

**Montgomery County Council  
Community Grant Advisory Group  
Evaluative Comments Information Sheet**

<b>Name of Organization:</b> Take Charge Juvenile Diversion Program, Inc.	
<b>Category/Program Area:</b> Established; Youth Development	<b>Amount Requested:</b> \$25,000
<b>Project Description:</b> The grant proposes to provide education, leadership, personal development, physical fitness and life skills training for girls 8-18.	
<b>Cost-benefit analysis</b> (cost of service or activity; impact on recipient relative to cost):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 70-100 girls, 8-18 years old at a county cost of \$250-357 per participant.</li> <li>• Academic performance, health, wellness, behavioral/emotional, college/workforce preparation</li> <li>• Very positive environment</li> <li>• How in-depth are the services is unclear. While appealing, the lack of screening for at-risk or low-income makes it less compelling.</li> </ul>	
<b>Public benefit</b> (identified and demonstrated need; target population well served by proposal; program justification):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social</li> <li>• Educational</li> <li>• Nutrition</li> <li>• Physical Fitness</li> <li>• Emotional</li> <li>• These are all very worthwhile, but the proposal would benefit from including a defined screening process for participants, and providing history of the female program (“Her Basketball” vs the male “Pride” program).</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of organization</b> (how long has agency delivered proposed services, received public funds for program; use of volunteers and/or partner organizations in program; leverage non-county government funding/resources; organization’s capacity to carry out program):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 25 year old organization</li> <li>• Program relatively new -- some success in Prince Georges County</li> <li>• Fosters a positive environment</li> <li>• While the organization has some good results, additional partnerships, funding sources, board involvement and volunteers would make it stronger.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of Proposal</b> (clear description, measurable and relevant outcomes, including results achieved to date; integration/coordination with other nonprofits and County services; clear budget description; plan for future funding):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• While this program clearly fosters a positive environment, better screening of participants to ensure a higher percentage of lower-income and at risk youth, more solidified funding sources, and better-defined partnerships, would make this application more compelling. The organization is in the early stages of conversations with Montgomery County Recreation Department. Proposal would be strengthened if organization had identified which County facilities would host the summer camps as well as the Saturday clinics and if organization could describe the youth population (e.g., low-income, Title I) served by that recreation facility. The organization also needs to address the timing of the county grants because it had hoped to implement this new program in the summer of 2015 but County funds won’t be available until at least the start of FY 16 (July 1, 2015)</li> </ul>	

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<b>Name of Organization:</b> Team River Runner	
<b>Category/Program Area:</b> Established; Older Adults/Disabilities	<b>Amount Requested:</b> \$15,000
<b>Project Description:</b> Support outreach to disabled veteran and non-veteran citizens to take part in adaptive paddling and other adaptive sports activities	
<b>Cost-benefit analysis</b> (cost of service or activity; impact on recipient relative to cost):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Purpose of this grant is to be able to pay part of the salary of an outreach coordinator to help increase participation of county residents</li> <li>• Organization indicated it would like to serve 20 disabled children</li> </ul>	
<b>Public benefit</b> (identified and demonstrated need; target population well served by proposal; program justification):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In this program, veterans assist individuals with disabilities to engage in adaptive paddling, providing learning opportunity for both</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of organization</b> (how long has agency delivered proposed services, received public funds for program; use of volunteers and/or partner organizations in program; leverage non-county government funding/resources; organization's capacity to carry out program):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Team River Runner established in 2004 to help war veterans; has since expanded its programs to serve non veteran people with disabilities</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of Proposal</b> (clear description, measurable and relevant outcomes, including results achieved to date; integration/coordination with other nonprofits and County services; clear budget description; plan for future funding):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Team River Runner operates a regular Open House Sunday paddling opportunity in conjunction with Calleva and the Rockville Elks Club</li> <li>• Paddling fastest growing sport; served over 20 people first year of program</li> <li>• More outreach needed in community to make program more visible</li> <li>• Coordinates with student volunteers and other non-profits</li> <li>• Proposal would be strengthened by better metrics on the number of county residents served.</li> </ul>	

