

**COMMUNITY SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
APRIL 10, 2006– 7:00 P.M.**

**CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS – 1ST FLOOR
100 N. ANDREWS AVENUE**

Board Members

	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Cumulative From 10/05</u>	
			<u>(P)</u>	<u>(A)</u>
Jennie Brooks	P		6	0
Marie Conroy	P		2	4
Marjorie Davis		A	0	6
John Hurley, Chair		A	5	1
Sanford Rosenthal	P		5	1
Diane Schuster	P		5	1
Robert Smith	P		5	1
William Goetz, Vice Chair	P		6	0
Michael Kimmey	P		5	1
Alfred Imgrund	P		5	1
Avery Dial	P		6	0
Margaret Birch	P		4	1
Fenel Antoine		A	1	3
Emmett Kater	P		2	0

Staff Present:

Leon Burgess, Housing & Community Development
 Karen Reese, Housing & Community Development
 Susan Batchelder, Assistant Manager, Housing & Community Development
 Margarette Hayes, Manager, Housing & Community Development

Margaret A. Muhl, Recording Secretary

Guests

Toni Hernandez	Paul Mocombe
Diane Smith	Ray Kelly
Sharon Bryant	Jim Gress
Kristen Barrett	Faye Wright-Simpson
Jon Quinton	Beryl Glansberg
Luke Harrigan	Marian Douginas
Pat Owen	Dina McDermott
Bill Dalton	Lee J. Burt
Monica Cupid	

Call to Order

Vice Chair William Goetz called the meeting to order at approximately 7:11 p.m. The roll call was taken and a quorum was present, followed by the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

New Board Members

Margarette Hayes advised that there were no new appointments made to this Board at this time.

Margarette Hayes stated that since she was not present at the last meeting, she wanted to welcome Mr. Emmett Kater to the Advisory Board.

Approval of Minutes – March 13, 2006

Vice Chair William Goetz stated that the minutes reflected Mr. Hurley as being present at the previous meeting, but he was not.

Motion made by Jennie Brooks and seconded by Margaret Birch to approve the minutes of the March 13, 2006 meeting as corrected. Board unanimously approved.

FY 2006-2007 Community Development Block Grant Presentations

Vice Chair William Goetz stated that tonight presentations would be made by the organizations that had applied for Community Development Block Grant Funding.

Margarette Hayes stated that the following organizations had applied for funding: Atlantic Institute, Broward Homebound, Coalition to End Homelessness, Covenant House, First Call for Help, Future Stars, Girl Scouts of America, Grace Community Development Center, Mount Olive, Russell Life Skills, Second Chance Society, Starting Over, Women in Distress, along with the Parks & Recreation Department in connection with the Aquatic Program.

Margarette Hayes advised the presenters regarding the amount of time that would be available for their presentation and the procedure that would be followed this evening.

Margarette Hayes further advised that the first presentation being made this evening would be by Atlantic Institute of Oriental Health Center.

Atlantic Institute of Oriental Medicine

Toni Hernandez, Atlantic Institute, stated that the President of their organization was unable to attend tonight's meeting due to recovering from surgery. She continued stating that the Atlantic Institute of Oriental Medicine was an accredited three-year college for oriental medicine which included acupuncture, and that the Institute offered a combined Masters Degree in Oriental Medicine and a Bachelor's Degree in Health Science. The school was founded in 1994 and approximately 2,000 licensed acupuncturists have graduated. Hands-on training is provided to the students who must complete 990 hours of supervised clinical instruction. The clinic operates six days per week and approximately 200 patients are treated during that time. Due to the fact that Medicare and Medicaid, along with some other insurance companies, are not accepted, many individuals are unable to receive this type of treatment. Through the CDBG Program

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such individuals could be treated, and the Institute concentrates on three goals. The first goal is opening the clinic to low-income and the elderly population and providing treatment at no cost. The second goal is to establish another clinic in the community in order to expand treatment. The third goal is to set up a community center where instructional classes covering a variety of topics could be offered. She advised that free treatments have been provided over the last year to 51 patients at the clinic. She stated that weekend seminars were also offered to the public in connection with HIV updates and the benefits of acupuncture, and approximately 100 individuals had participated.

Margarette Hayes stated that the application submitted by the Atlantic Institute was complete. Vice Chair William Goetz stated that a financial statement had not been submitted. Jennie Brooks remarked that no income statements had been submitted either. Margarette Hayes stated that she was sure such information had been submitted, and possibly the material had been omitted from the Board's packages.

Vice Chair William Goetz stated that he believed financial information for other organizations had also been omitted. He asked Ms. Hayes to double-check on that.

Marie Conroy asked how the organization determined who was low-income or who should be treated that had no income at all. Ms. Hernandez stated that copies of social security, disability, or unemployment information was provided. Marie Conroy clarified that the funding from the CDBG would expand services to such individuals. Ms. Hernandez confirmed.

Marie Conroy stated that in the breakdown provided for the organization, there was a listing for medical supplies at approximately \$11,000 and she asked if that was a feasible amount for such things. Ms. Hernandez confirmed, and reminded the Board that they wanted to establish two more satellite facilities which would also have medical costs.

Robert Smith asked if the 51 individuals who had received free treatment could return for multiple treatments. Ms. Hernandez confirmed.

Emmett Kater stated that he was concerned about the character letters that had been submitted on the Institute's behalf because they had been poorly written with no information supplied as to who wrote the letter, and no addresses or phone numbers. Ms. Hernandez explained that many of the patients in the program were elderly and had little education. She reiterated that the Institute did not feel they should assist in writing the letters or dictate what should be included in the recommendation. Emmett Kater further stated that he was concerned because there was no information included in the letter regarding the individual who had written it.

