Agency/Point of Contact: MDE - Adosh Unni, Director of Government Relations

Title of Request: Early Learning (Parent Child+ and Reach Out and Read)

Date: 10/11/2021 Request Amount: $1,500,000

Expenditure Time Period: 10/11/2021 to 6/30/2023 (no later than 6/30/2023)

Brief Summary of Request: (Summary must be complete on this page with supporting information attached)

The Early Learning Grant (ParentChild+ and Reach Out and Read) will provide $1.5 million in funding to support two early learning programs that support early language, communication and literacy skills. The Reach Out and Read program partners with doctors, nurse practitioners, and other medical professionals to incorporate literacy support into regular well-child visits. From the 6-month checkup through age five, medical providers give children developmentally appropriate books and give parents guidance and encouragement on reading with their children. The program focuses on reaching children in low income communities. ParentChild+ is an intensive home visiting program for families with children ages 2-4, provided at no cost to the families. It helps children from underserved communities bridge the opportunity gap and prepare them for success in school by bringing highly trained Early Learning Specialists (ELSs) into the families’ homes for twice-weekly visits over a two-year period. Additionally, funding will support the implementation of the ParentChild+ Family Child Care (FCC) Model which provides comparable services to family child care providers and allows a broader community reach. Both Parent Child+ programs serve a racially diverse population, and all families are at or below 200% of the 2020 Federal Poverty Guidelines (FPG), with 70% at or below 100% of the guidelines and 30% between 100%-200% FPG.

This request is for $150,000 to Reach Out and Read, $1,300,000 to ParentChild+ and up to $50,000 for grant admin.

Heather Mueller Digitally signed by Heather Mueller 10/11/2021
Department Head Signature Date: 2021.10.11 07:58:05 -05'00'