**Montgomery County Council  
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<b>Name of Organization:</b> The Alliance for Workplace Excellence, Inc.	
<b>Category/Program Area:</b> Established; Economic/Workforce Development	<b>Amount Requested:</b> \$35,000
<b>Project Description:</b> General operating support to continue work to create excellent workplaces to benefit residents of Montgomery County.	
<p><b>Cost-benefit analysis</b> (cost of service or activity; impact on recipient relative to cost):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Alliance for Workplace Excellence, Inc. (AWE) holds award functions to formally recognize excellent businesses of all sizes, including nonprofits, runs education seminars on best practices and provides opportunities for networking.</li> <li>• It is seeking operating funds to continue its program.</li> <li>• Businesses pay a fee to apply for the awards, which are judged by a panel of experts and volunteers.</li> <li>• In FY 16 AWE plans to increase its focus on employing veterans and persons with disabilities and promote a healthy business environment though health, safety and other programs.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Public benefit</b> (identified and demonstrated need; target population well served by proposal; program justification):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public recognition of excellent places to work in the County promotes economic growth and improves the quality of life in the county.</li> <li>• Singling out companies that have innovative programs, that employ veterans and persons with disabilities, etc. spurs innovation and outreach by other businesses.</li> <li>• In response to our request for clarification of AWE’s presence in the County, it reported that: 80% of participating businesses have a presence in Maryland; and 50% have a presence in Montgomery County, which ACE hopes to raise to 60% in FY16.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Strength of organization</b> (how long has agency delivered proposed services, received public funds for program; use of volunteers and/or partner organizations in program; leverage non-county government funding/resources; organization’s capacity to carry out program):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AWE was founded in 1999 to “empower employers through recognition and education.”</li> <li>• AWE has no partnerships with Montgomery County nonprofits at present.</li> <li>• AWE received County funding the last 3 years.</li> <li>• AWE relies heavily on corporate sponsorships, individual donations, application fees and event ticket sales.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Strength of Proposal</b> (clear description, measurable and relevant outcomes, including results achieved to date; integration/coordination with other nonprofits and County services; clear budget description; plan for future funding):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AWE has a strong presence in the Maryland business community, although MC has not been its primary focus.</li> <li>• AWE indicates it will seek more grants and loan funds in the future while it seeks to increase its membership and sponsorship of activities.</li> <li>• The application could have been stronger if the outcomes provided specifics about the size and nature of the businesses singled out as well as some measure of the outreach and civic activities resulting from AWE recognition.</li> </ul>	

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<b>Name of Organization:</b> The Alliance for Workplace Excellence, Inc.	
<b>Category/Program Area:</b> Established; Youth Development	<b>Amount Requested:</b> \$10,000
<b>Project Description:</b> Create learning opportunities for middle school children during summer months that showcase best places to work in Montgomery	
<b>Cost-benefit analysis</b> (cost of service or activity; impact on recipient relative to cost):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Alliance for Workplace Excellence’s (AWE) current organizational budget is \$124,933. The program budget is \$15,000 with \$10,000 requested from the County Council. The program will serve approximately 40 students at about \$375 per child.</li> <li>• Funds will be used for staff time, program supplies, and outreach materials.</li> </ul>	
<b>Public benefit</b> (identified and demonstrated need; target population well served by proposal; program justification):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AWE’s mission is to support workplace excellence in the county through the sharing of best practices and the promotion of policies that contribute to positive work environments.</li> <li>• This pilot program will introduce Middle School students to possible careers by providing site visits to local companies in the fields of technology, the health sciences and business.</li> <li>• There will be three 1-week summer sessions with 12-15 youth participating in each session. Low-income youth will be given priority. There will be no fee to participate.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of organization</b> (how long has agency delivered proposed services, received public funds for program; use of volunteers and/or partner organizations in program; leverage non-county government funding/resources; organization’s capacity to carry out program):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AWE was established in 1999 and in FY14 worked with 30 Montgomery County companies reaching 32,000 employees.</li> <li>• In regard to this specific program, AWE plans to collaborate with MCPS and local businesses.</li> <li>• AWE has received County-Executive Community Collaboration grant funding the past three years. Other revenue sources include business sponsorships and an award event.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of Proposal</b> (clear description, measurable and relevant outcomes, including results achieved to date; integration/coordination with other nonprofits and County services; clear budget description; plan for future funding):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some logistical details of the program could have been more clearly described and may need to be developed further. Partnerships with schools for student referrals and businesses for site visits still need to be established.</li> <li>• Projected outcomes include students developing career aspirations that lead to improved school performance, a benefit to parents of an out of school time opportunity for their children during the summer (however for one week only), and a benefit to the participating businesses in terms of recognition.</li> </ul>	

**Montgomery County Council  
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<b>Name of Organization:</b> The Arc of Montgomery County, Inc.	
<b>Category/Program Area:</b> Established; Older Adults/Disabilities	<b>Amount Requested:</b> \$25,000
<b>Project Description:</b> Emergency medical child care tuition waivers for families in temporary crisis	
<p><b>Cost-benefit analysis</b> (cost of service or activity; impact on recipient relative to cost):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Program provides temporary assistance to parents whose children are in medical day care (i.e. child care with integrated nursing care) and who are going through an unexpected short-term financial crisis caused by job loss, illness, etc.</li> <li>• Tuition is roughly \$1,100 per month</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Public benefit</b> (identified and demonstrated need; target population well served by proposal; program justification):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Arc serves the needs of Montgomery County residents affected by intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD);</li> <li>• Affordable child care is a struggle for most families, but an even greater struggle for those whose kids require medical day care; for them a neighbor, family member or friend can't watch their child temporarily and therefore a short-term crisis is more likely to become permanent</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Strength of organization</b> (how long has agency delivered proposed services, received public funds for program; use of volunteers and/or partner organizations in program; leverage non-county government funding/resources; organization's capacity to carry out program):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Arc directly supports more than 600 persons and provides information, referrals and training to more than 5,000 others</li> <li>• The Arc is a well-established, respected organization; it has previously received public funds</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Strength of Proposal</b> (clear description, measurable and relevant outcomes, including results achieved to date; integration/coordination with other nonprofits and County services; clear budget description; plan for future funding):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 100% of funds would go to pay for fee waivers</li> <li>• Desired outcome is for families to be able to remain in child care programs permanently; of the 18 families they helped in the past 2 years all but one has been able to do so. Other desired outcome is for families to learn about other available resources including job counseling, financial assistance etc.</li> <li>• Measures outcomes via enrollment records and interviews with Family Worker</li> </ul>	

