



CITY OF KENT, OHIO

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

DATE: December 12, 2023
TO: Dave Ruller, City Manager
FROM: Bridget Susel, Community Development Director *B.S.*
RE: PCLRC Letter of Support for Brownfield Remediation Program

The Portage County Land Reutilization Corporation (PCLRC-Land Bank) has an opportunity to request Brownfield Remediation Program grant funding from the State of Ohio for brownfield assessment activities. The property located at 200 West Williams Street is currently for sale, but unresolved legacy environmental concerns have been a deterrent for potential buyers interested in redeveloping the site.

The property encompasses more than 11 acres of land zoned for industrial use. The redevelopment of the site is contingent upon successfully remediating any ongoing legacy environmental issues. If the Land Bank's grant request is successful, funding will be available to identify the full scope of the environmental concerns and develop a remediation plan that will further efforts to redevelop the site.

The Land Bank needs to submit a letter of support from Kent City Council with its grant application. Attached is the draft of that letter. I am respectfully requesting the attached be included in the City Manager's Report for the December 20, 2023 Council meeting.

If you need any additional information in order to report on this unauthorized item at the December 20, 2023 Council meeting, please let me know.

Cc: Dan Morganti, PCLRC Executive Director

Attachment



CITY OF KENT, OHIO

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

December 12, 2023

Ohio Department of Development
Community Services Division
77 S. High Street, 29th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Re: Letter of Support for Portage County Land Reutilization Corporation's (Land Bank) Brownfield Remediation Program Funding Request

To Whom it May Concern:

On behalf of Kent City Council, please accept this letter of support for the Portage County Land Bank's application seeking grant assistance through the Ohio Department of Development (ODOD) Brownfield Remediation Program (BRP). The Portage County Land Bank will utilize the funding to support the completion of a needed supplemental Voluntary Action Plan (VAP) Phase II environmental assessment of the property located at 200 West Williams Street in the City of Kent. The supplemental assessment is necessary in order to identify the full scope of environmental concerns at the site so that a comprehensive remediation action plan can be developed that will meet Ohio EPA Voluntary Action Program (VAP) requirements.

The property at 200 West Williams Street encompasses more than 11 acres of land zoned for industrial use. The property is currently available for sale, but the redevelopment of the property for a future commercial/industrial use is contingent upon successfully remediating any legacy unresolved environmental issues on the site. The Brownfield Remediation Program provides a unique opportunity for the Land Bank to utilize State of Ohio grant funds to determine the full scope of environmental concerns on the site and develop a remediation plan in furtherance of the City's economic development efforts to keep the property financially viable and better positioned for future redevelopment.

Thank you for your consideration of the Portage County Land Bank's BRP grant application that will provide much needed funding in support of the City of Kent's ongoing economic development efforts.

Sincerely,

Dave Ruller, City Manager

Jerry Fiala, Mayor

memo

CITY OF KENT PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

To: Dave Ruller, City Manager
Cc: City Council
From: Angela Manley, Director
Date: 12.6.23
Re: Child Care Stabilization Sub-Grants Application Request

I am requesting approval to apply for three child care grants available to us through the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services and the Ohio Child Care Resource and Referral Association. We will be applying on behalf of our three state licensed child care centers, which qualify to receive funding. Funds to be used, in part, for workforce supplements, program business development supports, mental health and special needs services. We will be seeking \$94,500.00 in funding through these grants.

I respectfully request your approval to move forward to submit applications for these funds before the filing deadline of January 12, 2024.



November 20, 2023

**Child Care Center Manual Procedure Letter No. 42
Child Care In-Home Aide Manual Procedure Letter No. 15**

**TO: All Child Care Center Manual Holders
All Child Care In-Home Aide Manual Holders**

FROM: Matt Damschroder, Director

SUBJECT: 2023 Child Care Stabilization Sub-Grants Application Process Phase 4

Background

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021 was signed into law on March 11, 2021, issuing \$14.99 billion in Supplemental Discretionary funds to states. Supplemental Discretionary Funds support states efforts to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic and rebuild a better child care system. Section 307.230 of Amended Substitute House Bill No. 33 of the 135th General Assembly re-appropriated authority for the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) to expend the Supplemental Funds to be used, in part, for workforce supplements, program business development supports, mental health and special needs services. As a result, Phase 4 stabilization grants are being implemented.

