

METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY



October 1, 2015

Evette White, Board Chair
Family and Children Services
201 23rd Ave. North
Nashville, TN 37203

Dear Ms. White:

Please find attached the monitoring report of the Family and Children Services relating to the contract it had with the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015.

The Office of Financial Accountability is charged with the responsibility of monitoring grant funds, including Community Enhancement Funds, from Metropolitan Nashville Government to any nonprofit organization. Staff from the Office of Financial Accountability conducted the review on September 17, 2015.

We appreciate the assistance provided by your agency during the course of the review. If you have any questions, please call me at 615-862-6712.

Sincerely,

Kevin Brown

Kevin Brown, CMFO, CICA
Finance Administrator

cc: Michael McSurdy, Executive Director
Talia Lomax-O'dneal, Acting Director of Finance
Gene Nolan, Deputy Director of Finance

Kim McDoniel, Chief of Accounts

Mark Swann, Internal Audit

Fred Adom, CPA, CGMA, CICA, Director, Office of Financial Accountability

Essie Robertson, CPA, CMFO, CICA, Office of Financial Accountability

Aaron Davis, CICA, Office of Financial Accountability



Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County

FAMILY AND CHILDREN SERVICES

◆ Monitoring Report ◆

Conducted by



Office of Financial Accountability

October 1, 2015

MONITORING REPORT

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	5
OBJECTIVES, SCOPE AND METHODOLOGY	6
RESULTS OF REVIEW	7
FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.....	10

INTRODUCTION

The Office of Financial Accountability (hereinafter referred to as “OFA”) has completed a monitoring review of Family and Children Services. A monitoring review is substantially less in scope than an audit. The OFA did not audit the financial statements and, accordingly, does not express an opinion or any assurances regarding the financial statements of Family and Children Services or any of its component units. The OFA is responsible for the internal monitoring of Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County (hereinafter referred to as “Metro”) agencies that receive federal and state financial assistance, including cooperative agreements and non-profit organizations that receive appropriations and Community Enhancement Funds from Metro government. In summary, any agreement(s) that imposes performance and/or financial requirements on Metro government is subject to review by the OFA.

The purpose of this review was to assess the agency’s compliance with contractual requirements set forth in the following contract with Metro Government:

Contract	Type	Amount	Contact Term	
L-3224	Community Enhancement Funds	\$13,000	July 1, 2014	June 30, 2015

Agency Background

Family and Children’s Services (F&CS) is a private, non-profit entity that offers mental health and child welfare services to citizens of Nashville and Davidson County. The agency’s mission is to “connect individuals and families to hope, to healing, and to one another”. The F&CS operates the Davidson County Relative Caregiver Program (DCRCP) which provides emotional and practical support for children and their relatives that care for them. In addition to the DCRCP, the F&CS provides the following services: a 24 hour crisis call line, a health navigator program, language translation services, survivors of suicide support groups, support services for families exiting the public welfare system, and Wendy’s Wonderful Kids which helps find adoptive families for children over the age of 12 in state custody.

OBJECTIVES, SCOPE AND METHODOLOGY

The objectives of our review were:

- 1) To determine whether the agency had the resources and capacity to administer the grant funds.
- 2) To determine if costs and services were allowable and eligible.
- 3) To verify that program objectives were met.
- 4) To test the reliability of the financial and programmatic reporting.
- 5) To verify contractual compliance.

The scope of our review was limited to the contract term July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015.

The monitoring review procedures included meeting with agency management and staff, reviewing board minutes and obtaining written representations from management. In addition, we examined certain financial records and supporting documentation necessary to ensure compliance with contractual requirements set forth in contract L-3224. Specific procedures included:

- Interviewing the employees responsible for grant management, financial reporting and accountability.
- Reviewing supporting documentation of expenditures for allowability, necessity and reasonableness.
- Reviewing the agency's general ledger and verifying the accuracy of all invoices submitted to Metro.
- Reviewing documentation to determine that funds were used for intended beneficiaries and expended in accordance with the spending plan of the contract.
- Reviewing documentation to support program activities for consistency with grant requirements.
- Assessing the financial stability of the agency and its ability to continue to administer the grant program funded by Metro.

