

 <p style="text-align: center;">Council Communication Office of the City Manager</p>	Date	April 20, 2009
	Agenda Item No. 37 Roll Call No. <u>09-</u> Communication No. <u>09-245</u> Submitted by: Judy A. Bradshaw, Chief of Police	

AGENDA HEADING:

Approval of 2009 Recovery Act: Edward Byrne Memorial Competitive Grant Program grant application.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval of the Des Moines Police Department’s grant application from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance grant application to provide overtime funding to provide extensive law enforcement follow-up investigations to victims of domestic assault, sexual assault and child and adult assistance cases. Funding is also requested for mandatory attendance of two employees to two Department of Justice-sponsored grant meetings.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$104,251.60 (Revenue)

Funding Source: The Edward Byrne Memorial Competitive Grant Program is funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Recovery Act) of 2009, P.L. 111-5. FY2009-2010 Operating Budget, Special Revenue Funds, SP751, Page 252.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The Edward Byrne Memorial Competitive Grant Program is funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Recovery Act) of 2009, P.L. 111-5. \$225 million is available for this competitive grant program.

It is recognized that domestic violence crimes, sexual assault and child and adult assistance cases require an extensive follow-up that often times cannot be met with existing resources. However, given the nature of the crimes and the recognition that the victims are often in contact and possibly residing with the offender, there is a need that falls out of the normal time available for each investigator. The Family Conflict Section (FCS) of the Des Moines Police Department has the responsibility of investigating these crimes.

Experience has shown that many victims of these crimes require continued assistance even after an arrest or a successful prosecution. Providing follow-up assistance involving police officers and social services support by making contact with the victims to ensure their safety, involve them with any programs the court might have ordered or recommended and the offer of continuous support is a goal the department strives to attain.

A unique partnership opportunity with Children and Families of Iowa (CFI) will house a skilled law enforcement victim advocate in the police department to work side-by-side with law enforcement professionals on a daily basis.

This on-site advocate, with the title of Law Enforcement Domestic Violence Advocate, will allow for progressive parallel investigations with the dual role of seeking safety and resources for victims, the victim's involvement in the prosecution process to attain successful prosecutions. The advocate will ensure support as the social network begins the victim recovery process, minimizes recidivism and a multitude of other factors that are often unique to each investigation.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

Council approval of the grant award will be required if this application is successful.

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