



ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

**County Board Agenda Item
Meeting of September 25, 2010**

DATE: August 24, 2010

SUBJECT: Authorize acceptance of and appropriate Northern Virginia Regional Gang Task Force (NVRGTF) funds to purchase services from a contractor to continue the Adult Reentry Program beyond the pilot project stage.

C. M. RECOMMENDATION:

1. Authorize the County Manager to accept \$54,653 in non-competitive grant funds from the NVRGTF.
2. Appropriate \$54,653 in grant funds received from NVRGTF (101.374964) to the Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court (JDR) (101.20601) for costs associated with the Adult Reentry Program.

ISSUES: NVRGTF has allocated grant funds that it is making available to localities to support gang intervention and prevention efforts. No issues have been identified.

SUMMARY: The Steering Board of NVRGTF has allocated grant funds to be distributed to Arlington in addition to the Gang Task Force Grant of \$86,109 (which pays the salary of Arlington's Gang Task Force Coordinator). During the summer of 2010, NVRGTF funded a successful pilot project to provide services to adults at risk for gang participation. These funds were accepted and authorized by the County Board at its May 22, 2010, meeting. Contracted services will assist young adult offenders, ages 18 to 24, who re-enter the community after incarceration.

BACKGROUND: Since 2005, Arlington has been a member of the NVRGTF, which uses federal grant money to coordinate prevention, intervention and suppression efforts at the local and regional levels. The NVRGTF has based much of its work on the Comprehensive Gang Model developed by the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. It provides a research-based structure that local communities can use to confront and deal with the problem of gangs. There are five areas of focus: community mobilization,

County Manager:

County Attorney:

_____/ BRC _____

43.

Staff: Patricia Romano, Director, Court Services Unit, JDR.

opportunities provision, social intervention, suppression, and organizational change and development.

In Arlington, the Gang Task Force is comprised of representatives from the Police Department, Sheriff's Office, Arlington Public Schools, the Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources, and the Court Services. The Gang Task Force Grant funds a Coordinator position. Activities of the Gang Task Force and its Coordinator include suppression of gang activity, mentoring, counseling for youths and their family members, and local and regional soccer tournaments for at-risk and gang-involved youth. There is a growing need to expand these services to young adults with similar needs. Arlington's Gang Task Force has provided the arena for all stakeholders to collaborate to solve the gang problem by combining resources and breaking down barriers.

During the summer of 2010, JDR contracted with Arlington Offender Aid and Restoration (OAR) to implement a pilot project through August 31, 2010.

DISCUSSION: The Arlington Gang Task Force will use the \$54,653 from NVRGTF to contract with OAR to further develop and fully implement the Adult Reentry Program beyond the pilot project stage. The grant period will end on August 31, 2011, with the possibility of on-going funding. The Memorandum of Understanding attached to this Report is the document that governs the operations and funding of NVRGTF. No additional written agreement must be executed in order for the County to receive the funds associated with this particular grant.

The Adult Reentry Program is designed to provide the means for ex-offenders with a history of gang affiliation and gang-related charges to focus on positive life goals and end their gang involvement. The ultimate goal for the Program is that participants find stable, sustainable employment and pursue educational opportunities, thus reducing the rate of recidivism. Gang and ex-gang offenders will be assigned to an OAR case manager who will provide a structured and focused path to achieve individual goals.

All of OAR's existing reentry services will be accessible to the participants, including assistance with housing, employment, referrals to social services, and reconnecting to families and the community. Once enrolled in the Program, staff will closely and proactively track progress based on a service plan and encourage clients to press towards interim and ultimate goals.

FISCAL IMPACT: Under this award NVRGTF will provide the County with \$54,653 in grant funds to be appropriated to the JDR Court, with no local match required, to be expended by August 31, 2011.

