



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

THROUGH: Robert E. Guenzel
County Administrator

FROM: Dan Dwyer
Trial Court Administrator

DATE: May 17, 2006

SUBJECT: Building a Restorative Community – Year Three Implementation Grant

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

The Washtenaw County Trial Court requests the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners ratify the County Administrator's signature on an application to the Michigan Department of Human Services for a third year continuation grant for the Building Restorative Communities Initiative in the amount of \$100,000 for the period of December 1, 2006 through November 30, 2007.

BACKGROUND:

In 2003, Washtenaw County was one of five counties chosen to receive planning grants (in the amount of \$75,000) from the Michigan Committee on Juvenile Justice to implement the Building Restorative Communities Initiative, administered by the Michigan Department of Human Services utilizing federal funding under Title II of the U.S. Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act.

The Building Restorative Communities (BRC) Initiative began with a five-year strategic planning process, integrating the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's Comprehensive Strategy for Serious, Violent, and Chronic Juvenile Offenders and Balanced and Restorative Justice principles to improve the juvenile justice system and the delivery of research-based delinquency prevention programs. The BRC goals, through a structured process of mobilizing, coordinating, planning and implementing, included identifying real, versus perceived, gaps in services; developing collaborative prevention and delinquency intervention programs to meet identified

community needs; utilizing evidence-based approaches; and developing universal data collection and reporting methods to enhance usability of individual collection efforts.

The mission of the Washtenaw County BRC – Within Our REACH is: *enhancing the quality of life for all in Washtenaw County through community partnerships that provide youth opportunities, skills, hope and confidence to reach a brighter future* through the following five system and service delivery goals:

- Within three years, Washtenaw County will have a comprehensive infrastructure encompassing the key components of the data-driven approach related to human service: Data Collection – Information – Insight – Informed Decision-Making – Routine Examination of Data.
- Institutionalize restorative practices into the fabric of the government organizations in Washtenaw County within five years.
- Young people across Washtenaw County will, as needed, receive assessment and early interventions to reduce the level of drug and alcohol offenses, runaways, suicidal ideations, mental illnesses, teen births, and status offenses within two years.
- Families in Washtenaw County will be able to access effective support systems that improve family cohesiveness, communication, community attachment, and youth behavior management within three years.
- The rate of school success will be consistently high across Washtenaw County in terms of educational attainment, four-year completion rates, school safety, and truancy reduction within four years.

DISCUSSION:

Projects for Washtenaw County's BRC – Within Our REACH –fall into four categories: Family and Youth Development; Prevention; Early Identification, and Intervention for Youth Problem Behavior; Development of Data Infrastructure; and Community Education and Involvement in the Juvenile Justice System.

Accomplishments in Years One and Two have included:

- Participation in and partial funding of the Youth Health Improvement Plan (development and partial implementation of a county-wide youth risk and asset survey);
- Provide training regarding youth development, prevention, and intervention to over 200 justice system and non-profit youth-serving personnel by bringing speakers to the community and funding to attend workshops/conferences;
- Promote youth mentoring through partnership with WATT (Washtenaw Area Teens for Tomorrow);
- Assisted in the formation and grant-seeking of The Village Initiative, providing mentors to African-American youth in the juvenile justice system;

- Provide paid summer job training for at-risk youth through partnerships with Work Skills, Michigan Works, and Ypsilanti Youth Empowered to Act (seven youth in 2005, 15 slots for youth in 2006);
- Provide Life Skills Training (an evidenced-based substance-abuse prevention program) to 240 6th grade students at Slauson Middle School in Ann Arbor;
- Provide Parenting Wisely classes (evidenced-based parenting classes);
- Built partnership with Pioneer High School to identify balanced and restorative justice alternatives to out-of-school suspension;
- Formed Mental Health/Developmental Disability/Juvenile Justice Workgroup to enhance services and collaboration for multi-system children; and
- Formed Victim's Rights Workgroup to enhance victim satisfaction with the juvenile justice system.

During Year Three, the project will continue to focus both on system change and service delivery to at-risk youth and their families, with a primary goal of sustainability. System change activities include education/training for community members and juvenile justice professional partners regarding early identification of risk, youth development, prevention/intervention methods, and balanced and restorative justice principles and practices; building upon the recently enhanced level of cooperation and collaboration between public agencies serving court-involved youth with serious emotional disturbances, substance abuse, developmental disabilities, and/or extreme family disorganization through the development of cooperative protocols and frequent communication/joint problem-solving; identifying and enacting opportunities for victims and community members to provide input and to get involved in service provision to at-risk youth; improving victim satisfaction with the juvenile justice system; continued effort to expand the use of YHIP – youth risk and asset survey and disseminate BRC youth risk data to community members and agencies.

