


City of Alexandria, Virginia

18
6-24-08

MEMORANDUM

DATE: JUNE 18, 2008

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: JAMES K. HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER 

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF GRANT RENEWAL TO THE VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES FOR THE OFFICE ON WOMEN'S
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAMS

ISSUE: City Council consideration of grant renewal to the Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) for the Office on Women's Domestic Violence Programs for FY 2009.

RECOMMENDATION: That City Council authorize the City Manager to:

- (1) Submit the Domestic Violence grant application to the Virginia Department of Social Services for Fiscal Year 2009 (due date to be determined by VDSS); and
- (2) Execute all documents that may be required.

BACKGROUND: On May 31, 2008, staff received notice from VDSS that Alexandria will receive FY 2009 renewal funding for its Domestic Violence Programs. The level of funding is unknown at this time. The FY 2008 award was \$166,829. These funds will continue to provide crisis intervention and prevention services to eligible TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) clients; dedicate resources to the Hispanic community experiencing domestic violence; support outreach, education, crisis intervention; and continue the crisis volunteers program supporting the 24 hour hot-line and weekend and holiday shelter coverage.

Since FY 1993, the Office on Women has received funding from the VDSS to conduct outreach and prevention activities for Spanish-speaking residents to address the problem of domestic violence in the City's Hispanic community. Through this program, the Office on Women has established a presence in the City's Spanish-speaking communities, enabling staff to coordinate services with existing Hispanic organizations.

In 2000, the Virginia General Assembly designated TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) funds for crisis and core services to victims of domestic violence. These additional monies are provided as grants to local domestic violence programs for services to victims of domestic violence, including 24-hour hotlines, emergency shelter, emergency transportation and other crisis services.

RENEWAL GRANT PERIOD: July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009.

FISCAL IMPACT: The FY 2008 grant supports the Domestic Violence program, which is staffed by 3.0 FTEs. The total cost of the four positions (one part-time Social Worker I-\$16,992; one full-time Social Worker I-Hispanic Outreach Prevention Specialist-\$71,180; one full-time Children's Social Worker I-\$67,839; and one part-time Volunteer Developer-\$42,241) is \$198,252. The grant funding supports 84 percent of the cost of these positions. The General Fund contributes the remaining \$31,423.

The total amounts of grant renewal funds for FY 2009 are unknown at this time. In FY 2006 the grant award was \$143,066; in FY 2007 the amount was \$168,907; and in FY 2008 the total was \$166,829. The amount of FY 2009 funds will be reported in the next Supplemental Appropriations Ordinance.

The City is responsible for the normal administrative costs associated with this grant. The grant requires the City to provide a 20 percent match (\$42,227), in the form of in-kind services, which is provided through volunteer hours.

STAFF:

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