

TO: Juvenile Welfare Board Members

FROM: James E. Mills, Executive Director
Browning Spence, Director, Strategic & Community Planning *HBS*

Requested Action

The Board is requested to approve supplemental funding for the Pinellas County Cooperative Extension Service for Community YouthMapping activities for summer 2000 including the completion of the St. Petersburg portion of the county wide project.

Options

1. Approve the request.
2. Deny the request.
3. Any other action as determined by the Board

Recommended Action

Approve a \$29,470 intergovernmental transfer to the Pinellas County Cooperative Extension Service to conduct Community YouthMapping.

Source of JWB Funds

One-time-only Program Contingency.

Fiscal Impact

One-time-only Program Contingency will be reduced from \$59,542 to \$30,072.

Narrative

In February 1999 the Board approved \$100,000 for the Pinellas County Cooperative Extension Service for youth mapping activities during FY 98-99 and \$50,000 for FY 99-00. Family Resources, Inc. received funding from the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) during FY 99-00 for what were to have been multi-year youth mapping activities for the City of St. Petersburg. Between the two organizations, all of the mid-county and most of St. Petersburg's businesses were contacted. Cooperative Extension utilized \$79,156 of the \$100,000 available for the initiative during FY 99-00 and lapsed \$20,844.

YouthMapping involves young people in canvassing neighborhoods block by block, in search of programs, services, opportunities and caring adults available to them, their peers, and families. Young people gather and analyze information by locating and documenting "places to go and things to do" in their neighborhoods. A significantly above average rate of business response reduced the anticipated area to be covered.

- ◆ Thirty youth were employed by the Cooperative Extension Service during the summer of 1999. The youth contacted 4545 organizations and completed over 2200 surveys.
- ◆ Twenty-five Youth were employed by Family Resources, Inc., contacting 1514 businesses and completing 1043 surveys.
- ◆ Seventy youth will be employed for youth mapping activities for the summer of 2000. Sixty youth will be assigned to Cooperative Extension from the School Board as part of their contract with the Pinellas Workforce Development Board for the Summer Youth Employment Program. Ten youth will be assigned from the City of St. Petersburg summer youth employment program.
- ◆ As an enhanced component for this summer, Cooperative Extension will hire veteran youth mappers from last summer to be mentors and trainers for youth hired this summer.
- ◆ To complete the next phase of youth mapping, an additional \$29,470 will be needed. \$22,762 will be needed to fully implement the youth mentor component and provide the vans for the youth in the unincorporated area of the County and \$6708 will be needed for the St. Petersburg component. Since Cooperative Extension lapsed \$20,844 from last summer, staff recommends these funds be made available for summer 2000.
- ◆ Family Resources and the partners in the youth mapping initiative intended to utilize funds from the second year of their three year Department of Juvenile Justice grant to complete youth mapping activities, however Family Resources and the City of St. Petersburg chose not to renew the grant following six months of unsuccessful negotiations with new DJJ staff. Family Resources has asked Cooperative Extension to assume responsibility for completing the south county youth mapping. This will require an additional \$6708 to provide the supervisor, youth mentor and van for the ten youth assigned by the City of St. Petersburg.
- ◆ Information from youth mapping will be available through written reports, community presentations, Helpline I&R and through a web site designed by a youth volunteer at Cooperative Extension. The goal is to have the web site operational by the start of the new school year.
- ◆ The requested funds will be used for the salaries of the youth mentors and team leaders, van rentals and gasoline.
- ◆ Funding has been received from the Tobacco-Free Coalition to pay for t-shirts for the youth mappers, clip boards, pens and other supplies.

Staff is recommending approval of the request. The project was budgeted for \$150,000 over two years. A late start-up contributed to a \$20,844 lapse in funds and staff recommends that these funds should be considered to be available for summer 2000. An additional \$1918 will allow Cooperative Extension to fully implement the youth mentor component. Staff also recommends an additional \$6708 to allow for a south county team of youth mappers to be formed to complete the mapping activities that were originally to be completed by a youth team employed by Family Resources. The lack of State DJJ funds for the south county team is not the fault of Family Resources

or the City of St. Petersburg. New DJJ staff, a shift in State priorities and an apparent lack of understanding of youth development concepts by State staff contributed to the inability to develop a contract renewal for second year funding despite repeated efforts of City and Family Resources staff.

Staff Resource Person: Susan Biszewski-Eber