



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:
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Agenda Item Number: {{item.number}}

Agenda Date: December 12, 2023

In Control: Head Start Policy Council Meeting

DEPARTMENT: Department of Human Services

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Melody Woosley

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Correspondence – ACF-PI-OHS-23-04 Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) on Supporting the Head Start Workforce and Consistent Quality Programming – Public Comment Period

SUMMARY:

This item presents the following from the Department of Human Services (DHS) Head Start, Early Head Start, and Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership programs for action by the Head Start Policy Council.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Office of Head Start (OHS) has a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) in the Federal Register, Supporting the Head Start Workforce and Consistent Quality Programming. The publication opens a 60-day public comment period. OHS is soliciting feedback on these proposed changes and will use comments submitted by the public in making decisions for the final rule.

This NPRM proposes new and enhanced changes to the Head Start Program Performance Standards (HSPPS) in three main areas: workforce supports, mental health, and other quality improvements. The proposed revisions would ensure OHS provides clear federal requirements for:

- Wages and benefits to support the Head Start workforce
- Better integration of mental health into all levels of Head Start programming
- Enhanced standards in other service areas to promote quality improvement and clarity of requirements

The current HSPPS remain in effect until a final rule is issued.

ISSUE:

Rules and regulations for the Head Start, Early Head Start, and Early Start-Child Care Partnership grants as set forth by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) require the Head Start Policy Council to review programmatic actions to oversee certain key responsibilities.

FISCAL IMPACT:

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

ALTERNATIVES:

The review of the items included in this memorandum are required for program compliance with U.S. Department of Health and Human Services rules and regulations for Head Start, Early Head Start, and Early Head Start- Child Care Partnership programs.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff will present a briefing on this item subject to possible action by the HSPC Committee. Staff recommends review and approval of the items included in this memorandum.