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□ **Claudia P. Alarcon** started transcription

R1 Room 140 0:03

Nancy, give me.

For those in the room, just so you know, this meeting is transcribed.

Excellent. Hi. Welcome to the family and social services cluster agenda.

Thanks for being patient for us as we started a little bit late.

I will start with deputy introductions SD1.

Thank you,. Anthony .SD2 LaJuannah Hills, SD 2.

SD3.

Lizzie Shuster SD3SD3.

SD4 Nick Holder, and hi everyone, I'm Monica SD5.

We're gonna go to the motions. Item 3.

SC1 continuing housing opportunities for Transition age 2.

Thank you. In the interest of time, I'll be very quick and I know I'm joined by a few folks from DCFS who wanna introduce yourself.

Hello, Zaneta Smith, division chief.

So this motion is quite simple.

There's a couple of state funding opportunities to transfer housing program and THP plus that are coming up and the motion gives DCFS the needed authority, adopts a resolution to allow us to go and draw down that funding question.

So particulars with respect to each of the funding sources, I know Sandy is able to answer, but that is the gist of the motion.

Zaneta, why a board motion versus a board letter?

OK. Yeah.

I don't hear this question versus.

The deadline for accepting the funding from the state basically, was it faster and it's just to accept the funding.

This is the 4th or 5th reiteration that we've accepted this way.

So you're still the deadline was last week, but you're still able to?

We first hear about the deadline.

EC Edmund Chung 2:06

Hi. I'm sorry. Can you hear me?

R1 Room 140 2:09

Yes, yes.

EC Edmund Chung 2:10

Hi, this is Edmund from DCFS.

R1 Room 140 2:13

Yeah.

EC Edmund Chung 2:14

The the deadline from last week we we submitted the application already because they're separate processes from the state like they know certain counties.

They, the individual department, doesn't have the authority to enter into it, so they know from previous that for us it's through a board motion route.

So they give us an extension for the board motion to be approved, but the application we submitted back already.

R1 Room 140 2:39

To not specific a board motion, it's for board approval and they know that that takes a while for it to get onto the agenda.

So that's, that's where they allow us the extension.

Did we first hear about?

What?

I think it was last month when they told us that the funding was available.

That was early October, I think last week.

Gave us like a one month turn around and they now know they that's not cool.

It'll probably be on the agenda around mid.

Night, no questions.

My recollection, Fred Nichols, director, is that this is rollover money.

That was unspent by other counties. There's money.

There's like extra money.

So we got it at short notice and I'm like standing instructions always say yes to extra money.

Oh, like then we rush to to get it in.

But this was unspent money at the state level that they offered to our county in on top of what we had already had.

So it's not like this is a regular.

Cycle. It's just they said, hey, we have a little extra money.

You guys want it?

We said yes, and now we're rushing to it.

Questions by deputies.

Instead now are they?

Are they going to be anymore allocated rounds after this one, or is that just like one and done?

But I think we may be getting near the end of it. Oh, I'm sorry.

Yeah. So it depends on the other counties.

This is one time.

Ask one quick question.

Sorry, go for it.

Are you gonna have to redo the solicitation?

Definitely not.

Well.

If there's any deputies online, if you're a deputy online and you have a question, just let us know.

Cool. Well, thank you for the presentation.

We'll move to public comment on this item.

Continuing housing opportunities, is there any public comment?

If so, raise your hand in person or virtually.

No, we're not seeing any.

We're moving on to I'm for presentation discussion items here today.

Sets of home and DCFS presentation on some things.

Come on over on up.

On this site in the deputies.



Erlinda Bernardo sharing A Sense of Home video 5:05

Brandon.

R1 Room 140 5:08

Are you going to start with the video?

We have a video.

It's gonna go me video them.

Gonna keep it mixed up.

Yeah, a little video.

Is kindly gonna share the video for me. So we need to give her like I'll give you the nod and we'll thank you on the video and I'll try to be quick.

