


## City of Alexandria, Virginia

## MEMORANDUM

DATE: OCTOBER 3, 2007

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: JAMES K. HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER 

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF A GRANT APPLICATION BY THE OFFICE ON WOMEN TO THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES TO CONTINUE THE HEALTHY MARRIAGE AND STABLE FAMILIES INITIATIVE

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**ISSUE:** City Council consideration of an application for a one-year grant beginning on November 1, 2007.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That City Council authorize the Office on Women to submit a grant (due October 12, 2007), and if awarded, accept up to \$22,500 from the Virginia Department of Social Services (DSS) for the continuation of the Healthy Marriage and Stable Families Initiative.

- (1) Approve the submission of the grant application to the Department of Social Services to fund a portion (0.25 FTE) of a full-time Outreach and Prevention Specialist position under this initiative. The position falls under the auspices of the Sexual Assault Response and Awareness (SARA) Program, and provides presentations and outreach to students, grades 5-10 on healthy relationships and domestic and sexual violence.
- (2) If this grant award was reduced or the program was discontinued, the individual who fills the position has been notified their position may be reduced or eliminated, was notified of this stipulation at the time of employment, and has signed an agreement of understanding with regard to this condition; and
- (3) Authorize the City Manager to execute all documents that may be required.

**BACKGROUND:** The City has been awarded this grant through the Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) since October 1, 2005. These funds are used to promote healthy marriages and stable families by educating young people on healthy relationships. This current proposal is for a one-year term beginning November 1, 2007.

During the past year, the Office on Women provided direct and referral services to over 4,000 individuals experiencing intimate partner violence. Intimate partner violence remains a pervasive and severely under-reported crime in the United States. Research shows that this type

of violence is multi-generational if not addressed. Abusive behavior is learned and therefore can be prevented. In order to nurture healthy and violence free relationships among the youth and the entire community in Alexandria, it is essential that thoughtful, well-researched, age-appropriate education be offered.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** The full cost of this full-time equivalent (FTE) position (salary and benefits) is \$77,000. This one-year grant provides \$22,500, or 29% of the FTE, with no mandatory matching funds required. Fifty percent (\$38,500) of the FTE position is supported through a grant by the Department of Criminal Justice Service (DCJS), and based on previous awards, the estimated remaining portion of the FTE position (\$6,000) is City-funded.

The City is responsible for the normal administrative costs associated with this grant, including financial and reporting oversight provided by the administering agency, the Office of Management and Budget, and the Finance Department.

**ATTACHMENT:** Application available upon request.

**STAFF:**

Lisa Baker, Director, Office on Women  
Claire Dunn, Interim Coordinator, Crisis Intervention Services  
Bruce Johnson, Director, OMB  
Elisabeth Wheel, Budget Analyst, OMB  
Karen L. Winey, Grants Coordinator, CMO