

RESOLUTION NO. 08-29

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF PALMETTO BAY, FLORIDA, RELATING TO GRANTS; AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE MANAGER TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT ACCEPTING A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,000 FOR THE PURPOSES OF SUPPORTING AN OFFICER FRIENDLY PROGRAM OF THE VILLAGE OF PALMETTO BAY'S POLICING UNIT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Police Department staff has receive authorization to utilize State funds available under the Local Law Enforcement Block Grants Program, or Block Grants, for the purposes of reducing crime and improving public safety; and

WHEREAS, under this contract and upon award of grant funds by the State of Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Office of Criminal Justice Grants, the Village seeks to expand its support for the Officer Friendly program; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Palmetto Bay Policing Unit is desirous of procuring teaching materials, coloring books, pencils, and badges to be given to each of the students, as noted in the Program Narrative (attachment A).

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF PALMETTO BAY, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

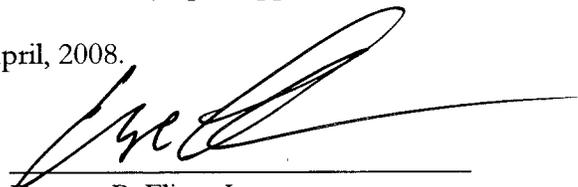
Section 1 The Village Manager is authorized to accept this grant in the amount of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) and execute an agreement for the provisions of these services in order to procure Officer Friendly teaching material utilizing the funds available under the Local Law Enforcement Block Grants Program, or Block Grants.

Section 2 This resolution shall take effect immediately upon approval.

PASSED and **ADOPTED** this 7th day of April, 2008.

Attest:


Meighan Rader
Village Clerk


Eugene P. Flinn, Jr.
Mayor

READ AND APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Eve Boutsis
Village Attorney

FINAL VOTE AT ADOPTION:

Council Member Ed Feller	<u>YES</u>
Council Member Paul Neidhart	<u>YES</u>
Council Member Shelley Stanczyk	<u>YES</u>
Vice-Mayor Linda Robinson	<u>YES</u>
Mayor Eugene P. Flinn Jr.	<u>YES</u>

Application for Funding Assistance

Florida Department of Law Enforcement
Justice Assistance Grant - Direct

General Project Information

Project Title: OFFICER FRIENDLY PROGRAM
Project Sequence No: 1
Subgrant Recipient: Village Of Palmetto Bay
Implementing Agency: Village Of Palmetto Bay
Project Start Date: 2/1/2008 **End Date:** 7/31/2008

Problem Identification

Problem Description: In recent years there has been diminished communication and negative interaction between the police and youth. There has been an increase in crime, including crimes committed by juvenile offenders. There is also a lack of interest by everyday citizens assisting law enforcement in the prevention, detection, and prosecution of criminal offenses. This leads to citizens not feeling safe in their community, law enforcement feeling that they are not supported in their mission, and the criminals without the fear of prosecution.

Problem Significance: This problem is significant because all citizens are affected by crime. In particular, parents, family members, friends, victims, school faculty, classmates, and law enforcement officers, feel the negative affects of crime when dealing with juvenile offenders. There is a great need for law enforcement officers to form a bond with school aged children; this includes serving as a resource tool to provide guidance for students, administrators, staff and parents. There is a strong need to teach students the difference between right and wrong, and the consequences of not only breaking the law, but being a law abiding citizen. By starting with elementary school children, you will be able to improve the broken lines of communication between law enforcement and the community. Not only will a bond be formed, but the student will have a positive role model, a mentor, and see police officers as their friends, instead of harboring fear towards them.

Needs Assessment: A significant part of community safety and crime prevention is citizen involvement. Law enforcement and the community need to work hand in hand to prevent and combat crime. By taking the time to form bonds with members of the community, children included, steps are being taken to support a common mission and cause.

Based on crime statistics, there has been an increase in crime in 2007, year to date compared to 2006, within the following areas in the Village of Palmetto Bay:

Residential Burglaries 31%
Vehicle Burglaries 42%
Auto Theft 17%
Larceny 24%
Aggravated Assaults 23%

The Village of Palmetto Bay also experienced a homicide in our public middle school. The Officer Friendly Program teaches children about bullying and school violence, and ways to cope with, handle, and report it. Children are taught that they do not have to be victims, and are provided with personal safety tips, not only with regards to bullying but also stranger danger, gun safety, and getting help during an emergency. This gives the child the knowledge that they are not alone, and that police officers are there to help them and not hurt them. By providing lessons to school children, we will be able to foster supportive attitudes

Application for Funding Assistance

Florida Department of Law Enforcement
Justice Assistance Grant - Direct

toward respect for the law and law enforcement officials. To provide instruction to elementary students on safety and crime prevention as well as focusing on their rights and responsibilities as students and citizens while encouraging the formation of positive attitudes toward themselves and others and to teach the importance of being a law abiding citizen.

