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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Jaramillo, T LAST UPDATED _____
ORIGINAL DATE 2/22/2023
SHORT TITLE Children's Trust Fund BILL NUMBER House Bill 361
ANALYST Chenier

APPROPRIATION* (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY23	FY24		
	\$3,000.0	Nonrecurring	General Fund to Children's Trust Fund

Parentheses () indicate expenditure decreases.

*Amounts reflect most recent analysis of this legislation.

House Bill 2 includes \$7.6 million in general fund revenue for Protective Services' prevention programming.

Sources of Information

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of House Bill 361

House Bill 361 appropriates \$3 million from the general fund to CYFD to continue to carry out the purposes of the Children's Trust Fund (CTF) Act, which includes preventing child maltreatment, providing medical or behavioral health treatment for victims of child maltreatment, and developing community-based services to prevent child maltreatment.

This bill does not contain an effective date and, as a result, would go into effect June 16, 2023, (90 days after the Legislature adjourns) if signed into law.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$3 million contained in this bill is a nonrecurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of a fiscal year shall not revert to the general fund.

CYFD said CTF’s investment policy states that 4.5 percent of the average market value over the previous 12 quarters can be withdrawn to fund program expenses. The current balance of the fund is \$6.5 million.

CYFD said that the Board of the CTF requested an investment of \$3 million into the fund’s permanent endowment. This investment will allow CTF to fund an additional \$135 thousand annually in programs to prevent child maltreatment and will allow the endowment to continue in the future.

Revenues for Children’s Trust Fund Financial Snapshot – Fiscal Year 2022 (dollars in thousands)

KID License plates	\$25.4
Marriage License fees	\$52.0
CTF Permanent Fund income	\$158.8
TOTAL	\$236.2
Expenses – Grants awarded totaling:	\$442.4

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

CYFD provided the following:

The CTF is governed by a board of trustees with 13 members appointed by the governor and approved by the state Senate. The CTF board also oversees the next generation fund which makes grants supporting positive youth development. The Next Generation Council, appointed by the CTF board, recommends these grants for approval by the CTF board and assists in strengthening statewide efforts to support youth in our state.

New Mexico’s children’s trust fund is one of 47 statewide trust and prevention funds across the country. We are a member of the National Children’s Trust Fund Alliance and support the efforts of Prevent Child Abuse America.

The children’s trust fund was established by the Legislature in 1985 under the leadership of then-First Lady Alice King and is an important resource for the well-being of New Mexico’s children, youth and families. Multi-year grants ranging from \$25 thousand to \$100 thousand per year support innovative community-based programs for the prevention and treatment of child abuse and neglect. The children’s trust fund, through these multi-year grants, provides the means to develop, implement and sustain innovative, community-based programs to prevent child abuse and neglect and to provide medical, psychological, and other appropriate treatment for children who have experienced abuse and neglect.

Current CTF multi-year funded programs:

- **Guidance Center of Lea County, Inc. - \$380 thousand:** Provides a trauma-informed program to youth ages 11 to 14 in Lea County. The program consists of weekly group sessions, quarterly psycho-social outings, bi-weekly home visits, safety planning, and the creation of an individualized treatment plan.
- **New Mexico Child Advocacy Network (NMCAN) - \$380 thousand:** Offers a

multi-faceted parenting program to pregnant or parenting youth ages 14 to 25 who reside in Bernalillo, Valencia, and Sandoval Counties. The program has five approaches: 1) Monthly, professionally facilitated parent groups; 2) Staff training to better support young parents; 3) Outings for young families; 4) Expanding the capacity of the Opportunity Passport program to make space for all young parents to participate; and 5) Linking young parents to needed resources in the community via the Transition Age Youth (TAY) ECHO. <https://nmcan.org/>

- **PB&J Family Services, Inc. - \$380 thousand:** Offers an innovative group program for high-risk elementary and middle school youth in Bernalillo County focused on social-emotional development and self-care. <https://pbjfamilyservices.org/>

- **Taos Health Systems, Inc./Holy Cross Hospital - \$360 thousand:** Provides parenting classes for families with children and is offering support groups for grandparents raising grandchildren & pregnant/parenting youth in Taos County. <https://holycrossmedicalcenter.org/general/taos-love-kids-parenting-classes/>

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