
Sponsor: Social Services

Meeting Date: 10/8/2024

Title: Funding Allocation from the Minnesota Department of Children, Youth and Families for Minnesota African American Family Preservation and Child Welfare Disproportionality Act

File Number: 2024-448

Background and Rationale:

African American children are over-represented within the child welfare system. Once in the child-welfare system, they stay longer and experience higher rates of out of home placement. In response, in July of 2024, the Minnesota African American Family Preservation and Child Welfare Disproportionality Act (MAAFPA) was passed. This act aims to decrease disproportionality in Minnesota's child protection system. Ramsey County is tasked with beginning phasing in this legislation in January of 2025.

Legislation requires that Ramsey County will provide active efforts for the disproportionately represented groups in the child protection system, which includes but is not limited to African American children. These efforts will require additional staffing time and culturally responsive services offered at all levels of care.

Full implementation of MAAFPA will happen on January 1, 2027, for all counties in Minnesota, though Ramsey County is one of two counties given the opportunity to begin with earlier implementation.

Recommendation:

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners resolved to:

1. Accept the funding allocation from the Minnesota Department of Children, Youth and Families for the implementation of the Minnesota African American Family Preservation and Child Welfare Disproportionality Act, in the amount of \$3,000,000.
2. Authorize the County Manager to execute grant agreement and amendments in a form approved by the County Attorney's Office.
3. Authorize the County Manager to enter into agreements and execute amendments to the agreement in accordance with the county's procurement policies and procedures, provided the amounts are within the funding allocation.

A motion to approve was made by Commissioner Xiong, seconded by Commissioner Moran.
Motion passed.

Aye: - 5: McGuire, Moran, Ortega, Reinhardt, and Xiong

Abstain: - 1: Frethem

By: 

Mee Cheng, Chief Clerk - County Board