

MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 11, 2002
TO: The Board of Supervisors
FROM: John E. McDonald, Manager, Financial and Management Services
SUBJECT: FY 2003 Budget Amendment – Square One

In the closing days of the General Assembly, a major source of State funding for the Hampton Roads Partnership – funds previously available through the Regional Competitiveness Program (RCP) – was eliminated.

In reviewing the programs that have been funded with those funds, the Hampton Roads Partnership and Square One have asked for local funds to continue one program called Square One.

Square One’s mission to help every child be born healthy and begin school ready to succeed is similar to the vision established in the Strategic Plan for Children and Youth. The County has benefitted from Square One in several ways, most notably in the BookSmart program. Square One funded the program in the amount of \$14,980, allowing Williamsburg Regional Library, the schools, area youth service providers, and the Department of Community Services to pilot a five-week program providing an array of early literacy activities. In addition, the program provides strategies for parents to reinforce the importance of literacy.

A description of some of the other components of the Square One program is included in the Board’s reading file.

The County has been asked to fund \$4,100 of a \$165,100 regional program in FY 2003. That funding request is based on the County’s census count of preschool children, compared to the regional total. It is less than one-third of the Square One funds expended locally, so the County’s return on investment is positive. State and local funds are supplemented by foundation grants and sponsorships from private companies, including Bank of America and The Virginian Pilot.

Approval of the attached resolution, transferring \$4,100 from operating contingency to a contribution line item, is requested.

John E. McDonald

CONCUR:

Sanford B. Wanner

JEM/gb
budamend03.mem

Attachment