Vice Chair William Goetz asked if letters were to have been submitted from neighborhood associations where the Institute is located. Ms. Hernandez stated that a letter had been written by a group from where the satellite clinic was located.

Jennie Brooks asked if some of the patients did pay for services received at the clinics. Ms. Hernandez confirmed and explained that before they had begun receiving monies from the CDBG, patients were paying for services rendered. She advised that such

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information was supplied in the Institute's income statement, and reiterated that was the only income they received outside of the funding from the CDBG.

Jennie Brooks asked what types of illnesses were treated by their clinic. Ms. Hernandez explained that besides pain management, acupuncture treated other diseases such as acne, colds, infertility, impotence, carpal tunnel, and other problems. Ms. Brooks asked further if such illnesses could not be treated by a medical physician. Ms. Hernandez confirmed, and stated that nowadays many individuals were turning to alternative medicines.

Jennie Brooks asked if a breakdown of medical ailments could be supplied by the Institute, along with the number of patients that were considered low-income or without an income. Ms. Hernandez stated that such information could be supplied, and explained further that most individuals were treated for pain management, along with other diseases.

Margarette Hayes reiterated that any additional information being requested by this Board needed to be supplied to her office no later than this Thursday.

Margaret Birch asked for further clarification as to where the Institute was located. Ms. Hernandez proceeded to show the location of their Institute on the map, and stated their address was 100 E. Broward Boulevard between SE 1st and SE 2nd.

Avery Dial suggested that the three letters of support to be submitted by the nearest neighborhood association be included in the packet of additional information that would be submitted. He further stated that the Board should not hold against the organization the format of their character letters. If the Board wanted a specific format, then that should be included in the application next year.

Alfred Imgrund asked if there was an indication as to how much funding this organization and the other applicants had received last year. Margarette Hayes stated that such information was not included in the application, but could be provided to the Board.

Ms. Hernandez stated that she believed their Institute had received \$20,100 the previous year.

Alfred Imgrund clarified the types of services being provided by the clinics which were considered an eastern form of treatment.

Emmett Kater stated that he did not concur about the statement made regarding the character letters, and he felt they had an impact on his decision. He believed in the future a set format should be followed.

Margarette Hayes confirmed that the Institute had received \$22,000 in CDBG funds last year.

Vice Chair William Goetz asked how many additional individuals were being anticipated for treatment if CDBG funds were granted. Ms. Hernandez advised that they expected to more than double the amount of individuals treated, and they wanted to establish an additional satellite clinic, along with another mobile unit.

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Vice Chair William Goetz asked what percentage of individuals were being treated for pain. Ms. Hernandez stated that 50% to 60% of their patients were being treated for some form of pain management. Vice Chair William Goetz asked what percentage received classic acupuncture or acupuncture with stimulation. Ms. Hernandez stated that every patient receives classic acupuncture. Vice Chair William Goetz asked how many individuals received reimbursement for treatment through insurance or Medicare and Medicaid. Ms. Hernandez reiterated that acupuncture treatments were not covered under Medicare or Medicaid. She added that most insurance companies did not cover it, but some of the larger carriers were beginning to do so since the effectiveness of the treatment was being recognized. She reiterated that when the treatment is covered, only 80% of what is charged is covered. She explained that the charge was \$25 per treatment for non-CDBG clientele. She added that the patients had to submit their own claim forms, the clinic did not do that paperwork.

Vice Chair William Goetz asked if the Institute kept track of what percentage of patients received 50% relief from their pain. Ms. Hernandez stated that the majority of their patients received relief from acupuncture treatments and spread their success by word of mouth to other individuals.

Jennie Brooks asked if there was any type of recruiting being done by the Institute to low-income or no income individuals. Ms. Hernandez stated that most patients came through word of mouth. Jennie Brooks asked where the satellite clinic was located. Ms. Hernandez advised that it was at 806 Prospect Road.

Vice Chair William Goetz asked if there was any type of advertising being done stating that a certain percentage of individuals would receive free treatment. Ms. Hernandez stated that was not done, but all information was reviewed submitted by individuals, and then determinations were made due to their financial situations.

Jennie Brooks asked if low-income individuals were not specifically targeted, how did they know they would increase the number of patients in that bracket. Ms. Hernandez stated that individuals who came for treatment were always asking if certain people could come with them and receive treatment. A cap had been placed on the amount of such individuals being treated due to funding availability.

Vice Chair William Goetz asked if the Institute could also clarify what additional number of patients they were anticipating treating, along with the other information was that was to be supplied.

Margaret Birch asked for further clarification regarding the completeness of the subject application.

Margarette Hayes explained that the application was complete in regard to the eligibility requirements.

Margaret Birch also asked about information that was to have been supplied regarding the business aspect of the organization. Margarette Hayes explained that such information was not forwarded to the Advisory Board and only reviewed by staff at this time.

Vice Chair William Goetz asked if all applicants had received copies of the ranking considerations. Margarett Hayes confirmed and explained that it was part of the application.

Broward Homebound Program

Margarett Hayes advised that last year this program had received \$25,000 in CDBG funding.

Diane Smith, Executive Director Broward Homebound Program, stated they are a private non-profit agency that began in 1986 with a group of citizens from Century Village in Deerfield Beach, Florida who felt there was a need for affordable in-home services for the elderly. An 18-month grant was received from the Department of Health and Rehabilitated Services to prove that a cost-share concept would provide an alternative to costly nursing home facilities. At the end of the 18 months, the agency became independent. She explained they consist now of three separate programs. The first program was a subsidy program where clients paid on a basis of their personal financial situation for affordable homecare service that enabled them to continue living independently in their own homes as long as possible. These are services that are not covered by Medicare or Medicaid. The second program was the community care for disabled adults which was a State funded program that provided in-home services to low-income disabled adults suffering from a variety of physical disabilities, including multiple sclerosis, cancer, ALF, stroke, paraplegics, and other physical disabilities. She explained that this program has not received an increase in funding for many years, and now there are 355 disabled adults residing in Broward County on the waiting list, of which 55 are Fort Lauderdale residents. The third program was one which they were requesting funding for, and had received \$23,763 for this fiscal year. She clarified that they had requested \$25,000. The program was the medical supply program and meals-on-wheels for disabled individuals ranging in age from 18 to 59 in the County. The concept was the same as the elderly meals-on-wheels, but those individuals had to be 65 or older.

