

**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO**  
**INTERDEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM**  
**DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY INITIATIVES**

CONSENT AGENDA

ITEM NO. 14

**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 City Manager; City Attorney's Office; Finance Department; Office of Management and Budget; File

**SUBJECT:** Ordinance Authorizing the Acceptance of a \$1,000 Project AWARE Foundation Grant for the START Program

**DATE:** August 5, 2004

**SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

This ordinance authorizes the acceptance of the Project AWARE Foundation Grant, from the Aquatic World Awareness Responsibility Education Foundation, by the City of San Antonio's Department of Community Initiatives, in the amount of \$1,000 to support the Striving Together to Achieve Rewarding Tomorrows (START) Program; and approves a budget.

Staff recommends approval of this ordinance.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The START program is a long-term, intensive case management program developed by the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse (CASA) at Columbia University. START is currently operational in four schools in the South San Antonio and Edgewood Independent School Districts. The program targets 60 students ages 10-14 identified by school personnel as being the most likely to drop out of school, to involve themselves in substance abuse, and/or to become involved with the juvenile justice system. The focus of this program is to deliver services to youth and the family using a holistic approach to meet immediate as well as long-term needs.

The Project AWARE Foundation Grant is a 90-day project that will allow youth in the START Program to participate in environmental awareness service projects and attend ecologically focused field trips. The grant's budget expenditures will account for purchasing transportation services, cleaning materials and supplies. START program participants will take an active role in cleaning up the shorelines of city and county rivers, spending up to ten days in cleaning the local environment. The final clean-up will be performed at the Texas State Park on Mustang Island along the Gulf of Mexico. Presentations will be given on the natural ecology and methods of preservation of the coastal site. As incentives, participants will enjoy field trips to the Texas State Aquarium in Corpus Christi where they will be provided course instruction on shore ecology and also spend one day at the Aquarena Springs educational facility at Texas State University in San Marcos.

## **POLICY ANALYSIS**

This ordinance supports the City's core issue of providing Family Strengthening and Youth Development services. It also continues current city policy to make a concerted effort to intervene in the lives of juveniles by providing prevention and early intervention services to youth through comprehensive programming. The \$1,000 grant from Project AWARE Foundation will allow the START program to expand its services to 40 at-risk youth currently in the program with an outcome measure of 80%.

## **FISCAL ANALYSIS**

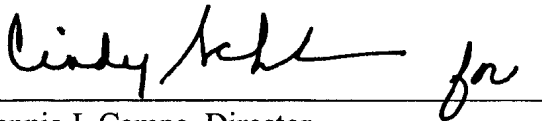
This grant will allow for the enhancement of the START program by providing an additional service-learning project and will also leverage an additional \$1,000 from the community to include the entrance fee to the Aquarena Springs educational facility, which has already been committed. There is no General Fund commitment required by this Ordinance.

## **COORDINATION**

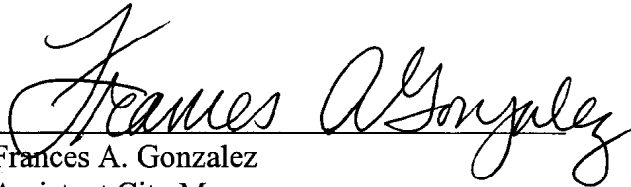
The Department of Community Initiatives has coordinated with the Commission for Children & Families, Youth Commission, Greater San Antonio Crime Prevention Commission, Edgewood and South San Antonio Independent School Districts, City Attorney's Office, Finance Department, and Office of Management and Budget.

## **SUPPLEMENTARY COMMENTS**

Provisions of the Ethics Ordinance do not apply.

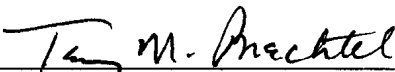
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cindy Kell" followed by a flourish and the word "for".

Dennis J. Campa, Director  
Department of Community Initiatives

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frances A. Gonzalez".

Frances A. Gonzalez  
Assistant City Manager

Approved:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Terry M. Brechtel".

Terry M. Brechtel  
City Manager

Attachment I

AWARE Grant Award Letter

*To be provided as soon as received*

**Project AWARE (Aquatic World Awareness Responsibility Education)****08/01/2004 - 07/31/2005****Project AWARE****REVENUES****BUDGET**

Project AWARE

\$ 1,000.00

**TOTAL REVENUES****\$ 1,000.00****GRANT EXPENDITURES****38-07-XX****Object Code**

Fees to Prof Contractors

02-160

\$ 460.00

Office Supplies

03-210

\$ 540.00

**TOTAL GRANT EXPENDITURES****\$ 1,000.00**