DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, Family Health Services Division

Program: Children with Special Needs

Award: $2,398,294

Project contact: Mr. Paul Takishita, Ms. Susan Brown

1. For each group/category or program/project for which ARRA funds have been obtained, please provide the following information:
    a. A brief summary of the program/project, including goals
    Funds associated with the US Department of Education's Early Intervention Progam for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities support the implementation of a statewide, comprehensive, coordinated, multidisciplinary, interagency system of early intervention services for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families.
    b. Whether funds were appropriated for expenditure by a federal agency, were awarded as a formula/block grant to a State or country agency, or were awarded on a competitive grant basis;
    Funds were appropriated by the US Department of Education as a cooperative agreement to the State of Hawaii.
    c. Whether matching funds are required, and, if so:
        i. Are they available; N/A
        ii. Have they been secured; N/A
        iii. If they have not been secured, why not; and N/A
        iv. Will the State be required to continue that match or provide increased/full funding in the future in the future; N/A
    d. If there additional requirements to receive funds, what are they; N/A
    e. The amount of funds involved and the state/federal fiscal year within which the funds must be expended (e.g. SFY 2009 – 2010 or FFY 2009 – 2010);
    The award total was $2,398,294 and must be expended within prior to FFY 2011.
    f. What criteria were used to identify the program/project as a priority and how does the program/project meet them;
    Funds were intended to provide supplemental existing Children with Special Needs programs at a time when local funds may have diminished due to the economic downturn.
    g. Efforts undertaken to coordinate application for funds and administration of the program/project, including expenditure of funds, with other federal, state, and county agencies;
    DOH is collaborating with the Hawaii Department of Health, who is the prime recipient of Early Intervention Progam for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities funds.
    h. The criteria used to select activities for the program/project;
    Funds are supplementing and existing program with a specific use.

i. Efforts made to provide public notice and seek public comment/input or, if public comment/input was not sought, why;
N/A

j. Efforts made during the bidding/award process to ensure that it was transparent and that the funds were awarded based on merit and in a prompt, fair, and reasonable manner;
Normal state and county procurement practices were followed and duly documented.

k. Measures employed to 1) reduce duplication of efforts, 2) ensure that funds were used for authorized purposes, and 3) prevent cost overruns, fraud, waste, error, and abuse;
The Department of Health has published draft guidance for internal programs as well as an internal ARR Oversight Committee to assure timeliness and accuracy, and to scrutinize for waste, fraud, error, and abuse. This Committee convenes monthly or as needed. In turn, the Department of Accounting and General Services and the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism also provide oversight and guidance.

l. Current status of the program/project, including percentage of awarded funds that have been obtained, percentage of awarded funds encumbered and/or expended, and what part(s) of program/project have been completed; and
The majority of funds have been received in two installments and will be disbursed to vendors such as Easter Seals upon completion of mandatory contract modifications.

m. Actual or anticipated economic impact to the State of the program/project, including the number of jobs saved/created and the long-term public benefits of the program/project.
Jobs retained/created cannot be calculated at this time. The long-term public benefit of the project will be sustaining and expanding services for children with special needs.