



CECIL COUNTY, MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

FISCAL IMPACT NOTE

SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION

SPONSOR: Council President at the request of the County Executive

RESOLUTION NO. 07-2021 – Supplemental Appropriation – Grant Funds - COVID

SYNOPSIS: A Resolution to amend the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Cecil County, Maryland, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, in order to provide a total of \$448,139 to the Department of Community Services – Community Partnerships Division budget, by recording the grant awarded from The Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention, Youth and Victim Services. The Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding (“CESF”) – Supporting Cecil County During the Coronavirus Pandemic Grant will provide assistance to children and families by supporting local partners including victim services, law enforcement and child service agencies throughout Cecil County.

FISCAL IMPACT SUMMARY: Net fiscal impact to the County will be zero for Fiscal 2021. The Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention, Youth and Victim Services has awarded a \$448,139 grant to Cecil County to support families and children affected by the pandemic.

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

Cecil County received an award of \$448,139 in Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding for the purpose of supporting local partners including victim services, law enforcement and child service agencies. The grant was awarded to Cecil County’s Department of Community Services’ Community Partnership’s Division, by the Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services (GOCPYVS), and covers retroactive expenses from April 2020 through December 31, 2021.

The Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services stressed the importance of comprehensive, collaborative projects that benefit the entire community; as such, the Department of Community Services approached multiple community organizations in an effort to create both a competitive and highly collaborative application.

Cecil County is partnering with seven organizations to disseminate this funding:

Boys and Girls Club of Harford and Cecil Counties
The Bridge, Domestic Violence/Rape Crisis Program (Department of Community Services)
Cecil County CASA (Court-Appointed Special Advocates)
Cecil County Sheriff's Office
Generation Station
Taylor Wellness Center

Services to be provided with grant funds include educational support for children, provided by the Boys and Girls Club, CASA, Generation Station, and Youth Empowerment Source. The Boys and Girls Club will be providing the "Club on the Go" from 3-6 p.m., taking youth development programming and food to communities in need, via a specialized van. Activities will include arts, sports and STEM.

CASA and Generation Station are offering more traditional classroom education options for youth, especially those who cannot access virtual learning from home or who require in-person guidance and assistance. CASA will focus on serving foster, kinship, and/or underserved youth from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., providing a safe place for virtual schooling at the former Immaculate Conception School, using Cecil County Public Schools' virtual learning classes.

Generation Station will work similarly, providing services primarily to Bohemia Manor school district students, at Five Rivers Church in Elkton. Generation Station will operate from 3-6 p.m., and provide transportation assistance to students attending the program as needed.

Youth Empowerment Source will be providing training for their staff related to trauma, mental health, and COVID-19, and using this training to serve families and children enrolled in programming. Additionally, they will be providing hotspots and computers to continue to virtually serve "opportunity youth," which are young persons between 16-24 years of age who are not engaged with school or work. This program focuses on GED and job skill acquisition, while addressing soft skills, money management, conflict resolution, and other critical issues.

In order to support law enforcement services during the pandemic, CESF funds were approved to reimburse officers for daycare expenses incurred when daycare providers were closing or offered limited options for child care, as officers were required to work to avoid staff shortages.

Finally, services focused on victims will support therapeutic options from Taylor Wellness Center, Inc. in Port Deposit, as well as the purchase of additional shelter supplies for The Bridge, Cecil County's Domestic Violence/Rape Crisis Program, to allow set-up of an emergency location for shelter during the pandemic, if needed. Taylor Wellness will support families through psychotherapy and case management, as well as adjunctive therapies such as expressive arts, nutrition coaching, and dance, yoga, and Zumba classes.