Subject: Northern Virginia Regional Gang Task Force Grant for Adult Reentry Program

**Northern Virginia Regional
Gang Task Force
Prevention and Intervention
Memorandum of Understanding**

This Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as "MOU"), effective February 18, 2005, and amended September 2008, is between the City of Falls Church and the City of Alexandria, Virginia, (hereinafter collectively referred to as "the Cities") and the Counties of Loudoun, Fairfax, Arlington and Prince William, Virginia (hereinafter collectively referred to as "the Counties") and the Northern Virginia Regional Gang Task Force Board of Directors ("Board of Directors"). The Board of Directors is comprised of the Chief Law Enforcement officers as set forth in a separate Memorandum of Understanding dated May 19, 2004, and amended as of July 1, 2007. Each of the six aforementioned jurisdictions has a GRIT (Gang Response and Intervention Team) Coordinator as per Article III below. The aforementioned jurisdiction's Gang GRIT Coordinators will comprise the Northern Virginia Gang Task Force Prevention and Intervention Coordinating Committee (hereinafter collectively referred to as "the Coordinating Committee"). The Directors of the Court Service Units or their designees for Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun, Alexandria, Falls Church and Prince William counties will comprise the governing board (known as and hereinafter referred to as "the Steering Board") to oversee the actions of the Coordinating Committee for the Task Force's Prevention and Intervention programs.

ARTICLE I - PURPOSE OF AGREEMENT

Through the support of the Honorable Frank R. Wolf, Virginia's 10th Congressional District, the Congress of the United States has funded the Northern Virginia Regional Gang Task Force as part of the Department of Justice Appropriations Bill since 2003. Continuation funding may vary depending on available federal, state, or private funding streams. When funds become available, services will run consistent with the time frames established. Operations will not be suspended as long as continued funding exists. The stated purpose of the Task Force funding is to provide assistance to jurisdictions within the Northern Virginia area in prosecuting and impacting gang activity and furthering their scope to include prevention and intervention, which is the subject of this MOU. Funding for additional years of operation is unknown at this time. Each of the member agencies comprising the Coordinating Committee and the Steering Board will participate fully in this regional process with the intent of implementing regionally approved prevention or intervention programs developed by the local gang response teams.

ARTICLE II – STEERING BOARD and COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Steering Board will meet no less than quarterly but may meet more often if necessary, to review operations, decide budget issues and insure that operational objectives are continuing to meet the goals of the Steering Board. The meetings will be held at a location and date mutually acceptable to all members of the Steering Board. Each member of the Steering Board will have an equal vote. Votes for actions will require a majority vote of the Steering Board. The Steering

**Northern Virginia Regional
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Board shall elect a Chairperson annually by a majority vote of the Steering Board. The chairperson will be responsible for scheduling meetings, developing agendas, and insuring that necessary financial documents are sent to the Grant Program Coordinator (see Article IX). The Steering Board will evaluate the need, appropriateness and success of programs and provide necessary grant reports. The Steering Board will work with appropriate local, state and federal officials to identify continued funding sources.

The Coordinating Committee shall meet on a regular basis for planning and management evaluation of the programs funded by this agreement in all of the regional jurisdictions. The Coordinating Committee shall elect a Chairperson annually by a majority vote of the Coordinating Committee. The Coordinating Committee will meet no less than quarterly however, may meet more often if necessary, to review operations, or to insure that the operational objectives are continuing to meet the goals of the Steering Board. The meetings will be held at a location and date mutually acceptable to all members of the Coordinating Committee. Each member of the Coordinating Committee will have an equal vote. Votes for actions will require a majority vote of the Coordinating Committee. The members of the Coordinating Committee shall represent the local gang response team at the regional level.

ARTICLE III – JURISDICTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Each of the participating jurisdictions shall convene a multi-agency, multi-discipline team to act as the local gang response team. The composition of the team must include those agencies both juvenile and adult, which have a significant focus in one or more of the areas of the balanced approach to gang response to include but not be limited to prevention, intervention, suppression and education. This team may be an existing team that meets the above requirement. Each jurisdiction shall have a full-time GRIT Coordinator, which will represent their jurisdiction on the Coordinating Committee. The Arlington County Coordinator will also serve the City of Falls Church, for which the City will reimburse the County a proportionate share of its cost. If grant funds are made available, the City of Alexandria, Counties of Prince William and Arlington shall be reimbursed for the GRIT Coordinator, as determined by the Board of Directors and the Steering Board. The Counties of Fairfax and Loudoun have funded the GRIT Coordinator for their respective jurisdictions. The GRIT Coordinator will become the single point of contact for the jurisdiction, participate on the local gang response team, the Coordinating Committee, and operate under the regional Steering Board. The GRIT Coordinator will be the clearinghouse for that jurisdiction's gang resistance efforts. The duties and responsibilities shall additionally be determined by the jurisdiction in which the person is employed. The cost of the GRIT Coordinator position shall be reimbursed pursuant to Article IX of this MOU.

