

Request for a Non Federal Share Waiver

GCCARD Head Start is requesting a waiver of the non-federal share associated with the Early Head Start Expansion funding due to the circumstances and major disaster in the City of Flint.

Early Head Start Expansion funding of \$2,396,340, would result in an inkind amount of \$599,085. GCCARD is requesting to have 72% or \$431,341 of this waived, resulting in an obligated match of \$167,744.

The reasons for the request would encompass 3 of the 5 criteria in the Head Start Act Section 640(b)(1)-(5)-lack of community resources, impact on community, and program location in an area adversely affected by a disaster (lead crisis).

1) Lack of Community Resources

The City of Flint continues its recession and lack of employment opportunities. The family structure remains predominantly single headed households with low graduation rates and high poverty rates for children under the age of 5. The lead poisoning in water for the City of Flint has impacted property values, with businesses struggling to maintain their customer and employee base. For those that have been assured their water is now safe, there remains a general feeling of distrust. Parents, businesses, and community partners do not have extra resources available to assist with the nonfederal share match.

2) Impact on Community

The list of children waiting for enrollment in the classrooms proves that Early Head Start's presence is necessary to meet the needs of families. Our partnerships with other organizations will enable families to access the limited resources that they need for success. Lack of programming will result in fewer opportunities for necessary early intervention for children and families.

3) Community Disaster

GCCARD expansion classrooms provide services to families in areas that have been impacted by the lead water crisis. Research has shown that the negative effects of lead can be mitigated with the provision of comprehensive services for children and families. Early Head Start provides such services, specifically to the group of children that need it most. Children birth to three have very limited opportunities within the community. This funding will serve the purpose of filling a service gap in a community that desperately needs help.

DATE APPROVED

James Avery, Chairperson
Genesee County Board of Commissioners