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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES
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Fifth District

May 8, 2007

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL EXPENSES FOR THE COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT COMMUNITY ACTION BOARD TO ATTEND THE COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP – NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON POVERTY IN BETHESDA, MARYLAND FROM MAY 29 – 31, 2007

(ALL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Approve the out-of-state travel expenses up to a maximum amount of $1,484 for one (1) member of the Community Action Board (CAB) to attend the Community Action Partnership (CAP)–National Symposium on Poverty in Bethesda, Maryland from May 29 – 31, 2007.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Program is administered by the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS), which serves as a local Community Action Agency. The CAB is a mandated oversight board under Federal law and generally oversees the implementation of the various social service poverty programs funded with the County's CSBG allocation. The CAB was established by Board Order No. 107 on December 18, 1979 and serves as your Board's 15-member advisory body for the CSBG program. The CAB conducts public hearings and community needs assessments, evaluates program effectiveness, and establishes program priorities. By attending this conference, the attendee will discuss contemporary causes and conditions of poverty and poverty reduction strategies that have worked in the past or are working now.

County Code Section 5.40.132 mandates that prior approval of CAB expenses to travel outside the state be granted by your Board.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended actions are consistent with the principles of the Countywide Strategic Plan, Goal 5: Children and Families' Well-Being, as measured by achievements in the five outcome areas adopted by your Board: good health; economic well-being; safety and survival; social and emotional well-being; and education/workforce readiness.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The total estimated out-of-state travel expenses of $1,484 (Attachment) will be funded with available Federal CSBG funds. There is no impact on Net County Cost.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

County Code Section 5.40.132 specifies that CAB members' out-of-state travel expenses are to be funded with Federal CSBG funding. The State Department of Community Services and Development has confirmed that this out-of-state travel to attend the 2007 National Community Action Foundation Annual Legislative Conference is an appropriate use of CSBG funds.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Approval of the recommended action will enable the CAB to become better educated on best practices for community action. The attendee will also be able to discover new strategies to help eliminate poverty and share experiences with other Community Action Agencies, which will allow for a more efficient program and potentially enhance services to the poverty level residents in Los Angeles County.

CONCLUSION

The Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors, is requested to return one adopted stamped Board Letter to the Director of DPSS.

Respectfully submitted,

Philip L. Browning
Director

PB:sb

Attachment

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel
Auditor-Controller
Community Action Board

Attachment

Estimated Out-of-State Travel Expenses for the Community Action Partnership – National Symposium on Poverty in Bethesda, Maryland from May 29 – May 31, 2007

Expense	Estimated Amount
Convention Registration	$295
Accommodations (3 nights)	$605
Air Fare	$350
Meals	$130
Airport Shuttle/Parking	$92
Incidentals	$12
Grand Total	**$1,484**

Note: All amounts are estimated costs for one Community Action Board member to attend the Community Action Partnership – National Symposium on Poverty. The air fare is based on seven-day advance purchase, round-trip rate quotes obtained through DPSS' travel vendor.

Amounts for accommodations, meals and airport shuttle costs are based on maximum allowable daily reimbursements, per Auditor-Controller policy, not to exceed the State's reimbursement rates.