



## ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

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

**DATE:** September 8, 2007

**SUBJECT:** Victims of Crime Act Child Abuse/Neglect Treatment Program.

**C. M. RECOMMENDATION:**

1. Appropriate \$50,239 from the Commonwealth of Virginia Office of the Secretary of Health and Human Resources (101.364701) to the Department of Human Services (101.56407) to provide mental health services to at-risk children identified through Child Protective Services.
2. Authorize the County Manager or his designee to accept the grant and execute the agreement.

**ISSUES:** Should \$50,239 be accepted and appropriated for specified activities?

**SUMMARY:** These funds will support an interjurisdictional agreement to provide group treatment services for children identified through Child Protective Services.

**BACKGROUND:** The Commonwealth of Virginia renewed funding through the Victims of Crime Act to address inadequate mental health treatment resources. The priority populations for outpatient mental health services are children and youth with emotional disturbance or mental disorders and children exposed to domestic violence. Arlington continues its partnership with the City of Alexandria and Fairfax County to eliminate barriers for treatment. This grant funding supports a children's therapist who will conduct six treatment groups for up to ten youths. Children from all three jurisdictions are eligible to attend.

The grant covers transportation costs and meals for children. This year, we will offer treatment groups for children exposed to domestic violence at the same time parents are receiving treatment. Parent and children join each other in sessions so that parents can benefit from learning about the coping mechanisms the children are developing. Expected outcomes are improved child and family functioning, reduced abuse and neglect risk factors, and enhanced treatment participation.

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

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

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

**FISCAL IMPACT:** None. The award requires an in-kind 20 percent local match provided through a local staff position. There is no impact to net tax support.