



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

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Agenda Date: 4/7/2015

In Control: Economic and Community Development Committee

INTERDEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM

TO: Sheryl Sculley, City Manager

FROM: Melody Woosley, Director, Department of Human Services (DHS)

COPIES TO: Economic and Community Development Committee; Gloria Hurtado, Assistant City Manager; Richard Keith, Assistant Director, DHS; Mikel Brightman, Head Start Administrator, DHS; File

SUBJECT: Head Start Briefing and Approval Items

DATE: April 7, 2015

SUMMARY:

This item requests approval of 2015-2016 Eligibility, Recruitment, Selection, Enrollment, and Attendance (ERSEA) Revised Program Policies. This item also provides a briefing on program and fiscal information for the month of February, 2015.

BACKGROUND:

The Head Start program provides comprehensive, high quality early childhood education services to 3,020 children in the San Antonio and Edgewood Independent School Districts. The City of San Antonio, as the program grantee, acts as the oversight, monitoring, technical assistance, and administrative agency for the program. The Economic and Community Development Committee (ECDC), in conjunction with the Head Start Policy Council (parent led board), provides governance oversight of the program.

The Economic and Community Development Committee must approve implementation of new and revised ERSEA policies. The Head Start Program's updated policies meet program needs and ensure compliance with Federal Head Start requirements. The Head Start Policy Council approved the new and revised ERSEA policies at the March 24, 2015 meeting.

In accordance with the Head Start Act and Head Start Performance Standards, the program is required to share monthly information with the ECDC regarding Head Start activities and fiscal expenditures.

ISSUE:

The 2015-2016 revised ERSEA Policies require approval from the ECDC, and include revisions for clarification and modifications required by the release of the Federal Register ERSEA 1305, effective March 12, 2015. The development of three new policies ensures our program is in compliance with the new Federal Regulations and Head Start Performance Standards. Federal Register ERSEA 1305 ensures children and families of greatest need benefit from Head Start services first.

As required by the Head Start Act, staff will also review program and fiscal activities and expenditures.

ALTERNATIVES:

Should the Economic and Community Development Committee not approve the 2015-2016 ERSEA new and revised policies, there will be a delay in planned program improvements, and the program will be out of compliance with Head Start Federal regulations.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no anticipated impact to the general fund as a result of these actions.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the ERSEA revised policies.