ARTICLE IV – PROGRAMATIC FUNDING REQUEST

Each jurisdiction's gang response team may make programmatic funding requests to the Steering Board for funding consideration. The process for such a request shall be as follows: The local gang response team develops and approves a program or initiatives to receive regional funding from the project. The GRIT Coordinator representative for the requesting jurisdiction must

provide initial approval of the concept and will then present it to the Coordinating Committee who will provide feedback and recommendations to the Steering Board. The requesting locality shall then provide the Steering Board with a written proposal to include all necessary background information to support the request as well as a full project overview. This overview should include at a minimum:

- Any supporting documentation that the local gang response team believes is required to support the funding request.
- A detailed budget narrative is also required prior to any funding request being made to the Steering Board.
- A detailed project timeline and evaluation criteria shall also be included in the funding request
- Any other documentation requested by the Steering Board.

All programs that are fully funded utilizing Task Force funds shall be made available to any of the participating jurisdictions and said programs shall utilize the same selection criteria as for their own residents.

A copy of the funding request shall be delivered no later than 14 days prior to the next Steering Board meeting to each Steering Board member either by hand, fax or other electronic means as deemed acceptable by the Steering Board. The Steering Board shall vote on the acceptability and feasibility of the proposed program at the next meeting of the Steering Board.

For a funded program to receive continuation funding, the sponsoring jurisdiction shall provide the Steering Board with a periodic report detailing the objectives and goals obtained and a timeline for progress. The Steering Board shall determine the timeframe for such report. This report shall address outcome measures as detailed in the initial funding request. Funding requests shall include a continuation plan to address future funding sources as this project was developed to provide seed funding to encourage new and creative approaches to gang prevention and intervention.

ARTICLE V – FISCAL MANAGEMENT

It shall be the responsibility of the Steering Board to ensure that the funded program expenditures do not exceed the amount budgeted under the stated funding. The Financial Budget Manager shall provide the Steering Board chairperson a quarterly financial status report, which shall be passed onto the Coordinating Committee. The Financial Budget Manager shall be the fiscal agent employed by the grant holding agency as a Financial Budget Manager. Any budget expenditures by a locality above the approved amount by the Steering Board shall become the responsibility of the locality.

ARTICLE VI - ADMINISTRATION OF GRANT FUNDS

The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) is administering the program under the discretionary grant guidelines of the Office of Justice Programs, US Department of Justice. As such, the

federal government will provide reimbursement of funds expended by the localities that are designated to receive funding under this program.

ARTICLE VII - AMOUNT OF FUNDS AVAILABLE

The Northern Virginia Regional Gang Task Force Board of Directors and the Steering Board shall apply for grants that enable the task force to continue operations as stated in ARTICLE 1- Purpose of Agreement. The funding amounts will vary, depending on grant funds available. Funding allotments assigned to the Steering Board and Coordinating Committee shall be determined by the Board of Directors and the Steering Board.

ARTICLE VIII - PURCHASING

After approval by the Steering Board, each jurisdiction is eligible to purchase required and board approved items/equipment utilizing its own purchasing process, so long as those jurisdictions that are subject to the purchasing guidelines set forth in the Code of Virginia follow those provisions. To benefit from group purchasing, the Steering Board may elect one jurisdiction to facilitate purchases.