Yeah, on my part.

Right. So I came back to DTFS, had a couple problems actually.

I had like like 99 problems but two that are relevant to this issue.

One we had that management review, which I talked about last time in our reor conversation. But one of the things that it said and I believe it to be true is the DCFS executive team was not like really working as a team.

They're like all very competent, high performing individuals.

There wasn't like a good integrated team feeling and it recommended that we take steps to try to build that team.

So we needed like, amongst other things, like some team building exercises.

To the DCFS executive team are like senior folks, a lot of whom have not been on the line directly serving families in a while.

And I worry about them and myself.

Drifting from like the inspiration of the mission and like, really taking the work we do. I don't want to say not seriously, because they did take it all seriously, but like, you know, really focusing on like we're changing lives.

I mean, I guess the honest truth and I I wanted to somehow connect them in a more regular, intentional way back to the work. And so we have done things like ride- a- longs.

But I was looking for opportunities to, like, remind them.

That we have a.

Called like a responsible role to play that, like, really impacts people. And I came across a group which I will candidly admit I love.

I'm called sense of home and it offered me an answer to those two problems.

So we have begun as an executive team to go out and help people move into their first home.

We show up in the we we get a little video from the participant.

Usually they have a voucher, sometimes vouchers coming out of our FYI voucher program and DCFS. We like that when we get there, the House is empty.

It is their first place and we as the executive team literally do the work to move all the furniture in like I carried couches upstairs.

We unpack dishes, put them in the drawers, we hang art, we get it so that it is like a home. We get to meet with the.

Young person.

Before we do the move in and then we get to meet with them afterwards, I will also say we now have a good habit showering them with a little bit of gifts. We all bring personal things.

Like what?

Like gift cards and things like that. And we leave messages just to show that we were there and care and to offer a little other assistance.

We could not do this alone.

It takes a lot of organization.

They're like moving vans.

There's gotta be like a warehouse where they keep the the, the.

Couches and stuff.

We need to find the right people.

They need support in finding the house and moving into a house and then after we're gone, I mean it's a day thing for us to continue to support people in their new homes. But I'd say it's like one of my favorite things that we've done, we've done one. In the first district in Pomona, we did one in the second district. In Los Angeles, we did one in.

The third district.

Oh no, I'm sorry.

5th District in Pasadena, second and first or second in.

Whichever one, I skipped second and 4th, they're coming up.

I'm gonna do them all, and then we're gonna cycle through them again.

There's like a little bit of bureaucratic stuff around, like how do we pay for all this?

There are some costs, but I we we figured it out.

And now I'm just gonna keep doing them. Keep doing them, keep doing them.

I invite all of you to drop by and say hi.

Have thought about inviting?

My peer department heads to do one maybe, but I don't know if I can control them. And they had to show up like in the right spirit. Like this is really a big deal.

Like you gotta, you gotta have the heart.

You gotta be able to like, roll like, look at how sweaty and fat I look there. Like you gotta be able to, like, roll up your roll up your sleeves and like, move furniture and stuff. And I just don't know.

I don't know.

I don't know if I get the right turn out, but at least my folks I can control and we've had a great turn out.

And so that's kind of my intro now.

I think we're gonna watch a video.

EB Erlinda Bernardo sharing video 9:41

I'm Brandon Nichols, director of the Department of Children and Family Services, and I'm here with my executive team and sense of home to create a brand new home for Valeria.

R1 Room 140 9:42

It's pantanina.

EB Erlinda Bernardo sharing video 9:54

It's been very hard living in the motels and the hotels and living in my car and not having much, but now that I have the apartment, it's a good feeling.

But it was a little stressful knowing that there's no like dining.

Table to sit the kids down or there's like, no, no bed.

And that's what made me feel a little sad. But it makes me happy to see them smile.

It's like that moment where I sit down and I watch them play.

It's priceless. Like there's no other fun I would want to have besides watching them play around and laugh. I want to give them, like, the whole world if I can, because I didn't have that.