Ms. Smith stated that as a result of receiving the CDBG funding, their waiting list for the meals program since October has been reduced. She advised that they have served 39 residents of the City since that date. She stated that this year they were requesting \$35,762 to increase the number of clients to 28, and it would also cover the increased costs for meals. She advised that the meal cost was \$3.10, but due to the rise in the cost of gasoline, she was anticipating that the delivery service would have increased costs.

Robert Smith asked how many individuals on the current waiting list were residents of Fort Lauderdale. Ms. Smith explained that due to the funding received, they immediately service a City resident. She explained further that each client was prioritized and eligibility was based on information provided in a screening interview. She further stated that there were 355 individuals on the waiting list for other homecare health services.

Jennie Brooks asked how many meals were provided on a weekly basis. Ms. Smith stated that individuals received 7 frozen meals per week, along with milk, bread and fruit. Therefore, only one meal per day was being provided.

Emmett Kater asked if the service covered all of Broward County. Ms. Smith confirmed. Emmett Kater asked what their strategic plan covered. Ms. Smith stated that through the CDBG funds, 28 clients who were Fort Lauderdale residents would be provided for one year to receive home-delivered meals. The remainder of the meal costs were provided through the United Way, and other fund raising revenues.

Diane Schuster stated that she had attended some handicap meetings and she wanted to praise this organization for their hard work.

Margarette Hayes verified that all income statements and financial information for the requesting organizations would be provided to the Advisory Board.

Vice Chair William Goetz stated that it was disgusting that in today's society all individuals could not be fed and taken care of properly. He said this program appeared to be very effective. He asked if this program was strictly targeted towards meals-on-wheels. Ms. Smith explained that they provided case management, and then tried to link them with other community resources, but such resources for the population ranging from 18-59 was miniscule. She added that they did provide the individuals with medical supplies and medical equipment which was often donated. She explained that with Medicare an individual had to be disabled for 24 months continuously to receive assistance.

Jennie Brooks asked if referrals were accepted into the program. Ms. Smith confirmed.

Emmett Kater asked if an individual could only qualify for this program if they were not receiving any other assistance. Ms. Smith stated that individuals receiving the handicap meals were living alone, but individuals who had other people living with them and helping them, incomes were reviewed. She added that only \$6,000 was budgeted for medical supplies at this time.

Vice Chair William Goetz stated that he felt this was one of the most important things one could do for today's society which was to assist in feeding them. He suggested that this organization apply for additional funds next year.

Coalition to End Homelessness

Ray Kelly, Program Director, Coalition to End Homelessness, stated that this organization was formerly known as the Broward Coalition for the Homeless. He stated that they have been serving the homeless in Fort Lauderdale and Broward County since 1989. A hotline is operated and they are the referral agency for all major shelters throughout the County. He explained that they received 60,000 calls per year and they placed 2,500 individuals last year. He stated that the demand for their services far exceeded their capacity. In order to increase their capacity, they want to upgrade their phone system. He explained that the Hispanic homeless population increased from 6% to 9% and they needed more bilingual assistants. With the CDBG funding, they wanted to provide more such assistants, and provide expanded services to those in need.

Margaret Birch asked if this was the organization who worked with homeless children for the Christmas in July Program. Mr. Kelly stated that they did work with that program.

Jennie Brooks asked if their organization serviced the Haitian population. Mr. Kelly stated they did get calls from individuals speaking Creole, but their survey did not show a significant number of such individuals seeking assistance. Jennie Brooks suggested that the Creole language be incorporated into their program.

Sanford Rosenthal asked about services being provided after 5 p.m. over the telephone. Mr. Kelly advised that services were not provided after that time, and reiterated that the shelters were normally filled by noon. He explained that the phone upgrade they want to obtain would provide a call center and track the calls.

Emmett Kater asked how many expansion systems did this organization have in service at this time. Mr. Kelly stated they were at one location. Emmett Kater asked how many ports could be added to their existing system. Mr. Kelly explained they were upgrading the existing system. Emmett Kater asked why an additional system was needed. Mr. Kelly stated this was the cheapest way to accomplish what was necessary, and they could only receive four calls at one time. He stated that HUD required them to track their number of calls also, otherwise they would not be able to show a need. Emmett Kater stated they had a key system in service, and they could buy some port expansions to upgrade the existing system. He, therefore, asked how much of the funding would go towards upgrading the phone system.

Vice Chair William Goetz suggested that Mr. Kater phone Mr. Kelly and see if he can assist him regarding the phone system.

Avery Dial stated that part of the organization's goal was to increase their band width which would increase their call capacity. Mr. Kelly confirmed.

Marie Conroy asked where the phone calls were coming from, and she assumed that many of the individuals were chronic homeless people. She stated that probably many calls were from pay phones, and she asked why should they want to track such calls. Mr. Kelly stated that services are only provided to individuals calling from Broward County.

Vice Chair William Goetz stated that according to the back-up material provided, about one-third of the funding would go towards their phone system.

Alfred Imgrund asked if this organization had received any funding last year. Margarete Hayes stated that they had not submitted an application last year for funding.

