

**CALIFORNIA HEALTH FACILITIES FINANCING AUTHORITY (Authority)**  
**Adoption of Amendments to the Regulations for the Children’s Hospital Program of 2018,**  
**the Community Services Infrastructure Grant Program, and the Investment in Mental**  
**Health Wellness Grant Program for Children and Youth**  
**and Authorization of Rulemaking Proceedings**

**Resolution Nos. 2021-06, 2021-07, and 2021-08**  
**October 28, 2021**

**PURPOSE OF THE REQUEST:**

Staff is requesting authorization to pursue rulemaking proceedings to modify the Children’s Hospital Program of 2018 (CHP 2018 Program), the Community Services Infrastructure Grant Program (CSI Program), and the Investment in Mental Health Wellness Grant Program for Children and Youth (CY Program) regulations, which will allow the Authority to require online submissions of grant applications through its new online application and grant management platform.

**PROPOSED ADMENDMENTS TO THE REGULATIONS:**

Staff proposes to amend the current regulations for the CHP 2018 Program, the CSI Program, and the CY Program to require the online submission of all grant applications.

The current regulations for all three programs require the submission of a written application that can be mailed, delivered in person, or emailed as a Portable Document Format (PDF) to the Authority to apply for grant funds.

After the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, in an effort to facilitate and enhance teleworking for all stakeholders, Authority staff acquired and implemented a new online application and grant management platform that will allow Authority staff to track and manage all aspects of each grant, including receiving applications, reviewing and scoring applications, processing disbursement forms, and reviewing submitted supporting documents and closeout forms, thus eliminating the reliance on hard copies. As all elements of the grant programs are shifted to “paperless,” there will be benefits in caseload management as it will be easier to transfer grants between staff as well as entire grant caseloads when a staff member leaves the Authority or when teleworking requirements are in place.

The ability to submit applications online provides advantages to the applicants as well, that include, but are not limited to: receiving instant response that the application has been submitted (thus eliminating the need for follow ups to ensure that the application has been received by the Authority in a timely manner), reducing the administrative burden by allowing applicants to import responses to similar questions from previous applications (thus allowing easy uploads and submissions of budget spreadsheets and supporting documentation all in one place), and storing all grant information in one place, on the cloud.

Staff is currently uploading all of the existing grant awards’ data into the online platform and intends to request the online submission of all future grant applications in order to ensure an efficient and complete submittal of information and processes into the platform.

## **BACKGROUND:**

### *Children's Hospital Program of 2018*

On November 6, 2018, California voters passed Proposition 4, the Children's Hospital Bond Act of 2018, to issue \$1.5 billion in General Obligation bonds for capital improvement projects at 13 children's hospitals as well as other public or private nonprofit hospitals that provide pediatric services for children eligible for the California Children's Services (CCS) program. The purpose of the CHP 2018 Program is to improve the health and welfare of California's critically ill children. Regulations for the CHP 2018 Program were approved by the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) in January 2020. This program is currently open for applications.

### *Community Services Infrastructure Grant Program*

Chapter 33 of the Statutes of 2016, Section 52 (SB 843) established the CSI Program, a one-time competitive grant program intended to create and expand community alternatives to incarceration. The CSI Program seeks to expand access to jail and prison diversion programs and services for those with mental health illness, substance use disorders, or who have suffered from trauma through the creation or expansion of mental health treatment facilities, substance use disorder treatment facilities, and trauma-centered service facilities for justice-involved individuals in local communities. Regulations for the CSI Program were approved by OAL in October 2019. This program will be open for applications in the future.

### *Investment in Mental Health Wellness Grant Program for Children and Youth*

Chapter 30, Statutes of 2016, Section 20 (SB 833) expanded the Investment in Mental Health Wellness Act of 2013 (SB 82) to specifically address a continuum of crisis services for children and youth, 21 years of age and under, called the CY Program. The legislation set the goal of adding 200 Mobile Crisis Support Teams and 120 Crisis Stabilization and Crisis Residential Treatment beds as well as increasing Family Respite Care services. Regulations for the CY Program were approved by OAL in October 2019. This program is currently open for applications.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends the Authority approve Resolution Numbers 2021-06, 2021-07, and 2021-08, approving the proposed amendments to the CHP 2018 Program, the CSI Program and the CY Program regulations and authorizing rulemaking proceedings.

### Attachments:

- A - Text of Proposed Amendments to the Regulations for the CHP 2018 Program
- B - Text of Proposed Amendments to the Regulations for the CSI Program
- C - Text of Proposed Amendments to the Regulations for the CY Program