

CITY OF OAKLAND
AGENDA REPORT

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
CITY OF OAKLAND

To: Office of the City Administrator
Attn: Deborah Edgerly
From: Police Department
Date: October 11, 2005

2005 SEP 29 PM 2:31

Re: A Report and Proposed Resolution Authorizing the City Administrator to Accept and Appropriate Ninety-Five Thousand Seven Hundred and One Dollars (\$95,701) from the State of California, Office of Emergency Services, Law Enforcement Specialized Units Grant Program to the Police Department and Authorize a Professional Services Agreement with the Family Violence Law Center in the Amount of One Hundred Ten Thousand Dollars (\$110,000) for Continued Services Associated with the Police Department's Family Violence Intervention Unit (FVIU) for the Period of July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006

SUMMARY

The Police Department applied for and was awarded a one-year grant in the amount of \$95,701 from the State of California, Office of Emergency Services, Law Enforcement Specialized Units grant program. The funds are restricted for use in support of the Department's Family Violence Intervention Unit. The program period is July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006.

As an adjunct to these program funds, the Department requests approval to enter into a Professional Services Agreement with the Family Violence Law Center in the amount of \$110,000, for family violence prevention advocacy services, officer training, case management, and legal advocacy of the Family Violence Intervention Unit initiative. The contract term is July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006.

FISCAL IMPACT

The State of California, Office of Emergency Services, approved the Police Department's Law Enforcement Specialized Units grant application and awarded the City of Oakland \$95,701 in State of California grant funds. Funds will be allocated to the State of California Grant Fund: 2999, Special Victims Org.: 102350, Special Victims Program: PS03, in a Project Account to be determined. The grant requires matching funds in the amount of \$36,300.00 (33% of the total project). Matching funds will be provided by the Family Violence Law Center from grant funds issued to their organization by the County of Alameda.

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| Description and Use of Funds | Amount |
|--|------------------|
| Law Enforcement Specialized Units Grant Funds | \$95,701 |
| Domestic Violence Restraining Order Funds (Adopted by Resolution 78722 C.M.S., dated June 20, 2004.) | 14,299 |
| TOTAL | \$110,000 |

BACKGROUND

The Family Violence Intervention Unit (FVIU) was created in 1999. Through competitive bid, the OPD selected the Family Violence Law Center to staff and manage the advocacy program. Since then the FVIU has assisted in providing improved advocacy response to the victims of domestic violence and their children. The OPD has also improved its investigation of domestic violence cases by creating the Special Victims Unit and centralizing the investigative function.

The recent relocation of the FVIU from the Criminal Investigations Division to the Special Victims Section has strengthened the partnership between the Police Department and the advocates. Domestic violence, sexual assault and child crimes investigators team with the civilian advocates to impact a larger portion of the affected community. The FVIU is currently staffed by 2.5 advocates who work during the day, while others staff the Over-Night Response Team (ONERT). ONERT advocates provide crisis intervention services during night and weekend hours year-round.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Police officers are instructed by OPD Special Order 7033 to contact ONERT as necessary and to facilitate the advocates' contact with victims. Advocates are available to respond to the scene of the incident, or to another secure location (hospital, police building, etc.).

Advocates provide crisis intervention, assist clients with shelter placement and housing, and provide assistance in obtaining emergency protective orders. Advocates provide follow-up letters and telephone calls to victims, and support OPD investigators as appropriate. Ultimately, the advocates refer victims to the Alameda County District Attorney's Victim/Witness program, which provides court accompaniment and other support services. Additionally, the FVLC provides police officers with important training about domestic violence dynamics, the effect on children, identifying primary aggressors, and supporting victims.

The strengths of the FVIU include:

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1. **Is consistent with best practices** nationwide;
2. **Exploits the very small window of opportunity** during which survivors of violence are most able and willing to make the most of resources;
3. **Makes services available to all domestic violence victims.** Family violence victims are not required to reach out to service providers; the service providers come to the victims.
4. **Promotes victim safety** by creating immediate and longer-term safety plans;
5. **Promotes high-quality police work.** On-the-scene advocates help free officers to gather evidence, make appropriate arrests, etc.; and
6. **Promotes better court outcomes.** Family violence survivors who have received crisis advocacy are more likely to cooperate with the prosecution of their abusers.

In the 2004-2005 fiscal year, (the most current date for which statistics are available) the FVIU provided client advocacy services as follows:

- 7,530 direct contact services: (2,217 phone contacts, 185 walk-ins, 566 overnight emergency response calls, 22 daytime callouts)
- 4,562 resource letters

KEY ISSUES AND IMPACTS

It is essential that Oakland continue to provide high-quality service to victims of domestic violence. Although overall domestic violence calls have decreased, the need for advocacy services remains high. *Nationwide, only about 20% of domestic violence incidents are reported to police.*

Domestic violence victims are most receptive to making changes in their situation immediately following an incident of abuse. The FVIU enables advocates to reach out to clients during this important window of opportunity and then continue providing services in the ensuing weeks. The best family violence programs around the country provide this type of mobile response, followed by longer-term contact.