Alfred Imgrund asked how much of the funding would go towards assisting Fort Lauderdale residents. Mr. Kelly advised that about 46% would assist people from Fort Lauderdale. He reminded the Board that this was a very transient population and individuals could be coming from other areas.

Alfred Imgrund asked how much money would be spent on the upgrading of the phone system and for the hiring of the bilingual assistants. Mr. Kelly stated that the estimate for the interpreters was \$22,000. He added that the survey only showed that Hispanic interpreters were needed.

Vice Chair William Goetz stated that the new system should be able to assist the organization in capturing further information regarding the various ethnic groups which he felt was important.

Sanford Rosenthal asked if there was another service that could assist in translation. Vice Chair William Goetz stated that such services were very expensive. Emmett Kater stated that there were some computer automated services that were available, but it would depend on how much money the organization wanted to spend for such services.

Vice Chair William Goetz stated that goals have been set by the organization, and he asked if prior goals had been met. Mr. Kelly advised that their earlier goals had been met, and one of those goals had been to work with the shelters and provide information to them, and assist in placing homeless individuals in those shelters. Vice Chair William Goetz suggested that they identify how their goals would be met so other funding could be obtained.

Covenant House

Jim Gress, Executive Director Covenant House, stated that they were a not-for-profit organization that has been serving the needs of runaway homeless young people in the City of Fort Lauderdale for 20 years. They provide services including street outreach, a 104-bed crisis shelter, and support services to transition the young people to the next step for their survival. He explained that their first goal was to reunite these young people with their families. However, in most cases that was not an option due to various circumstances of the family involved. These people have to learn to be self-sufficient and independent, and the proposal submitted would seek to work with 750 young people during one year to teach them the life skills and job readiness skills needed to work towards independence. Other services are offered such as on-site educational programs provided by a certified teacher employed by the Broward County School System, and a full-time GED instructor for older individuals. This proposal is asking for \$42,229 which would be matched by an additional \$44,044 of Covenant House money obtained largely from private donors so a full-time position of educator could be funded to teach life skills and job readiness skills to the young people in the program.

Mr. Gress further stated that the program also taught the individuals about their self-worth. Most people in this program are depressed because they have come from backgrounds that had destructive messages, and little hope was shown for their future. Covenant House was opened 24/7.

Vice Chair William Goetz asked how they tracked their success in this program. Mr. Gress stated that they were a short-term crisis center and young people came to them voluntarily. One level of their success was measured through the people coming in on self-referrals who agree to abide by the rules and regulations of Covenant House in order to move to the next step. He further stated that there were measures that showed percentages of success for other programs such as employment. All such data could be provided. Vice Chair William Goetz stated that such information would be very helpful and powerful to include in their application. Mr. Gress stated that during the last five years they had not had an individual available to track the success ratio of their residents, but that would be part of the new position.

Vice Chair William Goetz asked if such programs have been offered in other communities. Mr. Gress stated that to his knowledge no one else appeared to be targeting the population of 21 and under.

Robert Smith asked how such extensive reports would be possible to do in regard to the individuals in this program. Mr. Gress explained that the tracking report would be based upon the activities of the instructor. Some would be done on a one-on-one basis, but many would be based on a classroom setting.

Sanford Rosenthal stated that he heard it was easy for individuals to be released from the Covenant House, and if that was the case, what happened to those kids. Mr. Gress stated that people were discharged and that was the reality of the program, but no one left without a referral to another service. He further stated that a curfew was in place and rules had to be followed. Systems were in place, both human and mechanical, to ensure that people coming in and out were part of the program.

Jennie Brooks stated that Covenant House had been in operation for many years, and she asked if there was data available regarding the success of their programs. Mr. Gress stated that the specialized services were funded by a group in Broward County which provided substance abuse treatments, but such programs were grant driven and outcomes had to be reported. He stated that age was the only criteria for their program, and no children were turned away. He further stated that some residential programs required additional staff due to needing 24-hour coverage, but the new position would work as a combination of day and evening hours and only one individual would perform the service and collect the necessary data.

Emmett Kater asked who paid the salaries for the other teachers that were on staff. Mr. Gress explained that the schoolteacher was an employee of the Broward County School Board, and the GED instructor was paid through foundation grants which supported educational endeavors. He reiterated that the funds being requested would not go towards either of those positions.

Emmett Kater asked what percentage of individuals that came through their programs did not have a high school diploma. Mr. Gress stated that about 95% did not have their diplomas. He explained that jobs were available that did not require a diploma or a GED certificate, but again the range of salary depended on the amount of education an individual had obtained.

Vice Chair William Goetz stated that he preferred all applicants to be specific regarding their goals, and then provide evidence of how the goals had been met.

First Call For Help

Margarette Hayes advised that First Call For Help submitted two applications for one comprehensive program. She stated they were requesting \$77,250 for the 211 beds, and then an additional \$25,000 for their public outreach program. She advised that last year this group had received \$75,000.

Beryl Glansberg, Director of Development at 211 First Call for Help. She proceeded to distribute brochures which were in five languages, and other information.

Vice Chair William Goetz asked who had advised this organization to split their grant application into two parts. Ms. Glansberg stated that an advocate of their agency had suggested they split their grant request. She stated that 211 First Call for Help was the entry point for health and human services in Broward County. She advised they were the only 24/7 place for individuals to call that provided confidentiality in non-threatening situations. She explained they had a multi-lingual staff available and they paid for connections to the language lines, and services were also provided for the deaf and hearing impaired. She stated that over half of their total call volume comes from the City of Fort Lauderdale. Even though the calls are anonymous and confidential, they have a call distribution system which automatically records the person's zip code who is calling.