Phase 4

ODJFS has established several child care stabilization sub-grant opportunities. These sub-grants are available to the following program types: ODJFS regulated child care centers and in-home aides (IHA), as well as Ohio Department of Education (ODE) licensed preschool (PS) and school-age (SA) programs that are approved to provide publicly funded child care (PFCC). ODJFS regulated child care programs do not need to be participating in PFCC to be eligible to apply for these sub-grants, however, ODE programs must be approved to provide PFCC at the time of application.

The sub-grant opportunities include Operating/New Pandemic Costs, Workforce Recruitment/Retention, Access Development, and Mental Health Workforce and Family Support.

Payment

Payments are based on the program's license capacity as of October 31, 2023 for child care centers, and for ODE PFCC PS and SA programs, using the formula below which consists of a base payment determined by program type plus an additional per child dollar amount. If a



program is licensed after that date, the maximum funding amount is based on the capacity at the time of licensure. Programs' total sub-grant maximum funding amounts will not exceed \$330 x total license capacity. Maximum funding amounts for ODJFS certified in-home aide providers do not include a per child amount.

Base payment + (per child amount x program capacity) = Maximum Funding Amount

Example- A medium-sized center with a license capacity of 80 children would receive a base payment of \$15,000 plus \$26,400 (the per child amount of \$330 multiplied by 80) to equal the total amount of \$41,400.

The charts below indicate the maximum funding amounts by program type:

Table with 3 columns: Program Type, Base Payment, Per Child Amount by License Capacity (as of 10/31/2023). Rows include Centers - XX Large (200+), X-Large (151-199), Large (100-150), Medium (50 to 99), and Small (49 or less).

Handwritten calculations: x 60 = \$24,800 x 2 centers = \$49,600 total

Table with 2 columns: Program Type, Maximum Funding Amount. Row: In-Home Aides, \$3,000

Application and Expenditure

The application for these sub-grants will be accessed in the Ohio Professional Registry (OPR). Guidance and requirements are available on the Ohio Child Care Resource and Referral Association's (OCCRRA) website at www.occrra.org. Eligible providers must submit an application through the OPR, via a program's organization dashboard at https://registry.occrra.org/. When considering the amount to apply for, programs should determine the amount of expenses they will have in the expense period listed below.

The chart below is a summary of the application and allowable expense periods. Funds are dispersed according to this schedule. Reconciliation for the full amount issued in each previous



phase is required prior to applying for the next sub-grant. If a program does not request all eligible funding in this phase, they may return to the OPR and request up to the maximum funding amount, as long as the application period is still open.

Phase	Application Period	Expense Period	Reconciliation Due
4	November 20, 2023 at 12:00 p.m. – January 12, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.	July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024	July 31, 2024

Programs that apply must select at least one, some, or all of the sub-grants; however, funds cannot be used toward an expense previously paid for with stabilization grant funding. Unused funds per phase cannot be carried forward.

Payments will be processed approximately four weeks to six weeks after the date the application is approved. Programs can see the status of their application in the program’s organization dashboard in the OPR. Sub-grants will be awarded as long as ARPA funding is available.

Qualifications

Stabilization sub-grants are available by application to Ohio child care programs who qualify by meeting basic criteria outlined by the federal government. Child care programs are to be:

1. Licensed/certified by ODJFS or ODE PFCC.
2. In “Open” status as verified in OCLQS and serving children. A temporarily closed child care center that reopens during the application period can apply for sub-grants for expenses incurred during the entire expense period for Phase 4.
3. In good standing as of the date of application
 - a. Programs not in good standing include:
 - i. Programs in enforcement during the qualification period
 - ii. Programs who have had their Provider Agreement for Publicly Funded Child Care terminated, within the five years prior to this application, due to misuse of funds.
 - b. If a program is in good standing at the time of application but is later determined not in good standing prior to the funds being awarded, the funds will not be awarded.
4. Compliant with all applicable Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) and Ohio Revised Code (ORC) requirements which include Child Care and Development Block Grant Funds health and safety requirements and the completion of comprehensive background checks.



