

Response to Questions on the FY 2006 Advertised Budget Plan

Request By: Supervisor Gross

Question: Provide an analysis of the services provided by the Northern Virginia Resource Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Persons, number of people served and the funding that they have received from the County since FY 2000.

Response: The Northern Virginia Resource Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Persons (NVRC) has been under contract with the Fairfax County Department of Family Services disabilities program area since 1995 to provide services to the Hard of Hearing community of Fairfax County. Under their contract, NVRC acts as a referral service for the deaf and hard of hearing community and the general public. Their contracted services include an annual event, "Celebrate Communication," which is a public education event. NVRC also conducts training and workshops about the difficulties faced by people with hearing loss, their unique needs and ways to facilitate communications with this special population. NVRC performs public outreach to the community through their daily e-mail news service. This news service currently reaches approximately 400 subscribers. NVRC also uses a monthly newsletter to provide information regarding resources, training and other information of interest regarding the hard of hearing community. NVRC provides direct support for the hard of hearing community through their support for families in the Bright Beginnings for Babies Program, the peer counseling program and adult role model program for young people who are deaf and hard of hearing, as well as providing equipment and devices to aid this population through their device demonstration room and lending program. It should be noted that NVRC requested an additional \$50,000 in FY 2006 to provide services to their existing clients.

Following is information regarding yearly contract amounts and services provided:

CONTRACT YEAR	FUNDING AMOUNT	FAMILY & YOUNG ADULT EVENTS	INFORMATION & PEER SUPPORT TO FAMILIES	ADVOCACY ARTICLES	DEMOS TO COMMUNITY & BUSINESSES	UNITS OF INFORMATION & PEER SUPPORT (Calculation of this statistic has changed over the contract years)
FY 2000	\$173,389	3	13	Statistics not collected in this format	50	4,592
FY 2001	\$178,764	9	7	Statistics not collected in this format	67	3,066
FY 2002	\$178,764	12	28	56	46	2,209
FY 2003 (Approximate)	\$185,264*	12	42	58	32	2,300
FY 2004	\$185,264	16	33	72	103	2,500
FY 2005 (Persons served through December 31, 2004)	\$185,264	10	16	32	62	1,241

* An additional one-time \$10,000 contract for the Fairfax Falls Church Community Services Board (CSB) clients was provided in FY 2003.