Ms. Glansberg stated that in back of both grant applications was a list of referrals. The 4th highest referral was for the 792 beds hotline, and 1,349 referrals were made to that hotline. She further stated that during the past year various accomplishments had been experienced by First Call, such as their receiving State and National Accreditation. She advised they had received 6,200 calls for assistance during Hurricane Katrina. She advised that over 1,200 calls came from people in Fort Lauderdale and 2/3 of the calls had come from women. She stated they had made over 60,000 calls to the elderly making sure they were all right. During the last grant year, they had provided over ¼ of a million services, and had given over 91,000 referrals, which included the senior calls, help line calls, and data base update calls.

Ms. Glansberg stated they were requesting an additional \$25,000 this year. She stated that the County only had one provider for the mass transit system, and bus routes had been analyzed regarding low-income areas of the City. Such bus routes would be targeted advertising their organization.

Margaret Birch asked if the 211 First Call for Help was a 24-hour service. Ms. Glansberg confirmed and stated that during the hurricane not one minute had been lost. She stated that again this year they would be at the EOC. Margaret Birch stated that she had problems at that time reaching the facility after 5:00 p.m., and she asked if they had been aware of any problems. She also asked if some of the grant funds would be spent to improve their phone system. Ms. Glansberg stated they could not predict who would call and when, and she stated they had one of the best response times in the state and numerous commendations had been received.

Vice Chair William Goetz asked if they questioned how individuals heard about their organization. Ms. Glansberg stated that they conducted follow-ups, but in some instances they did not question individuals. Vice Chair William Goetz stated that they needed to see if their marketing was successful or not. Ms. Glansberg stated that she would speak with the Marketing Director and see how they could keep better track of those things.

Margaret Birch stated that in looking at what types of services were being offered, possibly a list of calls coming in could be recorded. She felt that individuals calling in did not want to be questioned as to how they heard about the organization.

Michael Kimmey stated that possibly a lead question could be asked as to how individuals heard about the group.

Ms. Glansberg stated that they did ask individuals if the information provided had met their needs, and if the counselor had been helpful. She stated that she would review the situation and see what questions were being asked.

Margarette Hayes stated that the Board was suggesting that there be a mechanism to track the success of the marketing strategy. Jennie Brooks stated that such things should already be in place. Ms. Glansberg stated that she would check into the matter.

Vice Chair William Goetz stated that he wanted to make sure their marketing techniques were being effective before providing them with additional funds.

Sanford Rosenthal stated that the police had a program which checked on the elderly, and he asked why this group was doing the same thing. Ms. Glansberg explained there was a big difference in what their organization did and what the law enforcement agencies did because they used automated machines. She added that they also made calls around the clock.

Jennie Brooks reiterated that if the information being used for outreach was not working, then possibly the spending could be curtailed in that regard and used towards other means of reaching the public. She stated that in the past she had received a negative response from this facility, but she also had received some positive feedback.

Ms. Glansberg stated that the purpose of the outreach counselor was to educate. She stated the marketing on the buses just provided the number to call for help and no specifics were provided.

Vice Chair William Goetz suggested that the organization make sure their marketing was effective before additional funds were spent.

Ms. Glansberg advised that they were also part of the BSO's Child Abuse Prevention Campaign and had been featured in their advertisements.

Margaret Birch stated that this was to be a one-year project and asked for some further clarification of the goal which had been listed in the application. Ms. Glansberg explained that they had a special HUD notice on the back of the grant which was called CPD0407 which showed national support of the operation of the 211 call center. It stated: "Due to the nature of many community service referrals, low-cost housing, meals, utility systems, etc., it appears that many of the users of 211 lines are low and moderate income persons." She stated that this came from federal support for the program. "This notice describes how CDBG funds may be used in part to establish and operate 211 calling systems." Margaret Birch asked how they planned to separate the low-income population from other levels. Ms. Glansberg further explained that they certified the referrals given to agencies serving only low-income individuals.

Emmett Kater asked if the calling system was contained in one building. Ms. Glansberg confirmed. Emmett Kater asked if the system was similar to the E-911 system. Ms. Glansberg stated that she did not know. It was stated that it was not similar. Emmett Kater asked if the funds being requested would go towards enhancing their call system. Ms. Glansberg explained that the funds would go towards general operations.

Vice Chair William Goetz stated that financial information needed to be provided, along with how the marketing director planned on tracking the success of their calls.

Future Stars

No one was present.

Girl Scouts of America

Monica Cupid stated she has been with the Girl Scouts of America for 9 years and she did not feel there was much she could say because everyone was very familiar with the organization. She advised they had been in Broward County since 1935, and have served the residents of Fort Lauderdale. She stated that they had been able to support all goals. She stated that they did not increase the amount of girls they wanted to represent which was 350. She stated they appreciated the support provided over the years.

Vice Chair William Goetz asked if data would be provided regarding their goals. Ms. Cupid confirmed. She stated further that if the grant monies are not received, those girls would be cut from the program or other funding would have to be received because a full-year of services could not be provided.

Jennie Brooks stated that some parents could afford to pay for the girls to participate in this organization, but low-income families were not able to do so.

Ms. Cupid reiterated that girls in the higher income brackets were able to generate more cookie sales, and therefore, provided funds to participate in the programs.

Sanford Rosenthal stated that last year weekend trips had been mentioned. Ms. Cupid stated that was part of the program which was built in, and the report showed what was done on those trips.

Diane Schuster asked how old were the girls in the program. Ms. Cupid explained that the minimum age was 4.

Robert Smith asked what was the average amount paid per year for each girl. Ms. Cupid stated that the average cost per year per girl was \$220.

Emmett Kater asked where the monies went from the cookie sales. Ms. Cupid explained that the monies supported the programs for the members. She stated that the total amount of girls this year was almost 9,000, but the figure did fluctuate. She explained they had about 25 full-time staff positions. She stated that the funds being requested would support the programs for the organization.