I don't remember having memories with my parents.

When I was young like.

The ones I'm trying to provide for my kids, giving them the best and showing them how motivated I am and.

How I do not want to fail them means a lot for me to achieve my goals in the future and have a career in life because I didn't have that.

R1 **Room 140** 10:48

Yeah.

EB **Erlinda Bernardo** **sharing video** 10:55

I grew up in the foster system and I didn't have role models I didn't have, like my parents, for me, just having a career graduating college, getting a job, being a different role model to my kids than what I received. It's going to be life changing.

R1 **Room 140** 11:04

Hmm.

NO **Nancy Olivares** 11:19

OK.

R1 **Room 140** 11:20

Two of the three we've done were upstairs.

EB **Erlinda Bernardo** **sharing video** 11:21

So happy to be here today with my executive team to give a home to VALARIA, but also to go back and be energized in the work we do to help others that come behind her.

I think a home is more than just furniture and curtains.

I think it's a fortress.

I think it's a sense of independence and dignity.

It's a place of solitude and ownership, and I think it'll provide her with a foundation to go out and be as successful as she can be.

It's also a nest for her to raise her two beautiful children.

It will help me.

By feeling more confident and motivated, like saying hey, now I have like a pot and pan I can make.

Breakfast for the kids.

Let's get the day going right or we have like towels.

We could drive ourselves or clothes or blankets.

I'm going to have that feeling of being blessed and loved and supported.

So for me it's it's a blessing to to know there's programs that exist like this.

I'm excited like the wonders are going to make, so I'm very thankful for all of their support.

At the Department of Children and Family Services, we deal with the foster care system and we try our hardest.

To protect children and support families.

But the truth is we can't do it alone.

We need a constellation of agencies in the community, like sense of home to wrap their arms in love and support around families that need help.

I think it's really important for folks like Valeria to know that they're supported by a community that their neighbors love them. Welcome them.

There's a whole family around them, just right outside their doors. That'll step in and help them out.

I hope this new home provides valarious and pride a sense of safety.

An understanding that there are people out there that care about her and love her and gives her a firm footing.

A foundation to go out and just live her best life.

Such like a different feeling than when you come into an empty apartment.

It's a home now.

I'm just so thankful.

I'm in love with the living room and like my bed, it just motivates me more to come like to a home now and have a desk, a computer desk, you know, open my laptop and do work while the kids are saved in their bed.

R1

Room 140 13:38

And.

Good.

EB

Erlinda Bernardo sharing video 13:49

This means a lot.

This makes me feel supported.

Not alone.

I've always felt alone and now I just feel like there's programs out there and, you

know, organizations like the sense of home that make you feel welcomed and loved. This makes me feel like everything's possible and just more motivated in general.

R1 Room 140 14:01

Read.

EB Erlinda Bernardo sharing video 14:04

I'm so happy to have met every single one of each of them.

Especially because they're from the DCFS. I hope they get this experience the way I've got it and they're able to see that this is life changing for me.

So hopefully more former Foster can get helped as well.

I just want to say that I love a sense of home and thank you so much to the sponsors and volunteers, because without you guys, I wouldn't have a decorated home.

R1 Room 140 14:20

Yeah.

EB Erlinda Bernardo sharing video 14:28

I would still be in the floor with my kids, so I'm just so happy like.

I really can't say any words. If I had long arms, I would just want to give everybody hugs.

Like so big and just tell them, like how much you know, this means to me.

I'm just very thankful and I want to let them know that.

This this has changed my perspective for my for my future a lot more, so thank you.

R1 Room 140 14:52

So I just wanted to introduce the idea to you guys.

I mean, is that there on the Internet, they they post videos and stuff.

So people may talk about it and have you ever heard like DCFS, like teams doing whatever. Like, I wanted to know what we're doing.

I also wanted you to know about sense of home and their work. I think they're a great resource for families in the county and I'm encouraging other folks to like find out what they do and participate with them.

