

TO: Juvenile Welfare Board Members

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

Requested Action

The Board is requested to allocate up to \$16,708 for the period from June 9, 2000 to September 30, 2000 to UNO Federation Community Services, Inc. as first year funding of a three-year community planning and organizational development grant. \$49,140 is requested to be budgeted for FY 2000 – 2001.

Options

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

Recommended Action

1. Allocate up to \$16,708 for the period from June 9, 2000 to September 30, 2000 to UNO Federation Community Services, Inc. as first year funding of a three-year community planning and organizational development grant (funding in second and third years to be contingent upon receipt of agreed deliverables).
2. Budget \$49,140 for Fiscal Year 2000 – 2001. (Subject to the TRIM Process).

Source of JWB Funds

Transitional unallocated.

Fiscal Impact

Transitional unallocated will be reduced from \$27,745 to \$11,037. \$49,140 will be budgeted for Fiscal Year 2000 – 2001.

FY 1999 - 2000	4 months @ \$16,708	\$ 16,708
FY 2000 - 2001	8 months @ \$33,292 + 4 months @ \$15,848	\$ 49,140

Narrative

This developmental grant request is to assist UNO Federation Community Services to set up the design, processes and procedures to perform a comprehensive Hispanic Community Needs Assessment and Resource Inventory.

Since 1980, the Hispanic population in Pinellas County has nearly tripled, from 10,500 to over 30,000 in 1999. This reflects a trend evident throughout the state:

- since 1990, almost one-third of the 1.4 million people who moved to Florida were Hispanic,
- most of the new Hispanic arrivals are settling north of Miami-Dade County.
- in 1990, nearly 40% of the country's Hispanic population was under 20 years old, compared with 28% of the non-Hispanic population.

Members of Pinellas County's Hispanic community have many commonalities:

- they share a primary language,
- often experience isolation due to their language, and
- report that opportunities and services are often difficult to access.

Like other communities of interest, they see the need for advocacy and feel the need to link members of their community to outside services and opportunities of which they may be unaware.

Yet, within the Hispanic community, there is diversity.

- The Hispanic population in Pinellas County is distributed throughout the county.
- The families have origins in countries throughout the world.
- Some are newly arrived here while others have generations of history in Pinellas County or in Florida.
- The Hispanic community is a multi-racial group, and composed of individuals with a wide variety of educational and societal backgrounds.

There is a lack of formally collected information on the state of the Hispanic community in Pinellas County and what is currently available to address the needs of this group. Strategies to further develop the assets of the children and families within this community of interest are needed. Action to assess and address these concerns is compatible with the strategic plan of the Juvenile Welfare Board. UNO (UNO Federation Community Services, Inc) has stepped forward with a plan to begin identifying the Hispanic community's needs and opportunities in Pinellas County.

UNO proposes to perform and compile

- a **Hispanic Community Needs Assessment** (by May 31, 2001), and
- a **Hispanic Community Resource Inventory** (by March 31, 2001), and
- the development of a **Community Plan with strategies** (by August 30, 2001) to address the identified needs.

The needs assessment will include a review of demographic and social indicators, focus groups, key informant interviews and a community survey. The recommended strategies will be made available to all community groups that serve or could serve the Hispanic Community. This process will also provide information for a Strategic Plan for UNO, prioritizing their organization's opportunities for strengthening Pinellas County's resources for the Hispanic community.

Funding these efforts by UNO supports JWB's strategic plan by

- assisting JWB to engage the leadership of the Hispanic Community in an asset based approach to learn about needs and opportunities in Pinellas County,
- partnering with a community based organization early in the growth of the fastest growing segment of the county's population.

UNO has an excellent record of community involvement, volunteer participation, service, organizational competency, and effective advocacy for the local Hispanic community.

- Incorporated in the State of Florida as a not for profit, 501 (c) (3), organization in April 1998, UNO has emerged as an important volunteer resource for Pinellas County's multi-ethnic, multi-faceted Hispanic population.

- UNO has filled requests from the community for information and referral, translation services, counseling for families and youth, intervention with law enforcement agencies, health services for families, food and financial aid, education and employment referral, and liaison with schools. UNO estimates that its members contributed approximately 5,000 hours of volunteer time during 1999 and an additional 500 hours in recreational activities with young adults.
- UNO, in partnership with several service providers and the City of Clearwater, presented the first UNO Festival, a Hispanic cultural event, in September 1999. Approximately 5,000 people attended. For UNO Festival II in October 2000, approximately 10,000 people are expected to attend.
- UNO has worked with a variety of organizations, such as the Clearwater Police Department where UNO agreed to provide translation services, and Kennedy Middle School to provide tutoring. The Chairman of UNO's Board of Directors serves on the Advisory Board of the PTEC (Pinellas Technical Education Centers), and 42 Hispanic students currently enrolled in the PTEC English for Speakers of Other Languages Program were recruited and referred by UNO.

To accomplish the important objectives of the Hispanic Community Needs Assessment and Resource Inventory, UNO's Board of Directors has determined it must go beyond a purely volunteer organization. A funded Coordinator will give UNO the capacity to

- develop more formal and collaborative relationships with key service providers to promote building capacity of Hispanic families to support and nurture positive behaviors, and
- design, perform and analyze the Hispanic Community Needs Assessment and Resource Inventory to increase awareness of existing affordable, accessible and available activities for Hispanic youth and their families.

Funding is requested over the next three years:

First year	June 2000 – May 2001	\$ 50,000
Second year	June 2001 – May 2002	\$ 35,000
Third year	June 2002 – May 2003	\$ 15,000
TOTAL		\$100,000

JWB funding will be used to provide

- salaries for the coordinator,
- part time administrative staff, training,
- computer equipment, and office supplies.

Based on successful completion of deliverables, funds in declining amounts will be requested in FY 2001 – 2002 (\$24,152) and in FY 2002 – 2003 (\$10,000).

JWB's Strategic and Community Planning department will provide ongoing liaison and technical assistance, and the Research and Evaluation department will work with UNO in the design of the needs assessment. UNO has negotiated with the YWCA of Tampa Bay to be their fiscal agent (at a rate of 5%). The YWCA is providing considerable in-kind support and assistance to UNO, including providing space in their North County office, mentoring in SAMIS system operation, and human resource services.

Staff Resource People: Wendy Antonio, Strategic & Community Planning Department, Susan Biszewski-Eber, Programs & Finance Department, Gary Cernan, Programs & Finance Department, Julie Goetz, Research & Evaluation Department.