Margaret Birch asked if the organization was broken down into divisions. Ms. Cupid explained that they were broken up into service units based on areas of the County. Margaret Birch asked if each unit was treated in the same manner and on the same level in regard to finances. Ms. Cupid stated that the monies were spent depending on the number of girls for each unit.

Margarette Hayes asked if the monies received from the cookie and nut sales went back into the areas pro-rated as to which areas had the highest number of sales. Ms. Cupid stated that each box of cookies sold the troop gets to keep \$.50. Therefore, if one troop sold more than another, they would receive a large amount of funds from those sales. All monies received through the organization from other means serviced the girls equally.

Margaret Birch stated that some areas had bags for the girls, and it appears that there is a large amount of money in assets, but yet if the grant monies were not received girls would be cut from the program who could not afford to pay to remain in the organization. Ms. Cupid explained that they would not be able to provide a full year of service to those girls.

Vice Chair William Goetz stated that he had a major problem with that statement because the organization had a large amount of money in the bank. Ms. Cupid stated that the organization still had to serve the members of the organization. Vice Chair William Goetz stated that he did not feel cuts should be made to the girls that could least afford it.

Ms. Cupid added that properties had to be maintained from those funds also. She stated that such financials could be provided.

Jennie Brooks suggested that a breakdown be provided regarding the excess monies in the bank. Ms. Cupid confirmed.

Robert Smith asked how much of the \$220 paid by each member was turned into the organization. Ms. Cupid stated that monies were not paid to the organization per se, and membership dues did not go to the organization. She explained that the \$220 did not come to the organization from each member. She explained further that the \$10 dues went to the national headquarters located in New York.

Margarette Hayes explained that the \$220 included the cost of badges, and other items which were itemized in the report submitted by the organization.

Sanford Rosenthal suggested that possibly expenses could be cut, and maybe they could see cookies more than once a year.

Grace Community Development Center

Rose Harrigan, Administrative Coordinator of Grace Community Development Center, stated they were a private not-for-profit agency which had been in existence since 2002. She stated they reached out to the Haitian community and supported local businesses. She explained they assisted in coordinating meetings with Immigration, along with providing other educational meetings. She stated they now wanted to move to the next step, and they wanted to reach out to the at-risk youth Haitian boys in the City. She stated that a structured education program would be provided for them.

Jennie Brooks stated that there was a Haitian Empowerment Program, and she asked if similar programs weren't being provided as mentioned. Ms. Harrigan stated that programs were not being provided for this area at the time, and it is her understanding that the organization had moved.

Vice Chair William Goetz stated that financial statements would be needed. Ms. Harrigan stated that they had just begun in applying for grants, and prior to that donations had been received. She advised that they were a 501-C-3 agency.

Margarette Hayes advised that if an organization operated for less than two years such documentation would not be available.

Vice Chair William Goetz asked if this program had existed anywhere else. Ms. Harrigan stated that it only existed in this City.

Margarette Hayes explained that there had been a previous agency that ran the program, but were no longer actively involved in the program. She stated that this had been a successful program in the past.

Vice Chair William Goetz stated that the primary goal "to change attitudes and behavior in order to reduce and prevent juvenile delinquency and violence," he asked how this could be tracked. Ms. Cupid explained they would document the program by talking to the boys and their families, along with communication with their schools.

Emmett Kater asked if the program was strictly for the Haitian community. Ms. Harrigan confirmed.

Jennie Brooks asked if BSO would be working with this organization regarding this program. Ms. Harrigan explained they would be accepting referrals from BSO and counselors would be provided. Jennie Brooks asked what age group would be serviced. Ms. Harrigan stated that they were going to target children from the ages of 10 to 17.

Sanford Rosenthal asked if individuals would not say that this group was discriminating and only servicing one particular group. Ms. Harrigan stated that they wanted to make an impact on these individuals' lives. Margaret Birch explained that this program was geared to a specific geographic location which was predominantly Haitian.

Ms. Harrigan stated that until they began receiving referrals, she did not know how many children would be serviced by this program, but she was estimating about 40 boys.

Vice Chair William Goetz asked if this group had provided any substance abuse or prevention programs in the past. Ms. Harrigan stated they had not provided these types of program, but they had been in the community socially. He stated that one of the referral letters from the BSO stated that they had the opportunity to work with this organization that provided such programs. Ms. Harrigan stated that her husband had done such work in the past. She further stated that the community trusted their organization and were familiar with the people involved.

Alfred Imgrund asked about the rental listed on the budget and asked at what location that would be. Ms. Harrigan stated they were renting from a church located at Powerline and Sunrise so this program could be operated. Alfred Imgrund asked about the address provided for the organization and asked if it was a residential one. Ms. Harrigan stated the address provided was where the program would be conducted. Alfred Imgrund asked if she or her husband were to be a paid employee of this organization. Ms. Harrigan stated that her husband would be the Director, but they would also employ

counselors, program coordinators, and part-time program specialists. She stated that her husband would receive \$7,000 for his services.

MEETING RECESSED AT APPROXIMATELY 10:25 P.M.

MEETING RECONVENED

Mt. Olive Development Corporation

Sharon Bryant stated that part of her mission was to assist with the revitalization of their community by providing strategic programs that would promote economic development, job creation, and focus on family life. The northwest area had been identified as a blighted area, and this project was designed to meet needs of individuals who wanted to enter or re-enter the job market. The project would be located in the northwest area so programs would be readily available to the individuals needing this service the most. This program was in accordance with the Broward County's Consolidated Plan addressing job creation and placement. This program would aid the City and County in their strategic efforts to expand partnerships with community development organizations to promote and sustain economic viability throughout the City.

