

TO: Juvenile Welfare Board Members

FROM: James E. Mills, Executive Director
Lisa A. Sahulka, Director of Programs & Finance

Pinellas Animal Foundation - Intergenerational Farm Team

At the July regular meeting, the Board asked staff for funding and performance information for the Pinellas Animal Foundation's Intergenerational Farm Team program.

Funding & Performance Report (4 Year History):

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>JWB Allocation</i>	<i>JWB Funding Type</i>	<i>Performance/Comments</i>
1998-99	\$ 7,149	New & Expanded Funding.	Program funded to serve 25 youth and 25 adults.
1999-00	\$ 7,292	Program Continuation Funding.	Program exceeded minimum service level of 35 youth (served 44). Program did not meet minimum service level of 25 adults (served 13). Program did not accomplish 7 of 14 measurable objectives. Program experienced difficulty in implementation.
2000-01	\$ 8,311	Program Continuation Funding.	Program exceeded minimum service levels. Staff renegotiated measurable objectives. Program did not enter data for measurable objectives. Program did not utilize the JWB-approved assessment tool.
2001-02	\$ 5,000	Community Development Funding.	Staff further reduced reporting requirement and moved the program to Community Development. Program is required to enter program activities in SAMIS group data module.

Pinellas Animal Foundation received one-time-only Intergenerational Program funding during fiscal years 1994-95 and 1996-97 to implement the Intergenerational Farm Team Program. The main goal of the program was to pair at-risk children with isolated seniors to increase life skills knowledge for youth and senior participants. Animals were included as a focal point in all activities. The target populations were youth from 6-14 years of age at the Boys & Girls Club in Jasmine Court, and youth from ages 13-15 at Operation PAR's program at Ridgeview Housing. Senior citizens were to provide instructions on basic pet care and ownership responsibility.

In October 1998, the Pinellas Animal Foundation was awarded New & Expanded Funds to implement an after school/summer program that provided intergenerational activities for 25 youth ages 6-13 and 25 seniors in low-income housing. Activities focused on the development of social competencies, positive identity, commitment to learning and the prevention of high-risk behaviors, with animals as the catalyst for interaction between seniors and youth participants.

In FY 2001-2002, the program classification was changed from Program Continuation to Community Development, due to issues surrounding data entry for measurable objectives as well as the agency's difficulties in achieving JWB's contract requirements. FY 2001-02 JWB monitoring visits to this program have revealed numerous challenges faced by the program, such as:

- Inability to recruit able seniors to participate in the program;
- Lack of interaction with middle school-age youth 10 to 14 years;
- Inability to meet JWB requirements for data and measurable objectives

Although the agency has continually been willing to accept technical assistance and redesign the methodology in order to attract participants and improve outcomes for the program, the results of these efforts has been mixed and the program remains marginal. Board members' increasing interest in funding the most critical needs in the community including the reduction of current waiting lists and the most effective programs may not be consistent with continued support for this program.

Staff Resource Person: Patricia S. Davis