



ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

**County Board Agenda Item
Meeting of September 26, 2009**

DATE: September 4, 2009

SUBJECT: Allocation of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to the Child and Family Network Centers (CFNC) for continuation of preschool programs at Virginia Gardens and Gates of Ballston

C. M. RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Allocate \$75,000 CDBG funds (206.456300.72405) from AHC, Inc. Multifamily Housing Development to CFNC (206.456300.72405) for preschool programs at AHC Inc. properties.
2. Authorize the County Manager to execute the required documents to convey the CDBG funds to CFNC.

ISSUE: Allocation of CDBG funds awarded to AHC, Inc. Multifamily Housing Development activities to CFNC for preschool services at AHC properties.

SUMMARY: AHC, Inc. requests that \$75,000 awarded in FY 2009 for its multifamily development activities be re-allocated to CFNC to continue the preschool programs operating successfully at Virginia Gardens and Gates of Ballston. AHC did not draw the CDBG funds during FY 2009 and approval of this request will ensure operation of the preschool programs through June 30, 2010. These funds were unspent in FY 2009 and will be appropriated in FY 2010 as part of the year-end closeout process.

BACKGROUND: The Child and Family Network Centers operates a nationally accredited preschool program with centers in Alexandria and Arlington, designed to meet the needs of young children, age three to five, who are living at or below 185% of the poverty level. The majority of CFNC families speak English as a second language and CFNC integrates services such as health and wellness programs to further support and strengthen families. CFNC serves children who do not qualify for Head Start, thus preparing at-risk children for future school success.

County Manager: _____

County Attorney: _____

Staff: Jane M. Eboch, CPHD, Housing Division; Valerie Cuffee, DHS, Child and Family Services Division

CFNC was awarded FY 2006 and 2007 Affordable Housing Investment Fund (AHIF) Housing Services funds to open and operate a preschool at AHC Inc.'s Virginia Gardens, serving 16 children. FY 2008 and 2009 CDBG and CSBG funds were awarded for expansion into Gates of Ballston, with the understanding that Virginia Preschool Initiative (VPI) funds and foundation support would provide the necessary operating funds for FY 2010. Sixteen families are served at the Gates of Ballston center. The current economic climate, however, has significantly impacted CFNC's ability to raise foundation support. Funding from the VPI is not available at this time, as the contract comes directly to the Arlington Public Schools.

DISCUSSION: AHC did not draw any of the FY 2009 \$75,000 CDBG allocation because it was able to support multifamily program administration with developer fees and other income. If the CDBG funds are not used, the contract allows the funds to be utilized for multifamily housing development projects, as approved by the County Board. AHC requests re-allocation of CDBG funds to enable the CFNC preschools to continue operation at its properties for the school year. Attached is the proposed 2009-2010 classroom budget that shows the need for \$75,000 from Arlington County and CFNC's commitment of \$106,000 from its own resources to maintain the Arlington centers.

CFNC has demonstrated outstanding program outcomes and has a successful track record for fundraising. Its Board is focused on developing long term, sustainable funding for its centers and programs. DHS recently approved CFNC as a child care vendor. This will allow CFNC to receive federal funding when an eligible family chooses CFNC as its child care provider. DHS and CFNC are working together to determine the number of eligible families. Another future possibility for CFNC to receive State funding would be through formal partnerships between Arlington Public Schools and CFNC for provision of pre-kindergarten educational services.

The CDCAC will review this request at its meeting on September 2, 2009. A memo will be sent to the Board from CDCAC prior to the September Board meeting.

FISCAL IMPACT: There is no impact on net tax support. These funds were unspent in FY 2009 and will be appropriated in FY 2010 as part of the year-end closeout process.

EXPENDITURE DESCRIPTION	2010 Classroom Budget Virginia Gardens	2010 Classroom Budget Gates of Ballston	GRAND TOTAL Arlington Classes Only
Director of Preschool Education (<i>10% FTE Effort</i>)	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$4,000
Lead Teachers (<i>1 per classroom</i>)	28,000	28,000	56,000
Assistant Teachers (<i>2 per classroom</i>)	36,000	36,000	72,000
Payroll Taxes & Fringe Benefits	26,649	26,649	53,298
Classroom Supplies	1,000	1,000	2,000
Staff Development Training for Teachers	667	665	1,332
Training Materials	167	167	334
Rent & Utilities for Classroom Space	7,200	7,800	15,000
Administrative Costs (<i>incl. insurance for classrooms</i>)	14,072	14,072	28,144
GRAND TOTAL EXPENSES	\$115,755	\$116,353	\$232,108
REVENUES (Projected for Arlington Classrooms)			
Arlington County (<i>CSBG provided \$85,000 for Va.Gardens in FY 2008</i>)	\$60,000	\$15,000	\$75,000
BAE Systems, Inc.	23,000		23,000
Freddie Mac Foundation	23,000		23,000
Arlington Community Foundation	5,000		5,000
* CFNC Funds Available due to Position Vacancy Freeze	0	50,000	50,000
CFNC Operating Budget for FY 2010	5,000	51,000	56,000
GRAND TOTAL REVENUES	\$116,000	\$116,000	\$232,000

