



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:
{{item.tracking_number}}

Agenda Item Number: 2

Agenda Date: January 24, 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-HS-23-01 Supplementary Information on Establishing an Evidence-based COVID-19 Mitigation Policy

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:

In January 2023, the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) published its Final Rule, Mitigating the Spread of COVID-19 in Head Start Programs. This Final Rule removes the universal masking requirement for individuals 2 years and older. It does not address the vaccination requirement from the Interim Final Rule with Comment Period (IFC), so the Head

Start Program Performance Standards (HSPPS) at 45 CFR §§1302.93 and 1302.94 remain in effect. The Final Rule requires Head Start programs to have an evidence-based COVID-19 mitigation policy, developed in consultation with their Health Services Advisory Committee (HSAC).

This Program Instruction (PI) provides supplementary information to support grant recipients in developing the required evidence-based COVID-19 mitigation policy.

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.