### CITY OF CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA CITY COUNCIL AGENDA



Agenda Date: June 1, 2020

Action Required: Approve appropriation

Presenter: Diane Kuknyo, Director of Social Services

Staff Contacts: Jenny Jones, Chief of Family Services

Laura Morris, Chief of Administration

**Title:** Additional State Funding for Adoption Assistance - \$625,000

#### **Background:**

The Charlottesville Department of Social Services (CDSS) has received \$625,000 in additional funding from the Virginia Department of Social Services to provide assistance to adoptive families.

### **Discussion:**

The purpose of adoption assistance is to facilitate adoptive placements and ensure permanency for children. Maintenance payments provide support and services for the child and to strengthen the adoptive family.

The department has seen a steady increase in adoptive placements. In Fiscal year 2018, the department served 123 adoptive children and finalized 15 adoptions. In FY2019, the department served 149 children and finalized 37 adoptions. 160 adoptive children have received assistance in FY20 through May 12<sup>th</sup>.

#### Alignment with City Council's Vision and Strategic Plan:

Approval of this agenda item aligns with the City's mission to provide services that promote equity and an excellent quality of life in our community. It is consistent with Strategic Plan Goal 2: A Healthy and Safe City, Objective 2.2, Meet the safety needs of victims and reduce the risk of re-occurrence/re-victimization.

#### **Community Engagement:**

Adoption staff work directly with families and providers to provide needed services and serve as resources to other department staff and community partners.

# **Budgetary Impact:**

The additional funding for this program is entirely State dollars. No additional City funds are required or being requested for this program in FY 2020.

## **Recommendation:**

Staff recommends approval and appropriation of these funds.

# **Alternatives**:

If the appropriation is not approved, CDSS will require general funds to cover the May and June maintenance payments to adoptive families. These payments are negotiated as part of the adoption agreement and are legally binding.

# **Attachments**:

Appropriation

# APPROPRATION Additional Funding for Adoption Assistance \$625,000

**WHEREAS**, the Charlottesville Department of Social Services has received \$625,000 from the Virginia Department of Social Services to provide assistance to adoptive families.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by** the council of the City of Charlottesville, Virginia, that the sum of \$50,000 is hereby appropriated in the following manner:

## Revenue-\$625,000

Fund 212 Cost Center: 9900000000 G/L Account: 430080 \$625,000

#### Expenditures-\$625,000

Fund 212 Cost Center: 3311007000 G/L Account: 540060 \$625,000

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this appropriation is conditioned upon the receipt of \$625,000 from the Virginia Department of Social Services.