Ms. Bryant stated that CDBG monies currently fund short-term training as certified nursing assistants, computer literacy, employee skills training, expunging felony records and job placement services. Other activities available at the center include employment counseling services, on-line job searches, assistance with creating professional resumes, fax and telephone services, and information regarding vacant positions available throughout the County. She further stated that this program would also provide spiritual counseling, along with a financial management program. Other training courses would be offered in various fields.

Ms. Bryant stated that five individuals were presently enrolled in the C&A training, and two were studying for their state exams. She added that the next course would begin approximately the middle of May.

Vice Chair William Goetz stated that the program would serve 35 individuals who were recruited through their emergency assistance program. Ms. Bryant explained that there were other programs and 85 individuals had been targeted. Vice Chair William Goetz stated that they would track their individuals so a success ratio could be provided. Ms. Bryant stated that there were benchmarks at 30, 60 and 90 days. She stated that they had been volunteering in other programs previously and had placed individuals in jobs.

Emmett Kater asked if adequate educational skills had been supplied to the individuals who had previously been placed in jobs. Ms. Bryant stated that they had a tutorial program and also referred them to institutions providing GED courses. She added that in the C&A Program GED courses were also available. Emmett Kater asked if this program was geared towards a specific geographic location. Ms. Bryant stated that this program was set up for residents of the City of Fort Lauderdale.

Margarette Hayes advised that this group had received \$25,000 in CDBG funds last year.

Emmett Kater asked where the training facility was located. Ms. Bryant stated that it was located at 1524 NW 6th Street at their satellite office. Certified trainings were subcontracted out to a school.

Ms. Bryant stated that the grant monies would be used to assist low-income individuals to enter into the program. Emmett Kater asked what percentage of individuals paid for the program who did not qualify for assistance.

Vice Chair William Goetz asked about the characterization letters, which had been written. He felt the letters of support did not coincide with the program being presented. Margarett Hayes stated that the letters were in support of two different programs.

Robert Smith stated that a recent article in the Sun Sentinel spoke highly of this organization.

Alfred Imgrund asked if tuitions and costs of training programs were paid from monies received out of this grant. Ms. Bryant stated that all costs for the program are included.

Russell Life Skills and Reading Foundation

Margarett Hayes stated that this group had received \$4,000 in grant monies last year.

Paul Mocombe, Program Director, stated that he wrote the curriculum for this foundation. This is an after school program which targeted literacy. He stated that FCAT scores determined the success of the program. The funding they are requesting this year was to fund Oswald Park, and they were also doing a program at Carter Park that they would like to expand. He explained that they also wanted to hire an Assistant Program Director.

Robert Smith stated that in the application a reference was made to children of a certain age and how they progressed, but then reached a plateau where they began to regress. Dr. Mocombe explained this was a mismatch of linguistic function, and some children viewed school as no longer a meaning of success in the society. The student does not see a correlation between education and economic gain.

Vice Chair William Goetz asked if there would be a change in the number of students. Dr. Mocombe explained that there would be a change in the number of students with the addition of Carter Park.

Emmett Kater asked if any of the funding would go towards salaries for the Board of Directors. Dr. Mocombe stated that there were five other sites located in Hollywood and Miami. He added that a golf tournament helped to fund their program, and the Board of Directors were volunteers.

Vice Chair William Goetz asked what percentage of students improved by at least one reading level during their academic year. Dr. Mocombe stated that between 30% to 40% showed improvement. He added that this was a progressive process. Vice Chair William Goetz asked if anyone else taught this remedial learning. Dr. Mocombe stated that it was used by the School Board. Vice Chair William Goetz asked what type of success rate did they have. Dr. Mocombe stated that in terms of minorities only 35% of the

students had been passed by the County School Board. He further stated that many of the after school programs attempted to improve FCAT scores.

Jennie Brooks stated that many of the programs to improve FCAT scores were School Board-based programs.

Vice Chair William Goetz quoted a letter from Dr. Mocombe that they attempted to equip the students to combat both the social functions promulgated by the black underclass and those of the black middle class which perpetuate the practices of capitalism as a system for organizing society. Dr. Mocombe confirmed.

Vice Chair William Goetz stated that if there are any other after school programs that work to increase FCAT scores, he would like to be made aware of those. Dr. Mocombe explained that the School Board has FCAT camps, but in this program they like to use their data to compare what the School Board is doing against their programs.

Margaret Birch stated that Twan's life-long dream was literacy.

Second Chance Society

Bill Dalton, Executive Director Second Chance Society, stated that the founder of this group was Pat Owen. He proceeded to show a power point program to the Board. He explained that this group was found in June, 2001 after researching the homeless services in Broward County. In September, 2004, another chapter was begun in Dayton, Ohio. He stated that their mission was to provide items needed for employment and job training to the homeless and other struggling low-income individuals. This program works in partnership with the government, social services, community services, and faith-based organizations. In order to receive assistance, clients need to demonstrate progress toward regaining self-sufficiency, and need to be in need of a material item to begin an already secured job, or be in need of tuition, books or supplies to attend a job training program.

Mr. Dalton explained that the steps for the program were as follows: Request for aid is submitted by referring partners or pending employment and training is verified. The clients are interviewed and clients are taken shopping or a check sent to the training provider. Clients contacted and after assistance is awarded, they are encouraged to participate in an upcoming Second Chance Society sponsored event. They are also contacted periodically for progress updates. Tools and uniforms are supplied for jobs, and clothes for interviews are also provided. There are quarterly fellowship dinners, and some clients get re-united with family. They also provide testimony as to what it was like living out on the streets. There are regular Habitat for Humanity work projects where the clients give back to the community.