RESULTS OF REVIEW

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

Criteria	Yes	No
Sufficient Resources and Capacity to Administer Funds?	✓	
Costs and Services Allowable and Eligible?	✓	
Program Objectives Met?		✓
Reporting Requirements Met?	✓	
Compliance with Civil Rights Requirements?	✓	

RESULTS OF REVIEW

The overall results of the monitoring review are provided in this section. Results are based on testwork performed and include conclusions regarding specific review objectives and, if applicable, recommendations for improvement and an action plan for implementation. This report provides more insight into any issues identified below.

1. Sufficient Resources and Capacity to Administer Grant Funds

Our review of the agency's accounting system and the qualifications of the individuals assigned to manage the accounting records indicate that the agency possesses the necessary resources and professional expertise to effectively administer the grant funds.

2. Allowable and Eligible Costs and Services

Our review covered all of the core compliance areas identified by OMB Circular A- 133: *Audit of States, Local Government, and Non-Profit Organizations*. Costs incurred by the agency complied with applicable guidelines stated in OMB Circular A-122.

Additionally, the Metro Grants Manual requires separate accounting of the Metropolitan Nashville Government grant funds to prevent co-mingling of Metro Funds with other sources of funding. The agency was in compliance with this requirement. Different revenue classes as well as expenditure classes have been established to separately track the sources and amounts of funding. Also, the agency can easily and accurately report their expenses supported by the Metro grant.

Based on our test work, costs and services during the period were allowable and eligible.

3. Program and Performance Objectives

The contract stipulates that the agency shall use the funds to provide direct financial support to at least 130 fragile families (150 adults and 300 children total), to help pay for housing, utilities, food, and transportation costs on an emergency needs basis with the following outcomes:

RESULTS OF REVIEW

- 1) At least 85% of children in the Davidson County Relative Caregiver Program (DCRCP) will remain in the continuous care of the relative.
- 2) At least 95% of children in DCRCP will remain out of the custody of the state.
- 3) At least 90% of DCRCP children will remain out of the juvenile justice system.

Based on our review of program documentation and discussions with staff, program performance objectives were not met and the agency was not in compliance with contractual program objectives. (See Finding #1)

4. Reliability of Financial and Programmatic Reporting

The contract requires submission of an annual audit report performed by a Certified Public Accountant. The contract also requires the agency to submit to Metro year end reports of the program outcome and a final expenditures report, no more than 45 days after the close of the contract.

We reviewed all applicable financial and programmatic reports required by the contract, including audited financial statements. Based on our review, the agency complied with all financial and programmatic reporting requirements.

5. Civil Rights Requirements

Our review did not reveal anything to indicate that the agency was noncompliant with civil rights requirements. The agency also has necessary written policies and procedures relating to civil rights. The agency has not received any complaints regarding any form of discrimination. Further, civil rights and ADA postings are publicly displayed.

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Program Performance Goals Not Met

Finding

The Family and Children Services failed to provide direct financial support to the minimum number of program participants as stated in the contract. Per the scope of program, under section A.1, the F&CS was to “provide direct financial support to at least 130 fragile families (150 adults and 300 children total), to help pay for housing, utilities, food, and transportation costs on an emergency needs basis.” Based upon documentation provided, the OFA determined that the agency provided direct financial support to only 45 families that consisted of 47 adults and 113 children.

Recommendation:

Management should take the necessary steps to ensure that program objectives are met and documentation to support program outcomes are maintained for review. Management should further review their objectives to make sure they are reasonable and obtainable.

Corrective Action Plan Required

Please submit a corrective action plan indicating the actions the agency intends to take to correct the findings identified in this report. The corrective action plan should be submitted within 14 days from the report date to the address below:

Division of Grants Coordination
PO Box 196300
Nashville, TN 37219
ATTN: Dennise Meyers