

**Date:** July 16, 2013

**To:** Honorable Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

Agenda Item No. 14(A)(6)

**From:** Carlos A. Gimenez  
County Mayor



**Subject:** United States Department of Justice, Office of Violence Against Women, 2012 Legal Assistance for Victims Grant Program Funds

Resolution No. R-644-13

## RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners ("Board") approve the attached resolution ratifying the County Mayor or the County Mayor's designee action of applying for funds in the approximate amount of \$38,000 from the United States Department of Justice, Office of Violence Against Women, 2012 Legal Assistance for Victims Grant through the lead applicant agency for this grant, Americans for Immigrants Justice; and further authorizes the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee to receive and expend grant funds and to execute such contracts, agreements, Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), and amendments, following approval by the County Attorney's Office, as required by program guidelines. It is also recommended that the Board authorize the County Mayor or the County Mayor's designee to apply for, receive, and expend additional future funds should they become available during the term of the grant, to file and execute any amendments to the application for and on behalf of the County. Finally, it is recommended that the Board authorize the County Mayor or the County Mayor's designee to execute such contracts and agreements as are required by the Lead Agency, Americans for Immigrant Justice and/or by the funder, the United States Department of Justice, following approval for form and legal sufficiency by the County Attorney's Office; and to file and execute any necessary amendments to agreements for and on behalf of Miami-Dade County. The time imposed by the application deadline did not allow sufficient time for the processing of a resolution, and its submission to the Board, prior to submission of the grant application.

## SCOPE

The impact to Miami-Dade County for the provision of these services is countywide in nature. These funds will allow Miami-Dade County Community Action and Human Services Department ("the Department") to enhance services at the Coordinated Victims Assistance Center (CVAC) by hiring a Legal Advocate to provide assistance to victims of domestic violence and their dependent children. The employee will be stationed at the Coordinated Victims Assistance Center (CVAC). This grant does not preclude the applicant from collaborating with governmental agencies; and thus, it allows a unit of local government to receive funding for the provision of direct supportive services to victims. Americans for Immigrant Justice will contract with Miami-Dade County and disperse the funding for a part-time supportive services position. The Miami-Dade County Community Action and Human Services Department will continue to collaborate with all grant partners to promote and offer enhanced services in Miami-Dade County, as well as to provide the necessary support to work cooperatively with the Americans for Immigrant Justice who is the legal partner providing legal assistance to clients at the CVAC. This grant required a Memorandum of Understanding to be signed by all the grant partners including the Mayor of Miami-Dade County. This grant was approved by DOJ in its entirety.

**FISCAL IMPACT/FUNDING SOURCE**

There is no fiscal impact to the County for the administration of these services. The Awarded Funds from the United States Department of Justice, Office of Violence Against Women, 2012 Legal Assistance for Victims Grant Program, through the lead agency, Americans for Immigrant Justice, will not require matching funds. Miami-Dade County Community Action and Human Services Department will administer these funds under index code COEVPDVLAE13.

**TRACK RECORD/MONITOR**

Miami-Dade County Community Action and Human Services Department has provided services to domestic violence survivors and their families for the past thirty-two (32) years. The Department is responsible for oversight of the Domestic Violence and Intervention Program, a component that provides a continuum of services to domestic violence survivors who are avoiding domestic violence abuse. Ivon Mesa, Program Manager, Domestic Violence Prevention, and Intervention Services, Coordinated Victims Assistance Center will be responsible for the hiring and supervision of the part-time position funded through this grant.

**BACKGROUND**

These funds will allow Miami-Dade County Community Action and Human Services Department (“the Department”) to maintain enhanced services at the Coordinated Victims Assistance Center (CVAC) by assisting victims of domestic violence and their dependent children with their advocacy needs. The Americans for Immigrant Justice will act as the lead agency in a joint partnership with the Department; the Trauma Resolution Center, is the County’s sole provider of trauma incident reduction therapy and mental health services; Victims Response, Inc. d/b/a The Lodge, a not-profit domestic violence services program and shelter facility; and the Center for Independent Living of South Florida, Inc., advocates for people with disabilities; will collaborate to provide coordinated community response and advocacy services. Eligible program participants will receive preliminary assessments to determine needs and will then be linked to the appropriate social service resource to achieve their individualized goals. The program will continue to serve as part of the continuum of services under the Department. Client services will include an array of social supportive services such as, but not limited to, individualized/group counseling, financial assistance, and information about obtaining injunctions for Protection Orders Against Domestic Violence. Expanded services will continue to promote victim safety, offender accountability and arrest, and enforcement of protection orders for domestic violence survivors and their families.

