Board of County Commissioners
Agenda Request

Date of Meeting: December 10, 2002

Date Submitted: December 5, 2002

TO: Honorable Chairman and Members of the Board

FROM: Parwez Alam, County Administrator
Vincent Long, Assistant County Administrator

SUBJECT: Acceptance of Operation Step Up Grant from Volunteer Florida! and approval to sub-contract with the Capital Area Chapter of the American Red Cross.

STATEMENT OF ISSUE:
VolunteerLEON has been awarded a grant from the Volunteer Florida! and this item presents the 2002-03 Operation Step Up Contract (Attachment 1), the associated sub-contract to the Capital Area Chapter of the American Red Cross (Attachment #2) and the associated Budget Amendment Form and Budget Resolution (Attachment #3) for Board authorization.

BACKGROUND:
On November 8, 2001, President Bush announced that the Corporation for National and Community Service will support homeland security in the coming year in three major areas: public safety, public health and disaster mitigation and preparedness. Volunteer Florida! Foundation, a 501 (c) (3) has made available to Volunteer Centers $217,000 in sub-grants to meet locally identified homeland security needs. The intent of each program is to build new alliances or develop existing ones between the Volunteer Center and a variety of emergency management, first responder and community development organizations. All programs focus on engaging volunteers in homeland security initiatives that will mitigate the effects of disasters and enhance the community's capacity to respond.

VolunteerLEON was awarded $22,500 from Volunteer Florida, the Governor's Commission of Community Service and has permission to sub-grant the work to the Capital Area Chapter of the Red Cross. There is no dollar match required of the County.

ANALYSIS:
Volunteer Florida and VolunteerLEON will coordinate Operation Step Up activities with the Leon County Sheriff's Office, Division of Emergency Management, and the Florida Citizen Corps (a program of the Florida Division of Emergency Management).

In turn, VolunteerLEON in partnership with the Capital Area Chapter of the American Red Cross and FSU's Center for Civic Education and Service has created the Capital Area Chapter Citizen's Corps to ensure that these initiatives will provide an aggressive strategy to meet homeland security needs through civic engagement. With this grant we will manage the following Operation Step Up programs this year:

Disaster Volunteer Management prepares communities to effectively utilize disaster volunteers and promotes a wide range of training for people wishing to help with disaster relief.

Community Emergency Response Teams train citizens to stabilize a disaster situation through basic fire suppression, first aid and light search and rescue.

Volunteer Management Mentoring helps police, fire and other response agencies to develop strong volunteer programs in which volunteers provide support services, freeing policy officers and fire fighters for emergency response.

OPTIONS:

1. Approve the Operation Step Up Contract and the associated sub-grant with the Capital Area Chapter of the American Red Cross and authorize the Chairman to execute contracts.

2. Approve associated budget amendment form.

3. Do not approve the Operation Step Up Contract and the sub-grant with the Capital Area Chapter of the American Red Cross and do not authorize the Chairman to execute contracts.

4. Do not approve associated budget amendment form.

5. Board Direction

RECOMMENDATION:

Options 1 and 2.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. 2002-03 Operation Step Up Contract, Volunteer Florida!
2. Letter of Permission to Sub-Grant
3. 2002-03 Operation Step Up Sub-Grant Contract, Capital Area Chapter of the American Red Cross
4. Budget Amendment Form and Budget Resolution

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