Project Summary

The Officer Friendly Program provides students with opportunities to learn about their rights and responsibilities as citizens, and encourage them to form positive attitudes towards their own welfare, the welfare of others, and towards the law and law enforcement officials. Officers visit elementary schools within the Village of Palmetto Bay to provide crime prevention & personal safety lessons from a pre-planned lesson. Students also receive a community safety promotional item. Student feedback is conducted to ensure the day's lesson was learned. Topics include bullying, pedestrian and bicycle safety, stranger awareness, police officers as friends, and the track of a juvenile offender.

A short term goal of the program is to begin to form bonds with those that come in contact with the Program. Law enforcement and the community must work together to prevent crime, and to prosecute criminals. There is a great need for education within the community in regards to crime prevention and the need to create better relationships between members of the law enforcement community and the citizens they serve and protect. The Program will address the breakdown in communication between law enforcement and the community by establishing bonds with school aged children, teachers, parents, and other family members. By establishing these bonds, they will carry over into the everyday contacts between law enforcement and the community. This will help to foster supportive attitudes toward respect for the law and law enforcement officials, as well as providing a positive insight to police functions and responsibilities.

A long term goal for Officer Friendly Program will provide the student with knowledge on safety and crime prevention as well as focusing on teaching them the importance of making the right choices in life. With emphasis placed on teaching the students to be law abiding, respectable, community minded citizens, who contribute positively to society.

The lessons learned by the students are not only useful for the present time, but will be utilized by the student throughout their lives. The Program will enhance communication and positive interaction between law enforcement and community members both students and adults alike. The Program will also help to show police officers in a different light, as caring, helpful, trustworthy, and positive role models and help to clear up the negative perceptions that have been formed throughout the years. By doing so, citizens will feel more inclined to work hand in hand with law enforcement when the need arises.

Project Staff: 3 sworn police officers. Each officer is responsible for 2 grade levels and will visit each classroom in their assigned grade level group 3 times during the program. They will participate in this program through our community outreach program.

Officer Friendly #1, The Community Outreach Officer will oversee the Officer Friendly Program, including, coordinating schedules, purchasing supplies, preparing lesson plans, as well as teaching kindergarten and 1st grade classes. There are 626 students in 32 kindergarten and 1st grade classes, between the 3 public elementary schools. Teaching 3 lessons for each class, a total of 96 classes will be taught.

Application for Funding Assistance

Florida Department of Law Enforcement
Justice Assistance Grant - Direct

Officer Friendly #2 will teach 2nd and 3rd grade classes. There are 829 students in 38 2nd and 3rd grade classes, between the 3 public elementary schools. Teaching 3 lessons for each class, a total of 114 classes will be taught.

Officer Friendly#3 will teach 4th and 5th grade classes. There are 823 students in 36 4th and 5th grade classes, between the 3 public elementary schools. Teaching 3 lessons for each class, a total of 108 classes will be taught.

Officer #2 and #3 are agency staff and will be funded by project funds

Project Equipment: a computer and printer will be used to complete lesson plans and schedules. A marked police vehicle will be used for officers to drive to and from schools, as well as for demonstrations for the students.



To: Honorable Mayor and Village Council

Date: April 2, 2008

From: Ron E. Williams, Village Manager

Re: Resolution concerning Inspirando
Nuestra Juventud Gala

REQUEST:

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF PALMETTO BAY, FLORIDA, IN SUPPORT OF THE FIRST ANNUAL INSPIRANDO NUESTRA JUVENTUD GALA; AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE MANAGER TO ALLOCATE FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$500.00) FOR THE GALA TO BE HELD ON MAY 9, 2008; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS

As was presented to the Village Council at the March 19th Committee of the Whole Meeting, our Village's Zoning Administrator Efren Nuñez and his sister Raquel decided that it was important for them, as successful young adults, to give back to the community; therefore, in 2007, they formed Inspirando Nuestra Juventud (INJ). INJ is a joint partnership with the Mexican American Council (a 501(C)(3)), the Mexican American Student Association at the University of Florida and Sigma Delta Alpha at the University of Southern California. INJ provides migrant high school students with outstanding academic credentials the opportunity to travel to state universities and colleges in order to inspire them through their experiencing collegiate life. This worthwhile organization will be having a fund raising Gala on May 9, 2008, at the Palmetto Bay Village Center.

FISCAL/BUDGETARY IMPACT: Each Councilmember indicated their willingness to provide \$100.00 from their discretionary accounts. The funds will be provided to the Mexican American Council for specific support of INJ.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the attached Resolution.