It really does connect it to the work.

And are helping real people like in a very concrete, legitimate way.

It was so I've talked too much with them and turn it over to Rachel from sincere home and she'll give you details.

Thank you so much. Hi everyone.

I think I've met most of you in some capacity, but I'm Rachel, executive director of home, and I know we've had Supervisor Mitchell's team and Supervisor Mitchell came out and did a home creation.

And yeah, I just wanted to kind of echo.

Having Brandon and the DCFS teams.

Partnership on this.

It's been really special.

I think one one piece of our home creation process is that we actually have what we call pay it forward, Ambassador.

So youth who have received home creations, our members of our community, they come back and volunteer at every home creation. And so I think it's even meaningful for them to see that.

And supervisors are, you know, part of this community and like you were saying, Brandon, like a sense of belonging, and that they're cared for, right?

Even after they exit.

System. So we're also about nine months into our partnership with DCFS on the FY voucher pilot program and that has been incredible.

In just nine months, we've been able to receive 102 referrals with youth who have FYI vouchers and our goal with this program is to really connect to youth earlier on so that we can prevent any period of homelessness.

Prior to this time, about 89% of Foster youth when they were coming to us.

You know, once they got their first lease and they're moving into their apartment, had experienced a period of homelessness. And so our goal with this is to really kind of bridge that gap, connect to them sooner. And as I said, we've had 102 referrals already.

In just nine months, we've done 23 home creations.

We have 41 youth who have leased up and we have a really big network of landlords, about 235 units across LA County who are.

Willing and excited to rent.

To our youth who have FYI vouchers and I think this really speaks to the relationship that we build with landlords.

So whenever we go into a home creation, one of the first things we do is we connect

to the the property owner, the landlord let them know we're coming and doing this home creation on your site, they kind of get to know who we are as a sense.

Of home.

And then they experience that, you know, their unit is beautiful and taken care of and their tenant is, you know, doing well and taking care of their unit and so.

They're very likely and excited to rent to us.

So that's been something we can help with the housing navigation piece as well. And then after they receive their home location, we continue to provide support to them.

Ongoing support connects connections to counseling.

We have a a sense of home scholarship program and with that I think I'll pass it over to Barbara here.

Barbara is one of our scholarship awardees at a sense of home.

Also an FYI voucher holder.

And she has.

Received her home creation and kind of went through the process with our pilot program.

So I will pass it over to Barbara to share a little bit about her story, OK.

So hi everyone.

My name is Barbara vet and I'm 25 years old.

I grew up in foster care system, which came with many challenges.

I was moving from home to home and it wasn't easy and I had to constantly adapt to new environments. But at the age of eight, I was fortunate to find a home that truly cared about my well-being and supported me.

That civility, that stability, made a world of difference in my life.

After aging out of foster care, I stayed in transitional housing until I was 24.

AT23I became a mother to twins, which is both a beautiful and overwhelming experience balancing motherhood while planning on my next steps was challenging and I faced moments of uncertainty after aging out of THB, I moved to Lancaster and stayed with family temporarily, but due to.

Personal struggles I couldn't stay long.

Eventually I moved to Los Angeles and for a period of time, my children and I grants homelessness.

We stayed temporarily with relatives while I worked hard, commuting from LA to Lancaster for school to find stability for us, and 2024 I applied for the FYI voucher for the second time.

The first time I wasn't approved, which was discouraging, I waited anxiously searching for housing for myself and my kids.

And finally, in February 2025.

I received the approval.

Received my voucher on April 29th and moved into my home on May 16th, just before my 25th birthday.

The sense of relief, pride and joy I felt that day was indescribable. During my voucher process.

The CFS **** and asked me put this into home.

Their support was incredible.

They helped me furnish my apartment and guided me, guided me in creating a space that felt safe and truly like home for myself and my children.

Walking into a fully prepared home, thoughtfully designed for our needs made me feel settled, independent and proud.

