



ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

<p style="text-align: center;">County Board Agenda Item Meeting of September 26, 2009</p>
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DATE: August 31, 2009

SUBJECT: Acceptance of funds from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (CFSAN) for food safety initiatives.

C. M. RECOMMENDATION:

Appropriate \$2,000 in funding from the FDA (101.364101) to the Department of Human Services (101.55301) for fiscal year 2010 for food safety initiatives.

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

SUMMARY: The Arlington County Public Health Division (ACPHD) regulates the approximately 1,600 food service establishments in Arlington County. It operates under local ordinance and uses the voluntary National Retail Food Regulatory Program Standards (“The Standards”) to reduce the risk factors that cause foodborne illness. The Standards have evolved since their inception and additional work is needed to enable ACPHD to implement the most recent iteration of The Standards.

ACPHD will use the funds to assess current practice, compare it to updated benchmarks and develop action plans as needed. This may be accomplished via hiring an intern or by one-time purchase of equipment.

BACKGROUND: In 2002 the FDA collaborated with federal, state and local regulatory officials as well as industry, trade and other stakeholders to create these voluntary Standards. The nine standards establish a framework for retail food regulatory programs and enable them to reduce the risk factors that cause foodborne illness. In March of 2003, ACPHD became one of the first jurisdictions in the nation to enroll in The Standards program. The Virginia Department of Health, Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and the City of Alexandria are also now enrolled.

FISCAL IMPACT: None. All expenses will be covered by the grant. No local match is required.

<p>County Manager: _____</p>

<p>County Attorney: _____</p>

<p>Staff: Evelyn Poppell and Erica Thompson, DHS-Environmental Health Bureau</p>
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