



## ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

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

**DATE:** August 30, 2009

**SUBJECT:** Federal Drug Free Community Grant

**C. M. RECOMMENDATION:**

1. Accept a five-year U.S. Department of Health and Human Services grant (101.374900) in the amount of \$624,770 and appropriate the first year's funding (\$124,954) to the Department of Human Services (101.56003) in FY 2009.
2. Authorize a .5 FTE grant-funded position to support a federal grant awarded to the County to strengthen a coalition to reduce teen substance use.

**ISSUE:** This is a request to accept federal grant funds for specified activities. No issues have been identified.

**SUMMARY:** The Arlington Partnership for Children, Youth, and Families was awarded a 5-year Drug Free Communities Support Program grant by the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). This grant provides a half-time program coordinator.

**BACKGROUND:** The Partnership created The R.E.A.D.Y. Coalition in August 2008 to address the increase in Arlington youth reporting high risk drinking on the Youth Risk Behavior Survey. The Coalition is composed of staff from County agencies (DHS, Juvenile Courts, Police, PRCR), APS, Arlington residents, and students.

The goals of the Coalition are to: (1) establish and strengthen collaboration among *Arlington R.E.A.D.Y. Coalition* partner organizations in support of the community's effort to prevent and reduce substance abuse among youth; and (2) reduce substance abuse among youth and over time, among adults by addressing the issues in our community that increase the risk of substance abuse and promoting the factors that minimize the risk of substance abuse.

**DISCUSSION:** The coalition model has shown to be effective in communities across the country in reducing youth use of alcohol and drugs. In Arlington, there are many agencies, both public and private, and citizens working to reduce teen substance use, the R.E.A.D.Y. Coalition

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

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

Staff: Ben Harris, DHS-Partnership for Children, Youth and Family

will help coordinate those efforts and build awareness among Arlington parents, students, and other residents that teen substance use is preventable.

The grant funds will be used as follows:

Personnel (\$77,000)

- .5 FTE Coordinator (\$54,000- Mgmt Spec II + benefits)
- 10 hr/wk youth organizer (\$10,400 contracted position @ 20/hr)
- stipends for youth who will help organize their peers

Promote and Establish the Coalition in the Community (\$20,000)

- website
- promotional materials, printing

Parent and Youth Engagement Activities (\$13,000)

- community presentations on youth substance use

Travel (\$4,000) and supplies (\$6,700)

- the grant requires that two Coalition members attend two national conferences
- computers for new staff, postage/mailings, miscellaneous supplies

**FISCAL IMPACT:** The grant requires a local match for every federal dollar received. The match for this grant will come from in-kind contributions primarily from the salaries of staff already involved with the project including County and Arlington Public School staff (including fringe). The time of citizen volunteers, donations (both services and products) from local businesses, and some facility costs are allowable in-kind contributions that will be calculated against the federal dollars received.

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