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SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

Economic

Reducing incidents of domestic violence will enhance the City's ability to create a positive climate for economic growth as a result of decreased criminal activities.

Environmental

There are no environmental opportunities associated with this report.

Social Equity

The family violence prevention initiative assists the Department in providing Oakland neighborhoods with improved police services and enhanced police-community relations.

DISABILITY AND SENIOR CITIZEN ACCESS

There are no ADA or senior citizen access issues contained in this report.


RECOMMENDATION

The Police Department recommends that the City Council: 1) authorize the City Administrator to accept grant funds in the amount of \$95,701 from the State of California, Office of Emergency Services, Law Enforcement Specialized Units grant program and appropriate said funds to the Police Department, and 2) authorize the Police Department to enter into a Professional Services Agreement with the Family Violence Law Center in the amount of \$110,000 for services rendered during the period July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006.

ACTION REQUESTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL

Staff recommends that the City Council approve the resolution.


Respectfully submitted,


Wayne G. Tucker
Chief of Police

Prepared by: Lt. Michael Yoell
Special Victims Unit
Bureau of Investigations
and Candice Jessie
Fiscal Services Division
Bureau of Administration

APPROVED AND FORWARDED TO THE
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE:


Office of the City Administrator

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OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
OAKLAND

Rocia V. Gierke
City Attorney

RESOLUTION No. _____ C.M.S.

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RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO ACCEPT AND APPROPRIATE NINETY-FIVE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED AND ONE DOLLARS (\$95,701) FROM THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES, LAW ENFORCEMENT SPECIALIZED UNITS GRANT PROGRAM AND AUTHORIZE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE FAMILY VIOLENCE LAW CENTER IN THE AMOUNT OF ONE HUNDRED TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$110,000) FOR CONTINUED SERVICES ASSOCIATED WITH THE POLICE DEPARTMENT'S FAMILY VIOLENCE INTERVENTION UNIT (FVIU) FOR THE PERIOD JULY 1, 2005 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2006

WHEREAS, the State of California, Office of Emergency Services, Law Enforcement Specialized Units grant program has advised that the City of Oakland has been awarded a grant in the amount of \$95,701 for use in supporting the Police Department's Family Violence Intervention Unit (FVIU); and

WHEREAS, required matching funds in the amount of \$36,300 will be provided by the Family Violence Law Center through grant funds issued to their agency by the Alameda County Social Services Agency; and

WHEREAS, the State of California grant funds will be leveraged by \$14,299 in grant funds received from the Domestic Violence Restraining Order System fund; and

WHEREAS, Law Enforcement Specialized Units funds and the Domestic Violence Restraining Order System funds noted above shall be used to enter into a contract for services with the Family Violence Law Center in the aggregate amount of \$110,000 for family violence prevention advocacy services, officer training, case management and legal advocacy services associated with the Police Department's FVIU; and

WHEREAS, the Family Violence Intervention Unit program facilitates the City Council's goal of crime reduction through City-wide community policing and other strategies; and

WHEREAS, the services provided pursuant to the agreement authorized hereunder are of a professional, scientific, or technical nature and are temporary in nature; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that this agreement shall not result in the loss of employment or salary by any person having permanent status in the competitive service; and

WHEREAS, contracts requiring professional or specialized services are exempt from competitive bidding pursuant to Chapter 2.04 of the Oakland Municipal Code; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council does hereby authorize the City Administrator or her designee to accept and appropriate grant funds in the amount of \$95,701 from the State of California, Office of Emergency Services, and to increase revenues and appropriate said budget to the Police Department; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the grant funds shall be maintained in the State of California Grant Fund: 2999, Special Victims Org.: 102350; Special Victims Program: PS03, in a Project to be determined; and be it


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FURTHER RESOLVED: That the City Council hereby authorizes the City Administrator as agent of the City to conduct all negotiations and related actions and to sign all applications and agreements that may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned grant; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the contract with the Family Violence Law Center is a professional service for which the calling of bids would serve no useful purpose; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the City Council hereby finds and determines that services provided pursuant to the contract authorized hereunder are of a professional, scientific or technical nature and are temporary; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the City Council hereby appoints the City Administrator as agent of the City to conduct all negotiations, applications, agreements, and related actions which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned professional services agreement; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the City Attorney shall review and approve said agreement with the Family Violence Law Center as to form and legality and a copy of the fully executed agreement shall be placed on file with the Office of the City Clerk.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, _____, 20_____

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES- BROOKS, BRUNNER, CHANG, KERNIGHAN, NADEL, QUAN, REID, and PRESIDENT DE LA FUENTE

NOES-

ABSENT-

ABSTENTION-

ATTEST: _____
LaTonda Simmons
City Clerk and Clerk of the
Council of the City of Oakland, California


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