



## ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

**County Board Agenda Item  
Meeting of September 8, 2007**

**DATE:** September 8, 2007

**SUBJECT:** State Child Advocacy Center Development Grant

**C. M. RECOMMENDATION:**

1. Appropriate \$39,300 from the Commonwealth of Virginia Office of the Secretary of Health and Human Resources (101.364701) to the Department of Human Services (101.56305) for a contract bilingual interviewer at the Child Advocacy Center.
2. Authorize the County Manager or his designee to accept the grant and execute the agreement.

**ISSUES:** Should \$39,300 be accepted and appropriated for specified activities?

**SUMMARY:** These grant funds will be used to further develop Arlington's Child Advocacy Center (CAC). The CAC provides a coordinated investigation and comprehensive response to families whose children are alleged victims of sexual abuse and/or severe physical abuse.

**BACKGROUND:** The Commonwealth renewed the \$1M funding for CAC development. As an Associate Member of the National Children's Alliance since May 2005, Arlington is eligible to receive \$39,300 for FY 2008. Arlington began a pilot CAC in January 2005 with grant funding from the National Children's Alliance. Four County agencies participate in the Multidisciplinary CAC Team: the Department of Human Services, Police Department, and the Commonwealth Attorney's and County Attorney's Offices. This grant funding supports a 0.6 FTE bi-lingual Director/Forensic Interviewer, which is a contractor position. This bilingual social worker will provide forensic interviews in Spanish, engage in community outreach regarding the CAC, and continue the programmatic development of Arlington's CAC. On average, the CAC conducts 75 interviews annually, of which approximately 25 percent require Spanish interpretation.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** None. There is no impact to net tax support.

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

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

Staff: Louise Drucker, DHS, Child and Family Services Division