Mr. Dalton further stated that the number of individuals assisted by this group continually increases. In 2003-2004, 108 individuals had been assisted, and in 2004-2005, 163 persons were helped. This year to date they have helped 129 so far, but due to Hurricane Wilma the number was reduced since they had been out of operation for about three weeks, along with some of their referring agency partners. They are

planning on helping approximately 173 individuals next year, but it depends if they receive funding through the CDBG. He stated that their reserves are getting very low and assistance is needed. He stated that \$.87 of every \$1.00 was spent on program expenses per their audit. He stated that this program empowers people to take responsibility for their economic well-being, and was a collaborative effort involving over 50 local agencies and organizations. He further stated that the program also fostered community stewardship by encouraging participation in sponsored programs and projects. The funding from CDBG would provide direct client assistance to approximately 120 low-income or homeless individuals in the City.

Robert Smith stated that they took motivated people who needed some help and assisted them. Mr. Dalton confirmed.

Vice Chair William Goetz asked how the individuals fared that they supplied books and assistance to. Mr. Dalton advised that many of the students graduated from culinary courses, CNA courses, marine mechanic courses, and security guard courses. He explained that many homeless individuals got back to entry level jobs. They are just beginning to record their statistics.

Diane Schuster asked if any of their recipients received assistance from Habitat for Humanity. Mr. Dalton stated they did not, but used the work as a form to give back to the community.

Starting Over Enterprises, Inc.

Marian Douginas, Administrative Assistant and In-Take Coordinator, stated that she had been homeless and this group provided the opportunity to utilize her schools. She stated that she had a college degree in nursing and this group allowed her to re-enter society. She explained that this was a not-for-profit organization committed to providing homes to individuals, along with food and clothing and job skill training and placement. She stated that they attempted to empower individuals with the idea that there is a purpose for their lives. She stated residents were given the opportunity to gain self-sufficiency through learning a life skill, and developing such skill and earning a paycheck and budgeting their money. She stated that this organization has existed since 1994.

Vice Chair William Goetz asked about the organization's track record. Ms. Douginas stated that they have records but need to have them compiled because they have no paid employees. She explained that they are attempting to establish an evaluation of past clients. They are also now developing a cabinet shop and are affiliated with another company allowing them to use space and equipment.

Vice Chair William Goetz stated that the accounting firm does not want to certify them because disclosures were not being made so financial statements could be compiled. Ms. Douginas stated it was her understanding that such statements had been provided.

Marie Conroy stated that this appeared to be standard language used by accounting firms in their reports.

Margaret Birch stated that it appeared odd that the organization was dealing with a bank who charged them \$41.30 per month for services. She felt that a bank should offer this organization free checking.

Jennie Brooks asked if the only funding they were receiving was from CDBG. Ms. Douginas explained that in-kind donations were made and fundraisers were held. She further stated that they were now working with corporations in connection with supportive housing. She added that they also had a thrift store which helped to generate funds. She stated that their theme-party warehouse had been badly damaged during the hurricane, and therefore, they had attempted to sell-off those goods to other organizations.

Vice Chair William Goetz stated that this group was requesting \$107,000 to \$155,000.

Women in Distress

It was stated they were the only nationally credited state certified full-service domestic violence program in Broward County. She stated that the number of people helped was rising each year and 1 out of every 4 women experienced a form of domestic violence in their lives. More than 8,000 domestic violence incidents had been reported in the County every year, and last year 546 offenses were reported in the City of Fort Lauderdale. They provide safe emergency shelter for women and their children, and they have a 24-hour crisis line that answers nearly 4,000 calls per year. She explained that about 25% of their calls came from individuals in this city. This year the organization is requesting \$50,000 so a full-time and part-time advocate could be hired to help provide services to individuals from this City. Services are also provided at their outreach center which was located at Andrews and Davie, and there were also two confidential emergency shelters which provide services to residents of this City, and one is located within the City limits. Through the CDBG funding, more than 250 individuals would be served.

Margaret Hayes explained that this organization was requesting funds to maintain the individuals who were already providing services.

Emmett Kater stated that it appeared the organization had a lot of available cash. Jennie Brooks and Margaret Birch stated that they needed every penny they could get because they provided many services to a lot of individuals.

City of Fort Lauderdale/Parks and Recreation/Urban Aquatic Enrichment Program

John Quinn stated they needed to have this funding reinstated because the programs at the parks need assistance. He explained that this type of program attracted children and helped to keep them off the streets. He stated that such programs worked and provided incentive for children. He explained that competitions held out-of-state were great opportunities for the children, and many of them had never left this City. He felt it was the responsibility of the community to keep the children out of the police stations and provide other alternatives for them.

Margaret Birch stated that she lived near one of the pools and was familiar with the aquatic programs. She stated that the children won national medals one year and this program had done wonders for many of those children and their families. She commended the department for reapplying for this grant.

Jennie Brooks stated that this was a wonderful program that helped the hard to reach children and kept them off the streets.

Vice Chair William Goetz asked how many children were currently enrolled in the program. Mr. Quinn stated that there were 30-40 children on the swim team, and there were other programs such as the scuba club which also had about 30 children. He stated that this grant would serve about 200 children. Vice Chair William Goetz asked how the income levels were determined. Mr. Quinn stated that an addendum was attached to the grant explaining the membership fees and other requirements. He explained that the membership fee was nominal and many families could not even afford it. Therefore, there was an assistance program to help children in lower income brackets and certain requirements had to be met. He stated that children who participated in this program usually ended up in other programs offered in the parks.

Sanford Rosenthal asked if full funding was not provided could some of the trips be cut from the program. Mr. Quinn explained that they had been told to attempt to receive private funding and enter into a public/private partnership. He stated that corporations and businesses questioned why a City program needed funding because taxes were to finance such things. Therefore, fund raising was not always successful.

Margarette Hayes explained to the Board that the rankings had been distributed for their review so they would be prepared for next month's meeting.

Motion made by Emmett Kater and seconded by Robert Smith to adjourn the meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret A. Muhl
Recording Secretary

