

CONSENT AGENDA
ITEM NO. 18

**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY INITIATIVES
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

TO: Mayor and City Council

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

SUBJECT: Application for the Title V Grant from the Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division, to support the START program

DATE: April 7, 2005

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This ordinance authorizes the submission of a grant application to and, upon award, the acceptance of the Title V Grant from the Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division, State of Texas in the amount of \$125,944 to support the expansion of the Striving Together to Achieve Rewarding Tomorrows (START) program for the period beginning September 1, 2005 to August 31, 2006. This ordinance also approves a budget and personnel complement in connection with the award.

Staff recommends approval of this ordinance.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Community Initiatives coordinates various positive youth development strategies to address the challenge of juvenile delinquency including the teen court, life skills training, community service restitution programs, intensive case management, and restorative justice services.

DCI has operated CASASTART since 1999. CASASTART is an exemplary program from Columbia University's National Center for Addiction and Substance Abuse (CASA). It seeks to divert at-risk youth from delinquent behaviors into more positive behaviors by providing intensive, long-term case management. Locally, the START program operates in four schools in the South San Antonio and Edgewood Independent School Districts. It targets 60 students 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 the program is to deliver services to youth and the family using a holistic approach to meet immediate as well as long-term needs.

START is a unique collaboration of the Department of Community Initiatives, San Antonio Police Department, South San Antonio ISD, Edgewood ISD, South San Antonio ISD Police Department, Communities-in-Schools and other social service agencies.

The expansion of the START program in the Edgewood Independent School District (EISD) would extend the reach of this program significantly. As a result of a recommendation by EISD, the two new schools that will be targeted are Loma Park Elementary School and Wrenn Middle School. In Bexar County, Loma Park Elementary ranks 132nd in performance compared to other elementary schools and Wrenn ranked 45th for middle schools as rated by GreatSchools.net. One caseworker will be housed in each school and will continue to work with participants as they transition from elementary to middle school. In addition to EISD we will also partner with Communities-in-Schools and other local social service agencies for services.

As a result of decreased Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG) funding for this program, DCI is pursuing new funding alternatives, both public and private, to compensate for an estimated 80% decrease from prior year support. To sustain and expand the program, DCI is applying for funds from multiple sources. A grant application is being prepared for funding from Goldsbury Foundation to sustain the existing program at four schools; we have also applied for the Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities Grant, the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Grant, and Title V for funding. This grant will provide for an additional 30 students to be served at two new schools in Edgewood Independent School District and will require two additional Caseworkers and absorb one-half of the program coordinator's salary. The sum total of all of these grants, if awarded, would be to expand the START program from 4 schools to 12 schools, each with 15 students. Each of these grant applications is a separate action without guarantee of funding.

POLICY ANALYSIS

This ordinance supports the City's core issues of Youth Development and Family Strengthening by providing prevention and early intervention services to young people. It also allows expansion of a national model program already implemented in four schools. The Commission for Children and Families, Greater San Antonio Crime Prevention Commission and Youth Commission reviewed this application and support the department's efforts to provide prevention and early intervention services to high-risk youth in San Antonio.

Performance Measures:

CASASTART

Output Measures	Grant Year 2003-04	Grant Year 2004-05 Est.	Grant Year 2005-06 Proj.
No. Unduplicated Clients	83	80	125
No. of Family Activities	22	23	33
Outcome Measures	Grant Year 2003-04	Grant Year 2004-05 Est.	Grant Year 2005-06 Proj.
Percent Improving Grades	53%	49%	60%
Percent Maintaining Grades	23%	33%	30%
Percent Not Improving Grades	22%	18%	10%
Percent Failing	2%	0%	0%

Of students involved in the program, 70% are in the second or subsequent year of service. Most of these were expected to fail their current grade when admitted to the program. Of these students, nearly 50% are showing an improvement in grades and no one is currently failing.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

This grant application requests grant funds in the amount of \$125,944. It leverages resources already in use from the Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant by sharing supervisory and administrative staff to expand the START program funded in that grant. This action requires no additional General Fund commitment.

COORDINATION

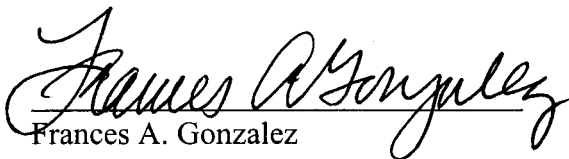
The Department of Community Initiatives has coordinated with the San Antonio Police Department, City Attorney's Office, Finance Department, Office of Management and Budget, Edgewood Independent School District, Commission for Children and Families, Greater San Antonio Crime Prevention Commission and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

SUPPLEMENTARY COMMENTS

Provisions of the City's Ethics Ordinance do not apply.



Dennis J. Campa, Director
Department of Community Initiatives



Frances A. Gonzalez
Assistant City Manager



J. Rolando Bono
Interim City Manager

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CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
Department of Community Initiatives
Year 7

REVENUES	BUDGET
Juvenile Accountability Block Grant	\$55,944
In-Kind	\$6,216
TOTAL REVENUES	\$61,888

GRANT EXPENDITURES	COST ELEMENT	TOTAL
Reg Salaries	5101010	\$38,651.00
FICA	5103005	\$2,957.00
TMRS	5105010	\$4,414.00
Flex Benefits	5104030	\$4,908.00
Life Insurance	5103010	\$58.00
Mail & Parcel Post	5205010	\$50.00
Pagers, Mobile Phones	5403030	\$90.00
Car Expense Allowance	5103055	\$486.00
Automatic Data Processing Fees	5403520	\$600.00
Office Supplies	5302010	\$661.00
In-Direct 5% (excluding equipment)		\$2,797.00
In-Kind		\$6,216.00
	TOTAL	\$61,888.00
	Variance	\$0.00

JABG Year VII 2005-2006
08/01/05 - 07/31/06
Fund No.: To be established upon award

Personnel Complement

<u>Job Class</u>	<u>Cost Element*</u>	<u>Positions</u>	<u>Number Authorized</u>	<u>Added/ Deleted</u>	<u>Revised Authorized</u>
0915		Program Coordinator	2	1	1
0971		Caseworker II	2	2	0
0914		Program Counselor	4	4	0
0985		Case Aide	1	1	0
		Total Positions	9	8	1

*To be established upon award