

To: Mr. Christopher J. Drezek
Regarding: Approval of COLA and Quality Improvement Grants FY 2020
From: Jaclyn Valley
Date: May 11, 2020

Enfield Head Start is requesting Board approval of a 2% COLA grant totaling \$17, 155 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to support staff salaries and fringe benefits.

Additionally, \$25,732 in Quality Improvement Funds have been allocated to support implementation of a comprehensive, ongoing trauma informed approach. Enfield Head Start is requesting Board approval for use of these funds as outlined in the attached summary.

Due to the impact of COVID-19 on all Head Start programs, OHS is approving all requests for waivers of non-federal match associated with COLA and Quality Improvement funding for FY 2020.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

INTENDED USE OF *QUALITY IMPROVEMENT* FUNDS:

Contractual:

\$22,000

- Early childhood mental health/behavioral consultation
- Board Certified Music Therapist:
 - impulse control and self-regulation
 - social emotional awareness and expression
 - increase socially appropriate behaviors in a group setting
- Professional development and ongoing coaching with Gesell Institute (for staff and governing bodies)
 - managing challenging behaviors
 - self-care and secondary stress
 - teaching generation-C (Post-COVID)
- Family learning opportunities with Gesell Institute
 - supporting young children through the pandemic
 - creating predictable routines and home environments
 - self-care for the caregiver
- Systems Development with Gesell
 - oversight of a trauma informed approach/environment
 - on-going monitoring of implementation to identify strengths, gaps, and next steps
 - development of common language and expectations to support predictability of adult behaviors and responses.
 - infusing a trauma informed approach into practices and policies i.e. mission statement, orientation/intake practices and materials, etc.

Supplies to Support the Physical Environment:

\$3, 732

- calming cubes
- soft floor pillows *dependent upon CDC guidelines for re-opening
- sensory/calming materials
- books related to Belly Breathing and feelings