5. In agreement with sub-grant terms by certifying that the child care program will, for the duration of the sub-grant:
 - a. Use funds only for the categories and purposes indicated
 - b. Implement required ODJFS policies including OAC and ORC, orders from the State of Ohio, and to the greatest extent possible, implement policies in line with guidance from the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](http://www.cdc.gov). (CDC).
 - c. Pay full compensation and maintain full benefits to staff and agree not to involuntarily furlough employees
 - d. Implement a hiring bonus and a retention policy. If this option is selected, this policy should include:
 - i. A 6-month period that the staff member agrees to remain with the program in exchange for receipt of Workforce Recruitment/Retention funds.
 - ii. Document the date the hiring and retention bonus is issued.
 - iii. A written agreement between the professional and program articulating that the professional agrees to remain employed by the program for at least 6 months from the date of hiring bonus and/or retention.

Reconciliation

Programs are required to complete a reconciliation for each sub-grant phase. Phase 4 reconciliations must be submitted no later than July 31, 2024.

Reconciliations will be located in the program's organization dashboard in the OPR. Programs should retain receipts, invoices and documentation for expenses used toward these sub-grants. Reconciliation guidance will be located at www.occrra.org.

Sub-Grant Opportunities

Operating/New Pandemic Costs Sub-Grant (Centers, IHA, and ODE PFCC PS and SA):

Child care programs will be eligible for funds intended to assist with costs incurred as a result of the federal public health emergency. This sub-grant can be used for:

- Paying personnel costs; including maintaining/increasing wages or benefits such as health, dental, vision, paid sick leave or family leave, retirement contributions
- Paying ongoing costs including rent, mortgage, utilities, insurance
- Conducting facility maintenance, renovations, including those that address COVID-19 concerns as well as improvements that make child care programs inclusive and accessible for children and families with disabilities. Note: Construction or major renovations are not permitted. 45 CFR 98.2 defines "major renovation" to mean "(1) structural changes to the foundation, roof, floor, exterior or load-bearing walls of a facility, or the extension of a facility to increase its floor area; or (2) extensive alteration of a facility such as to significantly change its function and purpose, even if such renovation does not include any structural change." In other words, funds may be spent on renovations such as



- painting, carpeting, and other activities that neither add to the permanent value of the property nor significantly alter the function or purpose of the facility.
- Purchasing personal protective equipment (PPE) worn to minimize exposure to hazards that cause workplace injuries and illnesses must be either approved by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) or authorized for use by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA), including under emergency use authorization.
 - Purchasing sanitizer, classroom dividers, cleaning supplies, temporary sinks, thermometers, and COVID-19 testing, covering other expenses that facilitate business practices consistent with safety protocols.

Workforce Recruitment/Retention Sub-Grant (Centers and ODE PFCC PS and SA): This sub-grant can be used for personnel costs including:

- Paying sign-on and retention bonuses, ongoing premium or hazard pay, transportation costs to/from work
- Creating substitute pools, providing administrative support
- Funding recruitment activities to increase early childhood workforce
- Supporting early childhood professionals through coaching as well as training and professional development on topics including communicable disease, first aid, CPR, sudden infant death syndrome, medication administration, shaken baby syndrome, emergency preparedness and response planning, transportation, handling and storage of hazardous materials. This includes Ohio Approved training.
- Supporting staff access to COVID-19 vaccinations including paid time off for vaccine appointments and to manage side effects, transportation cost to appointments
- Assisting with background check expenses

Access Development Sub-Grant (Eligible program types are noted by each sub-grant): These sub-grants can be used for costs incurred when:

- Expanding the number of current classrooms or reopening classrooms closed due to the pandemic to serve additional children or serve new age groups. This does not include construction to build a program or construct a new room, but can include: adding or expanding infant/toddler, or school-age care, or care for children with special needs (Centers), or expanding hours of operation to include non-traditional hours weekdays 7:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. or between 12:00 a.m. Saturday to 6:00 a.m. Monday (Centers)
- Engaging in the expansion of programming to include therapeutic child care by partnering with an Ohio Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) certified community mental health agency to provide ongoing mental health services to children and staff. Child care programs identified by the community mental health agency to participate in the pilot program will enter into a partnership agreement/MOU with the community mental health agency. This includes community mental health agencies that operate a child care program. All selected child care programs will implement therapeutic child care built upon evidence-based mental health practices. (Centers)



