



Dan Saltzman, Commissioner

Lisa Pellegrino, Director

INVEST a MINUTE

Portland Children's Levy Allocation Committee Meeting Recap

Friday, Nov. 13th, 2009

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Levy Background

Process for allocating additional funds

The Allocation Committee and Levy staff discussed parameters for how to best allocate additional funds. Additional funds include those leftover after contract negotiations were completed on the most recent grant awards and funds remaining from the previous Levy.

The Committee will allocate about \$400,000 per year through June 30, 2012 at its Dec. 14th meeting using the following priorities:

New Full-Service After-School programs since this area was the most competitive category for funding and had the most dollars requested for dollars available (\$3.8 requested per each \$1 awarded.) In addition, this area also had the lowest proportion of dollars awarded for new programming compared to dollars requested for new programming, as compared to other funding areas. "New" programs are defined as those that the Levy has not funded in the past.

Programs that are both new and culturally specific since the bulk of new Levy funding (87 percent) went to sustain current programming despite the fact that 42 percent of the total funding requested was for new programming. Further, increasing the proportion of total funds invested in culturally specific programs was a goal of the most recent Levy Request for Investment. Despite extra points being awarded in the RFI to those programs, the percentage of total dollars invested in culturally specific programs remains the same as in the old Levy, at 28 percent.

Only culturally specific programs of current grantees, if the Committee chooses to grant funds to programs that received

funding in the last round. This would achieve the above-stated RFI goal. Staff also recommended that the Committee prioritize those culturally specific programs that received little of what they requested.

Also:

Additional considerations for allocating funding:

- Prioritize programs that most Committee members wanted to fund in the last round;
- Prioritize higher scoring programs
- Consider advocacy efforts of applicants

The Levy staff will bring specific program funding recommendations/scenarios to the Allocation Committee at its next meeting Dec. 14th (see meeting details below).

Ongoing Leverage Fund discussion

During the first five years of the Levy, the Committee allocated \$3 million in revenues for a Leverage Fund to match public dollars with private ones to increase investment in programming for children. Since the Committee once again voted to create a \$3 million Leverage Fund under the current Levy, staff asked for public input on how future investments should be made.

Staff and the Committee have discussed various options including:

A Challenge Grant Model where successful applicants would seek matching private funds after securing commitment from the Children's Levy. No Levy funds would be spent until matching dollars are secured.

Additional ideas include setting aside a portion of the Leverage Fund to work with the Early Childhood Funders group; forming another collaborating committee to work on partnerships in other funding areas; and allowing businesses/corporations and their employees to help support a Leverage Fund program.

The Allocation Committee is scheduled to vote on new Leverage Fund guidelines at its next meeting Dec. 14th (see meeting details below).

Upcoming Allocation Committee meeting

Allocation Committee meetings are open to the public and community members are welcome to attend and comment on agenda items.

The Committee comprises: City Commissioner and Chair Dan Saltzman; city-appointed representative Alissa Keny-Guyer; county-appointed representative Adrienne Livingston; Portland Business Alliance representative Ron Beltz; and Multnomah County Commissioner Ted Wheeler.

The next meeting is scheduled for:

*9-11 a.m., Monday, Dec. 14th, City Hall Council Chambers

Check the Levy website in the coming weeks at www.portlandchildrenslevy.org for an agenda and more details. The agenda also will be e-mailed to the Levy database prior to the meeting.

Want to view the Nov. 13th meeting?

Watch it on cable channel CityNet 30 at these times: 8:30 a.m., Thursday, Nov. 19th and 10 a.m., Sunday, Nov. 22nd.

You can also view it on Portland Online:

<http://www.portlandonline.com/index.cfm?c=28260&a=272388>

(Real Player Enterprise required. To download:)

http://media.ci.portland.or.us/download_real_player.htm

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Who we are

The Portland Children's Levy, formerly the Children's Investment Fund, was created by city voters in 2002 and renewed by the electorate in Fall 2008.

The Levy is supported through a five-year property tax projected to annually generate more than \$12 million toward proven programs across the city serving 16,000 children and their families in areas of Early Childhood, After School, Mentoring, Child Abuse Prevention/Intervention and Foster Care.

The Levy is annually audited and administrative costs do not exceed 5 percent.

Questions? Contact: Call Mary Gay Broderick at 503-823-2947 or e-mail mgbroderick@ci.portland.or.us
See our website at www.portlandchildrenslevy.org