Services to at-risk youth and their families will include enhancing the availability and variety of parenting classes through offering Parenting Wisely in community sites; provide early prevention/intervention to 325 not yet delinquent youth by continuing the provision of Life Skills Training in Slauson Middle School and expanding into Whitmore Lake Middle School; implementing a Victim Impact Panel; sustaining the job training/employment programs developed in Years One and Two; expanding effective mentoring opportunities for at-risk youth through the Village Initiative and newly established Washtenaw Mentor Alliance; and providing access to fun, pro-social activities (in collaboration with other organizations) that provide youth and families an opportunity to have fun together, showcase skills and abilities, and enhance their positive connections to the community.

IMPACT ON HUMAN RESOURCES:

None

IMPACT ON BUDGET:

The total program budget is \$100,000 with a 40% match requirement. The grant request is \$60,000 and the Washtenaw County Trial Court is providing an in-kind match of \$40,000 (.35 FTE of the existing Special Projects Manager position).

IMPACT ON INDIRECT COSTS:

Indirect costs are not allowable under this grant. The Trial Court requests a waiver in the amount of \$1,853 for the Cost Allocation Plan.

IMPACT ON OTHER COUNTY DEPARTMENTS OR OUTSIDE AGENCIES:

This program benefits at-risk and delinquent youth; provides training, information, and opportunities to participate in the juvenile justice system for victims and community members; and professional development and opportunities for collaboration between youth-serving public and private agencies.

In addition, the BRC data collection process has provided Washtenaw County with the most up-to-date and comprehensive assessment of risk factors impacting youth in Washtenaw County. Data will continue to be updated and made available to community members. This data has already been used by a number of non-profit organizations in Washtenaw County in their pursuit of prevention service grants.

CONFORMITY TO COUNTY POLICIES:

This request conforms to County policies.

ATTACHMENTS/APPENDICES:

Resolution
BRC Grant Application

CC: Honorable Archie Brown, Chief Judge
Honorable Donald Shelton, Circuit Judge

A RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S SIGNATURE ON THE GRANT APPLICATION TO THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES FOR THE BUILDING RESTORATIVE COMMUNITIES YEAR THREE IMPLEMENTATION GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$100,000 FOR THE PERIOD OF DECEMBER 1, 2006 THROUGH NOVEMBER 30, 2007

WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

May 17, 2006

WHEREAS, the Washtenaw County Trial Court has submitted a grant application to the Michigan Department of Human Services in the amount of \$100,000 for the period of December 1, 2006 through November 30, 2007; and

WHEREAS, Washtenaw County's Building Restorative Communities (BRC) began with a planning grant in 2003 and received subsequent implementation funding in 2004 and 2005; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Washtenaw County BRC – Within Our REACH is: enhancing the quality of life for all in Washtenaw County through community partnerships that provide youth opportunities, skills, hope and confidence to reach a brighter future; and

WHEREAS, the BRC Initiative integrates Balanced and Restorative Justice principles, the Comprehensive Strategy for Serious, Violent, and Chronic Juvenile Offenders, coordinated data collection and evaluation of community risk factors, needs, and strengths, and development of research-proven delinquency prevention programs; and

WHEREAS, the Year Three Implementation Grant will be used to maintain and expand the Building Restorative Communities Initiative; and

WHEREAS, enhanced services to at-risk youth and their families will be provided including Parenting Wisely classes at several community sites, Life Skills Training for 325 not yet delinquent youth in Slauson and Whitmore Lake Middle Schools, and youth summer employment and mentoring opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the funding will also support the implementation of a Victim Impact Panel within the juvenile justice system and fun, pro-social activities to create positive connections between youth, their families, and the community; and

WHEREAS, this application has been reviewed by the Chief Judge of the Trial Court, Corporation Counsel, the Finance Department, Human Resources, 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 County Administrator on the

application to the Michigan Department of Human Services in the amount of \$100,000 for the period December 1, 2006 through November 30, 2007, as on file with the County Clerk.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners takes the following actions contingent upon receipt of the grant award in conformity with the grant application:

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 by Corporation Counsel, to be filed with the County Clerk.

Trial Court – Family Division
 Building Restorative Communities
 October 1, 2006 – September 30, 2007
 Business Unit: 2811061800

	<u>Current Budget</u>	<u>Revised Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Revenue:			
50000 Federal Revenue	\$0	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000
69000 In-Kind Contributions	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$ 40,000</u>	<u>\$ 40,000</u>
Total	\$0	\$100,000	\$100,000
Expenditures:			
72600 Supplies	\$0	\$ 7,575	\$ 7,575
80000 Other Services & Charges	\$0	\$ 52,425	\$ 52,425
93500 In-Kind Charges	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$ 40,000</u>	<u>\$ 40,000</u>
Total	\$0	\$100,000	\$100,000

Indirect Costs = \$0