

CITY OF SAN ANTONIO  
INTERDEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

ITEM NO. 12

**TO:** Mayor and City Council

**FROM:** Dennis J. Campa, Director, Department of Community Initiatives

**THROUGH:** Terry M. Brechtel, City Manager

**COPIES:** Frances A. Gonzalez, Assistant to the City Manager; Finance Department; City Attorney's Office; Office of Management and Budget; File

**SUBJECT:** RATIFYING SUBMISSION AND AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF A GRANT FROM THE SBC FOUNDATION, SBC EXCELERATOR PROGRAM, FOR THE COMPREHENSIVE NUTRITION PROJECT'S (CNP) NUTRITION TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVE

**DATE:** November 7, 2002

**SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION**

This ordinance ratifies the submission and authorizes the acceptance of a grant from the SBC Foundation, SBC Excelerator Program, in the amount of \$6,500 for the period beginning October 1, 2002 and ending September 15, 2003 in support of the Comprehensive Nutrition Project's (CNP) Technology Initiative to provide basic computer training to seniors in the City of San Antonio. The ordinance further establishes a fund for this initiative and appropriates funds.

Staff recommends approval of this ordinance.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The Comprehensive Nutrition Project (CNP) was established in 1973, as an integral part of the Elderly and Disabled Services Division's continuum of services. The City's 52 senior centers serve as a community forum for seniors to gather and interact. They offer a variety of services designed to promote active civic involvement and overall health. CNP's goal is to nourish the whole person by providing transportation, information and referral, and other supportive services and engaging them in socialization and recreation activities of their choice.

The Nutrition Technology Initiative (NTI) is administered by the Department of Community Initiatives through the CNP. The NTI has its roots in a senior computer training pilot project that began at the St. Jude Senior Nutrition Center.

In 2001, Councilman Enrique Barrera provided funds for the pilot project through the Council District 6 Senior Fund account, to put the necessary technology infrastructure in

place at the St. Jude Senior Nutrition Center. In conjunction with the Edgewood Independent School District, which provided student-trainers from the New Horizons Competency Based High School, and the Alamo Area Community Information System, which provided the curriculum used by the student-trainers, the pilot project provided basic computer training to seniors enrolled in the Comprehensive Nutrition Project who lacked or had limited access to such resources.

In addition, DCI collaborates with St. John Baptist Church, in Council District 9, to make use of its established computer lab. This computer lab will be made available to seniors living in the Kenwood area, especially those at the Kenwood North Apartments. Use of the computer lab will further enhance efforts to provide senior citizens access to technology.

DCI intends to expand the Nutrition Technology Initiative to other senior nutrition centers to improve and increase senior citizens' accessibility to technology. To this end, DCI applied for and has been awarded a grant through the SBC Foundation, SBC Excelsior Program. Grant funds will be used to purchase and install the telecommunications devices (i.e. hubs, routers and network printers) to support this expansion.

### **POLICY ANALYSIS**

This ordinance reflects a continuation of existing City policy to apply for funds for services to improve the quality of life of senior citizens of San Antonio and Bexar County and assist them in maintaining independent living.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

The City of San Antonio through the Department of Community Initiatives will utilize the \$6,500 in grant funds to expand the Nutrition Technology Initiative to other senior nutrition centers. No matching funds are required.

### **Performance Measurement**

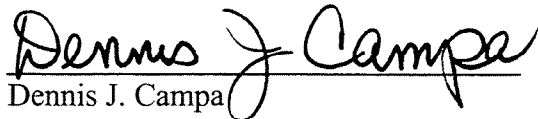
In addition to its continued presence at St. Jude (Council District 6) and the use of the computer lab at St. John Baptist Church (Council District 9), DCI intends to expand the Nutrition Technology Initiative to three senior nutrition centers: Ella Austin (Council District 2), San Juan de Los Lagos (Council District 5) and St. Vincent de Paul (Council District 4). Through these five technology sites, approximately 125 seniors will complete the training curriculum and 100 will create e-mail accounts in FY 2002-2003.

## COORDINATION

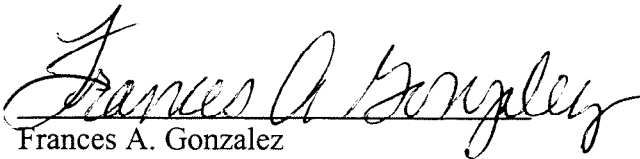
The Department of Community Initiatives coordinated activities with the City Attorney's Office, Finance Department, Information Technology Services Department and the Office of Management and Budget.

## SUPPLEMENTARY COMMENTS

Provisions of the Ethics Ordinance do not apply.

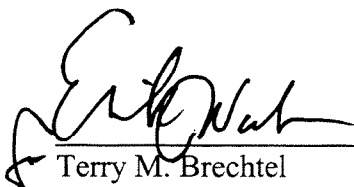


Dennis J. Campa  
Department Director



Frances A. Gonzalez  
Assistant to the City Manager

Approved:



Terry M. Brechtel  
City Manager