The short turnaround time imposed by the application deadline did not allow sufficient time for the processing of a resolution, and its submission to the Board, prior to submission of the grant application. The anticipated contract amount from the lead agency, Americans for Immigrant Justice, for the 2012 is approximately \$38,000.00 and the term of the Legal Assistance for Victims Grant is 36 months from October 2012 through September 2015. One hundred percent (100%) of the grant funding will be utilized for direct support services. These funds will be used to enhance services at the Coordinated Victims Assistance Center where victims of domestic violence receive a variety of legal services.



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Russell Benford  
Deputy Mayor



# MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

**TO:** Honorable Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**DATE:** July 16, 2013

**FROM:**   
R. A. Cuevas, Jr.  
County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item No. 14(A)(6)

Please note any items checked.

- "3-Day Rule" for committees applicable if raised
- 6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing
- 4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing
- Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget
- Budget required
- Statement of fiscal impact required
- Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Mayor's report for public hearing
- No committee review
- Applicable legislation requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's \_\_\_\_, 3/5's \_\_\_\_, unanimous \_\_\_\_ ) to approve
- Current information regarding funding sources, index code and available balance, and available capacity (if debt is contemplated) required

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Mayor

Agenda Item No. 14(A)(6)  
7-16-13

Veto \_\_\_\_\_

Override \_\_\_\_\_

RESOLUTION NO. R-644-13

RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE ACTION IN APPLYING FOR FUNDS FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, OFFICE OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, FOR A GRANT IN THE APPROXIMATE AMOUNT OF \$38,000.00 TO PROVIDE LEGAL SERVICES TO VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, THROUGH AMERICANS FOR IMMIGRANT JUSTICE, THE LEAD GRANT APPLICANT, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE TRAUMA RESOLUTION CENTER, VICTIMS RESPONSE, INC., AND THE CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING OF SOUTH FLORIDA INC.; AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE GRANT AWARDS, AGREEMENTS AND AMENDMENTS

**WHEREAS**, this Board desires to accomplish the purposes outlined in the accompanying memorandum, a copy of which is incorporated herein by reference,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA**, that this Board:

(1) Ratify the County Mayor or the County Mayor's designee action in applying for the United States Department of Justice, Office of Violence Against Women, Legal Assistance Grant program in the approximate amount of \$38,000.00 through Americans for Immigrant Justice, the lead applicant for the grant, as well as in collaboration with The Trauma Resolution Center; Victims Response Inc., and the Center for Independent Living of South Florida Inc.;

(2) Authorize the County Mayor or the County Mayor's designee to receive and expend these funds;

(3) Authorize the County Mayor or the County Mayor's designee to apply for, receive and expend additional future funds should they become available under this program for the purpose outlined herein; and

(4) Authorize the County Mayor or the County Mayor's designee to execute grant awards, agreements, and amendments subject to approval for form and legal sufficiency by the County Attorney's Office.

The foregoing resolution was offered by Commissioner **Sally A. Heyman**, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Rebeca Sosa** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

	Rebeca Sosa, Chairwoman	<b>aye</b>
	Lynda Bell, Vice Chair	<b>aye</b>
Bruno A. Barreiro	<b>aye</b>	Esteban L. Bovo, Jr. <b>aye</b>
Jose "Pepe" Diaz	<b>aye</b>	Audrey M. Edmonson <b>absent</b>
Sally A. Heyman	<b>aye</b>	Barbara J. Jordan <b>aye</b>
Jean Monestime	<b>aye</b>	Dennis C. Moss <b>aye</b>
Sen. Javier D. Souto	<b>aye</b>	Xavier L. Suarez <b>aye</b>
Juan C. Zapata	<b>aye</b>	

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 16<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2013. This resolution shall become effective ten (10) days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
BY ITS BOARD OF  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

By: **Christopher Agrippa**  
Deputy Clerk



Approved by County Attorney as  
to form and legal sufficiency.

Stephanie S. Resnik