It was more than just furniture, it was the place we could finally call our own.

Since a home has continued to support me in other ways, including providing scholarships and connecting me to opportunities I wouldn't have known about otherwise, their guidance has allowed me to focus on my goals, plan for the future, and believe that I can achieve more than I've ever imagined.

Looking ahead, I'm excited to continue building my life.

I am pursuing my career goals.

As an ultrasound technician while creating a stable and fulfilling for myself and my babies, my ultimate dream is to achieve financial freedom and show my children experiences and opportunities that I didn't have growing up. Want them to see that even in the face of challenge, it's possible to.

Build a life of stability, independence and joy.

I'm grateful for the support I've received and proud of the resilience I've developed through every challenge.

I hope my story inspires others to keep moving forward, no matter how difficult the journey may seem.

Rachel.

There's no particular ask here.

There's no port action.

There's really informational, but I just wanted to let you know like what we focus on, like what our values are, what I wanted to know more about the program.

Again, I think it's really impactful like to read the good word, ask other people to participate.

That's it.

I don't.

I just want to add to that, you know, being a nonprofit service provider for many years at different organizations, it has been such a fantastic experience working with Brandon and his team.

And our FY voucher team.

It's you. All are just amazing.

And I've just it's been such a joy to work with them and.

Different from the what I think sometimes the experience is and it's just been really amazing and everything has happened quickly and efficiently and as a team collaboratively and it's just been working really good at the move insurance we can do it much quicker.

We got like a system to that too, but yeah, it's been.

It's been really wonderful.

Thank you for having us.

Yeah. Savannah, thank you for the presentation.

Just curious how you select the recipients.

I'm sure there are more people who could benefit from it than there are capacity and resources so.

Yeah. So we do about three to four homes a week.

For youth all across LA County.

The eligibility is that you just need to either be aged out of care.

You need to be.

Be working in school or primary caretaker.

And really, it can be at any age.

We have no age out, so if it's a former Fosse youth first department that they're getting when they're 38 years old will serve them our average age though is 25.

And yeah, those are.

Those are the only eligibility right now.

We have a pretty big wait time and our goal is to be able to continue to expand and grow so we can do more because now we've got the pipeline of the FY vouchers, which is great.

Because we're getting to youth sooner to eliminate that period of homelessness. But

we also have all the other youth who are coming in from referrals from all over, you know.

Here's, you know, nonprofit organizations.

So it's quite a bit.

Thank. Thank you so much for coming today and being patient.

It was a great presentation.

I know we all look forward to seeing one of these places with her bosses at some point.

Yeah, we'll keep you posted.

Like I said, as we do them in your districts, you're welcome to come by and say hi and what's going to be.

NO **Nancy Olivares** 23:54

Hmm.

R1 **Room 140** 23:55

How do we set up that?

So you can reach out to me directly and then I can.

Yes, we were right before you went to leave.

I was gonna say welcome back.

Wouldn't have helped with the move in that I know 'cause.

Yeah, you can reach out to me.

And then what we do is we kinda find a date. Monica and I are talking right now about trying to find a recipient that lives in their district.

Yeah, and then we'll set up a date and it depends what Supervisor, Mitchell, we had, you know, the whole office come and they were all the volunteers. And that was amazing. If that's not possible.

And only the supervisor can come. Then we would pair you with another volunteer group.

We have all different faith-based groups, community based groups, schools like all different kinds of organizations.

Oakwood School, for example, a high school club, you know, does home creation.

So we compare with that. But yeah, just reach out.

Thank you so much.

Thank you guys.

Thank you for sharing your story.

Yes, Barbara, your path is amazing.

I hope you don't mind me sharing past your ultrasound test today. Oh, yeah, that's OK.

Yeah.

We'll go to public comment on this item.

Is there anyone that has public comment on this particular item?

Madam says seeing none in person.

Thank you so much.

Thank you.

Item 5.

A and this is the DCFS. I can. This is the updated letter that we had had discussion.