Mental Health Workforce and Family Support Sub-Grant: (Centers and ODE PFCC PS and SA) Programs may use sub-grant funds to support costs related to the mental health and well-being of their children and employees. This sub-grant can be used for the following:

- Coaching, training, local team building, resiliency, stress reduction and developing staff in mental health and social-emotional development topics
- Organizing stress reduction and wellness experiences for children
- Addressing staffing patterns and schedules to support staff mental health
- Purchasing program materials, and supplies to promote mental health and social-emotional learning in the classroom
- Providing family engagement activities to strengthen mental health and wellness, like take-home toolkits and onsite family game nights
- Providing childhood mental health supports (e.g., infant/toddler and early childhood mental health consultation services, targeted programming, etc.)

Questions

Please contact the Child Care Policy Help Desk with questions about funding and license capacity at 1-877-302-2347, option 4.

Please contact OCCRRA with questions regarding the application and process at support@occrra.org or 614-396-5959.

CITY OF KENT
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE
DIVISION OF ENGINEERING

MEMO

TO: Dave Ruller
Amy Wilkens

FROM: Jim Bowling *Job*

DATE: November 29, 2023

RE: Ohio Department of Development –
Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Grant Program

The Service Department is requesting council's approval to submit a funding application and to execute the subsequent agreements with the Ohio Department of Development (ODOD), if successful, for the WRF Digester Heat Exchanger Project.

This project includes the replacement of two heat exchangers at the Water Reclamation Facility (WRF). The heat exchangers are the key equipment that transfers the methane generated from the treatment processes into heat that is then used to reduce energy demands at the facility. The replacement of the heat exchangers requires that the existing facility be brought up to current building and fire code standards. The project therefore includes a new building for housing new boiler units, valves and pumps, replaced electrical controls and support systems. The current heat exchangers were constructed in 1964 and the project is part of the significant long-term improvements required at the water reclamation facility.

The total cost of construction is estimated at \$7,752,000. We are requesting \$1,000,000 in grant funds from ODOD. The remaining amount will be funded through OPWC, local ARPA and Sewer funds.

c: Melanie Baker
Bill Schesventer
Cori Finney
Hope Jones
Brian Huff
Sandy Lance
Rhonda Hall

**KENT POLICE DEPARTMENT
NOVEMBER 2023**

	NOVEMBER 2022	NOVEMBER 2023	TOTAL 2022	TOTAL 2023
CALLS FOR SERVICE	1576	1421	20032	19061
KENT FIRE CALLS	468	471	5108	5239
BRIMFIELD FIRE CALLS	149	165	424	1636
ARRESTS, TOTAL	109	101	1540	1485
JUVENILE ARRESTS	15	5	118	113
O.V.I. ARRESTS	18	13	164	167
TRAFFIC CITATIONS	143	113	1714	1445
PARKING TICKETS	604	452	9712	7432
ACCIDENT REPORTS				
ACCIDENT REPORTS	64	51	543	517
Property Damage	34	30	268	281
Injury	9	9	71	65
Private Property	11	4	129	95
Hit-Skip	9	6	52	60
OVI Related	1	2	14	12
Pedestrians	0	0	9	4
Fatals	0	0	0	0
U.C.R. STATISTICS				
Homicide	0	1	0	1
Rape	0	0	0	1
Robbery	0	1	3	4
Assault Total	11	9	160	179
Serious		1	1	14
Simple		10	8	146
Burglary	8	5	45	39
Larceny	21	15	234	245
Auto Theft	1	2	20	9
Arson	0	0	1	3
Human Trafficking:Servitude	0	0	0	0
Human Trafficking:Sex Acts	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	41	33	463	481
CRIME CLEARANCES				
Homicide	0	0	0	0
Rape	0	0	0	1
Robbery	1	1	2	5
Assault Total	10	7	134	152
Serious		2	0	15
Simple		8	7	119
Burglary	8	5	26	25
Larceny	9	5	55	44
Auto Theft	0	2	6	5
Arson	0	0	0	1
Human Trafficking:Servitude	0	0	0	0
Human Trafficking:Sex Acts	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	28	20	223	233