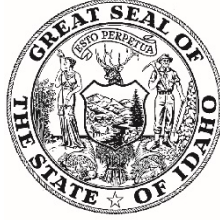


BRAD LITTLE
GOVERNOR

Wendi Secrist
Executive Director



Deni Hoehne
Chair

John Young
Vice Chair

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

514 W Jefferson St, Ste 131, Boise, Idaho 83702

Child Care Expansion Grant Review Meeting Minutes

Date: Friday, March 3, 2023
Time: 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Committee Members: Sarah Griffin, Emily Allen, ~~Anna Almerico~~, Renee Bade, Martin Balben, Ben Davidson, ~~Lori McCann~~, Caroline Merritt

Staff: Wendi Secrist, Amanda Ames, Cassie Mansour, Rebecca Watson

Guests: Aubrie Hunt, Lianne Lemmons, Kayla Hardman, Vijay Ilavarasan

Called to order at 9:10 AM

Welcome

Roll Call – Quorum Met

Review Agenda – No changes to the agenda

Review February 17, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Motion by Ms. Allen to approve the February 17, 2023 Meeting Minutes as presented. Second by Mr. Balben. Motion carried.

Budget Updates

The following applicants have withdrawn their applications from consideration at this stage:

- Lakewood Montessori
- Loly's Daycare
- Treehouse Early Learning
- Little Wonders Preschool

Smart Start Academy of Emmett was deemed ineligible for funding consideration at this stage.

The Committee reviewed updates regarding Boys and Girls Club Lewis Clark Valley's grant funding.

- During the 1/20/23 funding meeting, the CCEG committee recommended funding BGC Lewis Clark Valley at 30% of their full grant request.

- The amount shown in the spreadsheet during the funding meeting was based on an amended amount of \$800,000 rather than their full request \$1,600,000.
- The Committee recommends allocating an additional \$240,000 in funding to ensure the project is funded at 30% of the full request.

The Committee reviewed updates regarding Giraffe Laugh's grant funding.

- During the 1/20/23 funding meeting, the Committee recommended funding the full request for 72 new seats.
- However, the amount in the spreadsheet was \$1,020,000 which was based on 68 seats. The full amount of request based on 72 seats is \$1,073,633. This leaves a discrepancy of \$53,633.
- The Committee recommends allocating an additional \$53,633 in funding to ensure the project is fully funded at the correct number of seats.

The total discrepancy is \$293,633.

Motion by Mr. Balben to recommend the additional funding for these two applicants as presented for a total of \$293,633. Second by Ms. Merritt. Ms. Bade abstains from this vote. Motion passes.

****Child Care Expansion Grant Review***

Small Provider

Magic Stars Spanish Preschool

Discussion

- The Committee discussed the total rubric score of 18 which is a healthy score for a small provider.
- The gap in the region is 34%. Nampa is one of the fastest growing cities in the state.
- The fact that this provider serves minority families is an important factor.

Motion by Ms. Merritt to recommend approval of the Magic Stars Spanish Preschool Child Care Expansion Grant in the total amount of \$207,000 to the Executive Committee. Second by Mr. Balben. Motion carried.

Large Providers

Teton Regional Economic Coalition

Discussion:

- This is the largest ask in the applications we are considering today.
- This applicant was contacted to see if they could accept any less and still complete the project. The lowest they could go was \$900,000.
- The Committee noted that we have funded larger requests with a lower gap.
- This is also a region where we have provided less funding.
- Jackson County, Wyoming is the second most expensive county in the country, and this bleeds over into Idaho. Land is particularly costly in this region. This is a tourism driven area.
- This applicant has a 184% match.
- We have funded Whole Child in Rexburg, and Lost Rivers in Arco. This application is in Driggs, so we would be spacing funding to these Child Care organizations throughout Region 6.
- We could fund this application at nearly their full request.

Valley County Clerk's Office/WICAP

Discussion:

- This project is in an area we have already funded, the need is significant, but we may want to consider this one if the additional \$15M is approved.

Tiny Town

Discussion:

- As a project requesting over \$500,000, staff asked if they could move forward with less funding.
- She would prefer the full amount of \$617,379.88 but shared 5 other options of lesser amounts.
- The applicant has been very flexible in conversation with staff.
- At this point the Committee requested visualizing several versions of funding options, so staff experimented with plugging in different amounts for each application.
- This led to plugging in several reduced amounts, and conversation about how to fund the highest scoring applications.
- After a self-audit, the Committee determined that we should consider funding Tiny Town at a higher amount. The Committee discussed several options, reviewing the applicant's business plan and budget.

Lil' Rascals

Discussion:

- Preston needs quality childcare.
- The Committee discussed this provider's project and determined it to be a priority.

Funding Conversation

The Committee discussed the gap and meeting the needs in each region if possible. Gap is only one factor which is being used to guide the allocation of these funds.

The Committee discussed funding Tiny Town in the full amount, less the cost of the additional lot adjacent to their property, and keeping Teton at \$900,000. The Committee was in very clear agreement that this is the preferred option.

The Committee reflected that if we recommend partial funding for many of these applications, and receive additional funding for the next fiscal year, we could recommend increasing to the full requested amount for each of them.

Cost per seat: other than Teton (which is a high cost-of-living area) each of these requests are low cost per seat.

The Committee spent time verifying funding numbers to confirm that our allocations are correct and to confirm the amount that we may allocate today.

The Committee discussed various options for funding allocations.

Region 1: We have funded 3 projects prior to today at \$2,996,417.32.

Region 2: We have funded 2 projects prior to today at \$475,620.00.

Region 3: We have funded 15 projects prior to today for a total of \$4,983,537.68.

Region 4: We have funded 2 projects prior to today \$1,080,000.00.

Region 5: We have funded 4 projects prior to today at \$3,225,400.00.

Region 6: We have funded 3 projects prior to today at \$1,248,455.00.

Motion by Ms. Bade to recommend approval of the following grant applications to the Executive Committee.

- **Teton Regional Economic Coalition at \$1,028,000.44**
- **Lil' Rascals at \$315,000.00**
- **Saggy Britches DBA the Barnyard Daycare & Learning Center at \$179,068.00**
- **Bright Stars at \$150,000.00**
- **Boise State Children's Center at \$393,705.00**
- **Tiny Town at \$536,949.88**

Second by Ms. Merritt. Ms. Allen abstained. Motion carried.

Final Funding Recommendations Summary:

Region 1: We have funded 3 projects at \$3,533,367.20 for a total of 320 child care seats.

Region 2: We have funded 2 projects at \$475,620.00 for a total of 300 child care seats.

Region 3: We have funded 16 projects at a cost of \$5,913,310.68 for a total of 1,474 child care seats.

Region 4: We have funded 2 projects at a cost of \$1,080,000.00 for a total of 210 child care seats.

Region 5: We have funded 4 projects at \$3,540,400.00 for a total of 460 child care seats.

Region 6: We have funded 3 projects at \$2,276,455.44 for a total of 105 child care seats.

Committee Discussion

The Committee engaged in programmatic discussion.

As the staff navigates risk assessments and starts to plan for the future, the Committee agrees that they should continue to meet once per month.

Motion to adjourn made by Ms. Allen.

Meeting adjourned at 11:35 AM.