So much.

Hi, good afternoon.

Mike, can I say good afternoon?

My name is Leticia Charis Ivara, and I'm with the DCFS contracts administration division. And I'll let Denise introduce herself.

I'm Denise pribella.

I'm the program manager over our DCFS regional support unit.

We are responsible for all our DC DCFS with regional center services and or. Disabilities.

ES **Edie Shulman** 26:18

And.

R1 **Room 140** 26:18

We also have Aiden Truman.

ES **Edie Shulman** 26:21

Yes. Hi, Edie. Shulman representing I can.

Have two attend virtually. Thank you.

R1 **Room 140** 26:30

Yes, this is a continuation item over here a couple of weeks ago.

This is the Interagency Council on child abuse, neglect or letter to request approval

to execute an extension for the child abuse prevention and early intervention program.

The contract's gonna be expiring later this year, December 31st, 2025. We're requesting approval to extend it from January 1st, 2026 through December 31st, 2027.

And we have a solicitation that we are going to be working on to execute a contract. We did run the RFA request for information earlier this year and we did have seven agencies that responded in order for us to move forward. We have to do an evaluation process.

So we would be doing a new solicitation to be able to select from the interested vendors.

The services include ongoing training and education and reporting abuse.

Nicole act of divinely mentally disabled children.

How to provide appropriate specialized case management support services, parent training and support groups and educational for education for families on child abuse and how to prevent future abuse and neglect, educating regional centers and other community providers on the importance of reporting child abuse and neglect. And then the last time we were here on the board letter that the board deputies had. Basically the same one that I had.

But I didn't know that it was just the only thing that Monica caught was that we had a recommendation to extend for an additional year.

So basically.

We did.

Go ahead and remove that.

This is just for a three-year contract.

Wanted to make that clarity.

Under the impression that was a different board letter, but no, you you have the right board letter every time we have removed which is good. OK, we had a very robust discussion on this. Sorry Leticia, but.

For, for, for good reason on an issue we all feel strongly about which is competitive. RFP's. So with that, we do have in front of us the new updated amended letter that maybe was already there, but before we did, we had a different version.

So now we're all on the same page with the new letter, which does have the.

The amount of the amendment contract term, which is 2 years, which we believe will be enough time to write an RFP and see applications and go forward knowing.

We'll see who wins and how that all goes.

But we're looking forward to meeting, you know, all of our departments moving towards this process.

So with that, any questions?

I know we we had a good, robust discussion. Yeah. Yeah, yeah.

Sorry, I missed the last one and obviously this is well it's connected remotely. So I wasn't in the room for the last one, but obviously this is this particular agreement pertains to the first district with all the Family Services and understanding of course and sole source and R.

Requirements. I just wanna make.

I wanna understand is there all of them that I can contracts go into RFP going forward and this is just being extended for two years?

Are they all kind of going to RFP at the same time?

Is there some sort of staggered basis with all of these various contracts?

What is the timetable for all this?

Oh, there are other contracts have different expiration dates. I believe that Aldo provided you with the list of the contracts that we have, is that correct?

Yeah, we got a list.

Here's just very confusing. OK Ed.

So maybe Ed should take that.

ES **Edie Shulman** 30:08

Yeah. Yes, we we what the list is is all of the current contracts that we have, the contract amounts and.

The contract terms and plans for moving forward with these contracts.

I will say that.

It's not 100% clear.

It will continue all of these services moving forward.

We'll take them as each one comes up at a time where we need to make a decision about moving forward with an RFI and then possibly an RFP process.

But that is the plan for all of our contracts is we will not be doing any more. So source contracting, we will be doing this process.

R1 **Room 140** 31:10

That's great.

I'm. I'm gonna.

Yes, I from my understanding.

These programs were all funded and decided upon in 20 in 2009, when ICANN came to the board offices and asked for feedback.

ES

Edie Shulman 31:31

Not all of them.

Actually.

I did.

