July 19, 2022

To: Jennifer Bryant, Director
Office of Management and Budget

cc: Gabe Albornoz, President
County Council

From: Tiffany Ward, Director
Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice

Re: Racial Equity Impact Assessment (REIA) for Supplemental Appropriation (SA) #23-04
IFSP Infants and Toddlers Grant

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tiffany Ward".

- I. **FINDING:** The Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice (ORESJ) finds that Supplemental Appropriation #23-04 *IFSP Infants and Toddlers Grant* addresses educational inequities affecting preschool-age children with disabilities, but it is unclear to what extent activities under this supplemental appropriation will address the root causes of racial and service group disparities in kindergarten readiness.
- II. **BACKGROUND:** The purpose of Supplemental Appropriation #23-04 Extended IFSP Infants & Toddlers Grant is to improve kindergarten readiness outcomes for preschoolers participating in IDEA Part C by strengthening family engagement. This supplemental appropriation funds activities designed to strengthen the capacity of early intervention providers who educate parents about child development milestones, school readiness skills, and age-appropriate activities, as well as develop and implement learning groups composed of both typically developing preschoolers and preschoolers with developmental and other disabilities.

ORESJ has documented, in the following Racial Equity Impact Assessments, inequities in educational opportunity and resources affecting the experiences of students with disabilities and kindergarten readiness in Montgomery County:

1. REIA of Supplemental Appropriation #22-24 High Quality Early Childhood Inclusion
<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/ore/Resources/Files/22-24.pdf>
2. REIA of Supplemental Appropriation #22-66 Martha B. Gudelsky Center
<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/ore/Resources/Files/22-66.pdf>
3. REIA of Supplemental Appropriation #22-77 ARPA IDEA Part B1 Grant and SA#22-78 ARPA IDEA Part B2 Grant
<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/ore/Resources/Files/22-77and22-78.pdf>
4. REIA of Supplemental Appropriation #22-75 ARPA IDEA Early Intervention Grant
<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/ore/Resources/Files/22-75.pdf>

Because Supplemental Appropriation #23-04 involves targeted support for early intervention providers and families participating in “Extended C”¹, ORESJ recommends reviewers of Supplemental Appropriation #23-04 refer to the above mentioned REIAs to provide context regarding inequities in educational opportunities in the County. Additionally, ORESJ recommends reviewers consider the following:

1. Existing early intervention infrastructure—what policies or structures are already in place to address disparities in kindergarten readiness (English Language Learners, students with disabilities, and students of color)? Are there gaps or opportunities for investment in the infrastructure more broadly?
2. Centering the experiences of those most impacted—how will the experiences of those most impacted by kindergarten readiness gaps be centered in the education of early intervention providers? For example, how will barriers disproportionately affecting families of color, low-income families, parents and caregivers who are housing insecure or lack access to reliable transportation be addressed in the education of early intervention providers or in family engagement strategies.
3. Early intervention workforce—what are the demographic characteristics of early intervention providers in the County? Are they representative of communities most

¹ The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part C provides early intervention services for families with young children aged birth through 36 months who have recently been identified as having motor and movement delays, have an existing Cerebral Palsy (CP) diagnosis, or prior to a CP diagnosis is made. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) services*. 2022. Available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/cp/treatment.html>

Children and families who received services under IDEA Part C are eligible to receive Extended C services beyond age three until the school year following the child’s fourth birthday.

impacted by kindergarten readiness gaps? What steps can be taken to ensure early intervention providers receive the material and institutional support they need to be successful?

cc: Raymond Crowel, Director, Department of Health and Human Services
Ken Hartman, Director, Office of Strategic Partnership, Office of the County Executive