ARTICLE IX - PROCEDURE FOR REIMBURSEMENT

All grant funds awarded shall be processed through the grant holding agency by the Financial Budget Manager after review by the Grant Program Coordinator (hereinafter referred to as "Grant Program Coordinator") on a quarterly basis. The Grant Program Coordinator is designated as such by the Northern Virginia Regional Gang Task Force Board of Directors. Each member agency shall expend salary or purchase the desired supplies, services or equipment directly from the applicable vendor. For salary reimbursement, the member agency shall provide timesheets, payroll detail and a request for payment invoice consistent with the grant requirements. For all other reimbursements, each member agency shall forward to the Grant Program Coordinator a copy of the invoice detailing the items or services purchased along with a copy of the paid check for the vendor's invoice, consistent with the grant requirements. Upon receipt of the appropriate backup documents, the Grant Program Coordinator will submit to the Financial Budget Manager who will perform a "draw down" from the grant funds and in turn have a check paid to the member agency as reimbursement.

ARTICLE X - FINANCIAL REPORTING

The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) requires that the grant holding agency submit a quarterly report of funds used by the Task Force. The member jurisdictions shall receive a copy of any and all such reports filed with regard to prevention grant funds. The grant holding agency must also submit progress reports twice each year to the BJA. As these reports are due to the BJA within 30 days of the end of each reporting period, the GRIT Coordinator from each member agency shall facilitate reporting to the Grant Program Coordinator and/or the grant holding agency's

Financial Budget Manager. Each member jurisdiction agrees to coordinate with and to provide all necessary information to the Grant Program Coordinator and/or the grant's Financial Budget Manager in a timely fashion in order to meet reporting requirements.

ARTICLE XI – DURATION OF AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT SHALL REMAIN IN EFFECT FOR 1 YEAR FROM THE GRANT AWARD DATE. THE STEERING BOARD MAY EXTEND THIS AGREEMENT BY A MAJORITY VOTE.

ANY JURISDICTION MAY WITHDRAW FROM THIS AGREEMENT WITH THIRTY DAYS WRITTEN NOTICE PROVIDED TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE STEERING BOARD AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE NORTHERN VIRGINIA REGIONAL GANG TASK FORCE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

**Northern Virginia Regional Gang Task Force
Prevention and Intervention**

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

**EFFECTIVE February 18, 2005
AMENDED September 2008**

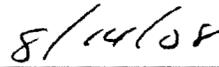
IN WITNESS THEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this memorandum of understanding:

On Behalf

Of

Arlington County, Virginia





Date

Northern Virginia Regional Gang Task Force
Prevention

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

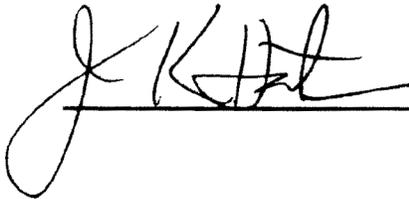
EFFECTIVE February 18, 2005
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On Behalf

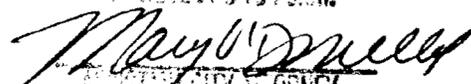
Of

City of Alexandria, Virginia



11-3-08

Date

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

MAY D. SMITH
CITY ATTORNEY

Northern Virginia Regional
Gang Task Force
Prevention and Intervention
Memorandum of Understanding

**Northern Virginia Regional Gang Task Force
Prevention and Intervention**

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

**EFFECTIVE February 18, 2005
AMENDED September 2008**

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this memorandum of understanding:

On Behalf

Of

City of Falls Church, Virginia

Paul Sturtel

10/22/08
Date

Northern Virginia Regional Gang Task Force
Prevention and Intervention

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

EFFECTIVE February 18, 2005
AMENDED September 2008

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this memorandum of understanding:

On Behalf

Of

Loudoun County, Virginia

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized initial 'B' followed by several loops and a horizontal line extending to the right.

10-6-08
Date

**Northern Virginia Regional Gang Task Force
Prevention and Intervention**

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

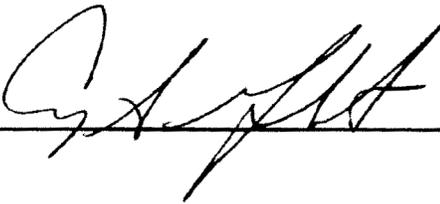
**EFFECTIVE February 18, 2005
AMENDED September 2008**

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this memorandum of understanding:

On Behalf

Of

Prince William County, Virginia



11/18/08
Date

APPROVED AS TO FORM COUNTY ATTORNEY

DATE: <u>NOV. 17, 2008</u>

Northern Virginia Regional
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