



## ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

**County Board Agenda Item  
Meeting of July 11, 2009**

**Date:** July 11, 2009

**SUBJECT:** FY 2010 Federal Grant for the Department of Human Services

**C. M. RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Appropriate \$143,000 in federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (101.374924) funds to the Department of Human Services (101.52139) and authorize 2.0 grant-funded limited-term FTEs for substance abuse jail diversion activities.

**ISSUE:** This is a request to appropriate federal earmark funds for specified activities. No local match is required and no issues have been identified.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Human Services (DHS) has received notification of one-time federal funding to expand mental health and substance abuse-related jail diversion efforts underway in Arlington. The grant will allow for the creation of two limited-term FTEs to work closely with the Arlington Police, Magistrate, and the Sheriff to provide substance abuse services for people arrested for being drunk in public. Non-violent offenders will be diverted from incarceration and instead entered into cost-effective substance abuse treatment.

**BACKGROUND:** DHS has been working with the Sheriff, Police, and Magistrate to develop a program that will divert people from incarceration who would be better served by mental health and/or substance abuse services. This sequential intercept program started with state funding to work with persons with mental illness involved in the criminal justice system. Since its inception in 2007, the program has grown from 2.0 to 5.5 grant-funded FTEs providing much-needed mental health services.

With the addition of a one-year federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration grant made possible by U.S. Senator James Webb, the program can now be expanded to include individuals with substance abuse issues. The federal earmark will be used for a one-year pilot project to determine the viability of adding a public intoxication component to the model. If the pilot program proves successful, additional grant funding will be pursued to continue its development beyond the initial federal earmark.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** None. This action will appropriate an additional \$143,000 in federal grant funding to DHS' FY 2010 budget. No local match is required.

County Manager: \_\_\_\_\_

County Attorney: \_\_\_\_\_

Staff: Michael R. Peter, DHS, Behavioral Healthcare Division x5003