



COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
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TO: Jeff Irwin
Chair, Ways & Means Committee

THROUGH: Robert E. Guenzel
County Administrator

FROM: Denise Dalrymple
Director of Children's Services

DATE: April 5, 2006

SUBJECT: Youth Festival of the Arts

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

It is requested that the Board of Commissioners ratify the electronic application submission to Pfizer, Inc., for a total budget of \$23,780 for a Youth Festival of the Arts sponsored by the County's youth development initiative, or WATT (Washtenaw Area Teens for Tomorrow), through the Teen Center Without Walls project for the period of May 1, 2006 to November 15, 2006.

BACKGROUND:

WATT is the County's youth development initiative, supported by the Children's Services Department. The vision of WATT is to:

Ensure the youth of Washtenaw County become our citizens of tomorrow, leading lives of meaning and contribution.

There are numerous nationally-recognized youth development models. In Washtenaw County, we envision the major means of promoting youth developing is to emphasize five essentials: Caring Adults; Safe Places; Healthy Start; Marketable Skills and Opportunities to Serve/Youth Voice.

The County's youth development initiative began in 2004 with a series of exploratory meetings with various public and private service providers, educators, businesses, and interested citizens. A Youth Advisory Committee and

a Steering Committee were formed in December 2004. The Youth Advisory Committee chose the name WATT, or Washtenaw Area Teens for Tomorrow.

A youth summit was held on April 30, 2005 and a community forum was held on May 19, 2005. From the summit and forum, a number of community priorities were developed. The Steering Committee established four workgroups during the summer of 2005. These four work groups included: Internships/Mentoring; Youth Mobility; Youth Voice; and, Safe Places. Various projects are being implemented in each area. Regular updates about the progress of WATT can be found on the website at <http://watt.ewashtenaw.org>.

DISCUSSION:

Out of the Safe Places Work Group, a subcommittee was formed called “Teen Center Without Walls” or TCW2. This group is youth-centered and youth-driven, with youth as the majority of the members of the group and who function as the major implementers of its activities. It is focusing on providing safe activities for youth in the southeastern and southern portion of the County, although the events are open to all County teens. This effort exemplifies all of the five essentials. Youth are working with caring adults to provide safe places. A healthy start/healthy lifestyle is encouraged at these substance free events. Youth are learning valuable, marketable skills by participating in the planning of these events. And finally, youth have the opportunity to help others while their voice is respected.

TCW2 received a modest \$3,000 grant from the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation Youth Council to put on a number of youth-centered activities during 2006. One such event, the “Battle of the Bands and All That” was held on February 25 at Lincoln High School. Over 400 youth from six different high schools attended this fun event without a single untoward incident, thanks to the youth’s comprehensive planning in advance of the event. Other TCW2 events planned for 2006 include an overnight “lock in” at Eastern Michigan University’s recreation center, a teen night at the County recreation center, and a poetry slam. All of these events are being created and implemented by our outstanding youth volunteers, with staff support from the Children’s Services Department.

To increase the presence of WATT in the community and to provide a larger venue for teen talents, an application was made to Pfizer for the purpose of creating an annual County-wide Youth Festival of the Arts. This one day festival is envisioned as a showcase for young artists and will include a variety of artistic media and performances. Youth volunteers will help to develop and execute all aspects of the festival. Extensive pre-planning will be conducted. Adult volunteers will be sought to help the youth curate, jury and evaluate the artistic expression. The event will be open to the public, and will occur at a large public space suitable for displaying artistic works and live performances. The grant will

pay for publicity materials, room and equipment rental and security at the event. If funded, the event will occur in the fall of 2006.

IMPACT ON HUMAN RESOURCES:

None

IMPACT ON INDIRECT COSTS:

None

IMPACT ON OTHER COUNTY DEPARTMENTS OR OUTSIDE AGENCIES:

None

CONFORMITY TO COUNTY POLICIES:

This request conforms to County Policy.

ATTACHMENTS:

Resolution

A RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE SUBMISSION OF THE ELECTRONIC GRANT APPLICATION TO PFIZER, INC. FOR A YOUTH FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$23,780 FOR THE PERIOD OF MAY 1, 2006 THROUGH NOVEMBER 15, 2006

WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

April 19, 2006

WHEREAS, the Children's Services Department is responsible for administering the County's youth development initiative, known as Washtenaw Area Teens for Tomorrow (WATT); and

WHEREAS, the purpose of WATT is to ensure the youth of Washtenaw County will become our citizens of tomorrow through the provision of caring adults, safe places, healthy start, marketable skills and opportunities to serve; and

WHEREAS, the Children's Services Department has submitted an electronic application for a grant award from Pfizer, Inc. to advance the purposes of WATT; and

WHEREAS, the grant funds are designated for the purpose of a one-day Youth Festival of the Arts; and

WHEREAS, this matter has been reviewed by the Finance Department, Human Resources, Corporation Counsel, the County Administrator's Office and the Ways & Means Committee;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners hereby ratifies the signature of the Administrator on the electronic application to Pfizer, Inc. for grant funding in the amount of \$23,780 for the period May 1, 2006 to November 15, 2006 as on file with the County Clerk.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners takes the following actions upon receipt of the grant award:

1. Authorizing the Administrator to sign the Notice of Grant Award
2. Amending the budget, as attached hereto and made a part hereof
3. Authorizing the Administrator to sign the delegate contracts in conformity with the application/award upon review of Corporation Counsel to be filed with the County Clerk

Washtenaw County Children's Services Department
Youth Festival of the Arts
May 1, 2006 - November 15, 2006
10106880

Revenue		<u>Current</u>	<u>Revised</u>	<u>Variance</u>
67000	Other Revenues and Reimbursements	\$0	\$17,280	\$17,280
69000	In Kind Contributions	\$0	\$6,500	\$6,500
	Total	\$0	\$23,780	\$23,780

Expenditures

72600	Supplies	\$0	\$6,200	\$6,200
80000	Other Services & Charges	\$0	\$11,080	\$11,080
93500	In Kind Charges	\$0	\$6,500	\$6,500
	Total	\$0	\$23,780	\$23,780