I mean some of them started then some of them have started later. Some of the projects that were funded initially are no longer being funded.

So they all have different.

Start dates for when they came into.

You know, when we actually entered into a contract with these agencies and we don't just automatically extend these services, we do an evaluation and if the services aren't aren't meeting the needs.

Or there's no longer a viability to it.

Then we determinate the contract.

R1

Room 140 32:14

So I guess as a follow up and not to point pick on any specific district or anything like that.

So I know that the Alma one is in front of us right now.

It's expiring in December, I believe.

Just looking at what was shared with us, there's one the El Nino one and the 3rd and the El Nino in the 4th.

They're having like one year extension periods that might carry them through 2026. If that's correct, does that mean you're doing the RFI, RFA work now ahead of time with respect to those as well?

Or is it going to be in a year's time we're kind of?

Similar situation with those contracts as well.

ES

Edie Shulman 32:46

For the family visitation contracts, one in the third district, one in the 5th with Grace Resource.

We are actually in the process of.

Refining the statement of work for those programs and that is that is in preparation for the RFP. Can you not hear me?

R1 Room 140 33:01

Thank you.

SJ Shalesha Johnson 33:01

Appointment ostrega.
Johnson.

R1 Room 140 33:08

We can hear you.
We can hear you.

ES Edie Shulman 33:09

OK.
Sorry. So so yes, we are moving forward with an RFP process.

SJ Shalesha Johnson 33:10

Yes.

ES Edie Shulman 33:15

For those contracts, however, I will say that it is likely that we will have to come to the board and ask for an extension of the current contract to allow time for us to finish the RFP. But we have started that process.

R1 Room 140 33:16

Join the meeting.
I think I shared the last time that we do have a high workload with.

SJ Shalesha Johnson 33:34

Heart.

R1 Room 140 33:37

We are current concurrently working on 2026 solicitations. So there's there's a lot of work involved with getting those routes.

SJ **Shalesha Johnson** 33:38

That's fine.

Yes, please.

R1 **Room 140** 33:45

So that's why she's saying that in case we need additional time, we'll come back and ask her.

One that's online.

Please mute. We can hear someone talk and it's not needy.

SJ **Shalesha Johnson** 33:54

I'm sorry. No, no.

R1 **Room 140** 33:58

Needy, no.

No, it wasn't.

Yeah, I don't.

I don't see anybody else, but they're really good here. Somebody else?

ES **Edie Shulman** 34:06

Is it?

Did you want me to stay on mute for until I need to speak?

R1 **Room 140** 34:11

Oh, you're fine. No, you're fine.

We we were hearing another person while you were talking and he's a little confusing exactly.

ES **Edie Shulman** 34:13

OK.

Oh, that's my shadow. No, I'm kidding.

R1 Room 140 34:22

We're just watching, wanting a little quiet so we can hear you better audience.

ES Edie Shulman 34:28

Also, just just for your information, I know there was some questions about.

R1 Room 140 34:28

Can't find anyone.

ES Edie Shulman 34:35

How much funding is in the Trust fund we'll be providing you some written documentation about that, but we did have a meeting this morning with the DCFS Finance section.

R1 Room 140 34:38

OK.

ES Edie Shulman 34:46

Who manages? Of course, the financial piece of this and the revenue projections for the Trust Fund, which is just a projection.

But it's on a conservative basis. We're looking at approximately \$3,000,000 a year of revenue. Our current spending is that for the ICAN specific programs, it's about \$1.6 million.

And then we have the \$2,000,000 for the prevention and aftercare contracts that \$2,000,000 is not always spent.

Some of it may be spent, some of it may not be because they utilize their other funding first.

And then go to the trust fund dollars and they've had other funding sources for a while, but that is always going to be available for them.

And then in terms of projections out for the next five years, we're looking at having. What we call a Piggy Bank, so to speak, of about \$9 million in the Trust Fund, these are projections, but the actual spending is, you know.

Is accurate and will send you the specific details after we are able to pull it all together, but that gives you an overall picture of the trust fund dollars.

R1 Room 140 36:06

Maybe if I make that I I see that that the puzzlement there. So there is like there is revenues which comes from the birth certificate.

So that's that's every year like they the department estimates of, you know like for instance this year I believe it's \$2.5 million.

There's also the Trust fund balance, which is what 80 referred to as a Piggy Bank.

So it's like their savings, which I know it's changed but.

I'm just looking at the numbers that we started with and recommended, but it was about \$6.5 million in their trust fund.

Balance, which is like their savings account.

So it was like 6 and a half million of savings and then like two and a half million of revenue.

So that's like the 9 million that that all together that they had at the beginning of the year, there was an adjustment made in supplemental of like unspent dollars that went goes back into their savings.

So it is.

It is new money that comes in every year through the birth certificates, but then there is the savings unbalanced and when you put those two together, that's the that's the total, that's fund budget.

How much money out is in their contracts?

Well, this year, I.

And this in a table.

ES Edie Shulman 37:27

As I said, for the ICAM programs for the ICAM programs, it's approximately \$1.6 million for all of the contracts that you have on your list. And then?

I don't know the exact funding for, for Branton and aftercare, but they do have available to them that \$2,000,000.

I don't know if they'll be spending all of that this year or not.

R1 Room 140 37:52

Yes, you're saying, OK, 3.6 million maybe out in this program 9 million.

ES **Edie Shulman** 37:55

Right.

R1 **Room 140** 37:59

Together, like their budget in the that they couldn't mend.

Why don't we spend more?

That's quite a delta.

I don't know how much you got to keep in reserve for this program.

Don't get me wrong, I don't know what the right size is, but significant delta between. I think the department's been cautious because they know like, you know, like the funding for.

Excuse me. Birth certificates has gone down a little bit.

It has gone up well. I I think like during COVID there were fewer people requesting birth certificates. But I think the department has just been cautious.

You know I don't.

I don't know if if anybody in the department wants to add more to that, but they they have been cautious because they know what this trust fund that when that savings is spent, there is no, there's no there would be no plan to backfill the savings. Because I can't pay for the conferences out of that trust fund.

ES **Edie Shulman** 38:50

No, I can't.

Doesn't take any money from the Trust fund.

R1 **Room 140** 39:01

One more question. Brandon, can you or one from DCFS?

Can we find out why we're not spending the \$2,000,000 in PNA?

Yeah, I can find out.

Feels like Ding it.

Yeah, I I we have understand.

Our.

Prevention programs collectively.

Family Preez, PNA, and PFF.

Like across the board trying to grow the programs.

We can do a presentation on like off the top of my head. I'm trying to think like what the underspending is and we'll find out.

ES **Edie Shulman** 39:42

One thing that I can add to that is that it's my understanding that for five years, prevention and aftercare had a pot of money from Department of Mental Health and they also received some money from the Office of Child Protection and it was a significant amount of money.

That money, that funding, is now going away.

So they're going to be operating on a much smaller.

Amount of a pot of money to work with.

So it seems more likely that they would be wanting to utilize these dollars.

But again, that's very rough estimate.

It's not my area, so I probably shouldn't even speak on it, but that was what we were told.

It.

R1 **Room 140** 40:22

Zachary, just I feel like there are major wait lists for prevention and care services, so.

Use as to why we are under spending.

It's inconsistency.

Some offices have really embraced particular programs and they spend like their entire allotment, and I believe sometimes more. We see underspending in some offices.

My recollection.

OK, looks like no additional questions.

The deputies will go to public comment on this item. If there's any, please raise your hand in person or virtually.

Any Leia says no, we are seeing no hands raised at this muffle.

So with that, we have the meeting adjourned.

Thank you very much.

CJ **Cynthia James** 53:14

Down to listen to Katy's honesty.



Cynthia James 53:19

Only hearing about.

- **Caroline Torosis** stopped transcription