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<b>Name of Organization:</b> The Arc of Montgomery County, Inc.	
<b>Category/Program Area:</b> Established; Older Adults/Disabilities	<b>Amount Requested:</b> \$129,496
<b>Project Description:</b> Provide a new model of classroom, practice-and internship-based employment support for young adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.	
<p><b>Cost-benefit analysis</b> (cost of service or activity; impact on recipient relative to cost):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 36 post high school youth will participate in program leading to lifelong paid employment</li> <li>• Studies show that job success in the first three years following graduation results in social and economic benefits and avoidance of the costly justice system.</li> <li>• The Arc is approved to receive funding from the Maryland Division of Rehabilitation Services which will support the vast majority of this funding request (beginning of FY17)</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Public benefit</b> (identified and demonstrated need; target population well served by proposal; program justification):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Target population clearly stated, and specifics of program components described in detail</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Strength of organization</b> (how long has agency delivered proposed services, received public funds for program; use of volunteers and/or partner organizations in program; leverage non-county government funding/resources; organization’s capacity to carry out program):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Arc has provided services since 1958 to residents with disabilities</li> <li>• This program was funded by the Trawick Foundation as an experimental-innovative program built on research-based best practices</li> <li>• Collaborations for implementation have been established in the active phase of this program with an array of public and private entities</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Strength of Proposal</b> (clear description, measurable and relevant outcomes, including results achieved to date; integration/coordination with other nonprofits and County services; clear budget description; plan for future funding):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Program has not received County funding in the past three fiscal years</li> <li>• Strong outcomes to date show completion rate for participants of 92%, compared to projected rate of 75%</li> <li>• Plan for future funding includes, State of Maryland, foundation grants, private gifts and the Arc’s unrestricted funds.</li> </ul>	

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<b>Name of Organization:</b> The Armand Center for Conflict Resolution Incorporated	
<b>Category/Program Area:</b> Newer; Children and Families	<b>Amount Requested:</b> \$20,020
<b>Project Description:</b> Provides professional supervised visitation and monitored exchange services in a safe and compassionate environment for all residents of Montgomery County.	
<b>Cost-benefit analysis</b> (cost of service or activity; impact on recipient relative to cost):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Center provides cost-effective visitations and monitored exchange-services to low-income immigrant families, particularly to those involved in domestic violence.</li> <li>• All the service-providers work as volunteers.</li> <li>• Where applicable, the services are provided on a sliding-fee scale; there is no cost to survivors of domestic violence, or for those who cannot afford to pay for their service.</li> </ul>	
<b>Public benefit</b> (identified and demonstrated need; target population well served by proposal; program justification):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Armand Center for Conflict Resolution operates in a centrally located local church on the weekends to provide supervised visitation and monitored exchange services, in a safe environment. This funding request seeks the cost of the guard service.</li> <li>• The Center began their services in July 2013 and has provided services to over 80 families, 20% of which are immigrants, 80% are survivors of domestic violence, 10% have limited English proficiency, and 85% are minorities.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of organization</b> (how long has agency delivered proposed services, received public funds for program; use of volunteers and/or partner organizations in program; leverage non-county government funding/resources; organization's capacity to carry out program):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Armand Center has established effective partnerships and collaboration with several County organizations, including the Circuit Court of Montgomery County, Visitation House, Family Justice Center, and has been successful in recruiting its volunteers via Univ. of Maryland School of Social Work Community Outreach Center and the Workforce and Exchange Program.</li> <li>• The Center collaborates with organizations in other counties to maintain an ongoing discussion regarding service availability, standards for providing services and training.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of Proposal</b> (clear description, measurable and relevant outcomes, including results achieved to date; integration/coordination with other nonprofits and County services; clear budget description; plan for future funding):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The proposal is well-written and their mission-objectives are well-defined, with definitive outcome measures and anticipated results.</li> <li>• The FY16 budget is requested to hire a Guard Service for the Center, to provide a safe environment for their supervised visitation and monitored exchange services.</li> <li>• The Center has been in operation for 19 months and has successfully provided supervised access to 154 parents and 97 children, a total of 460 hours of supervised visits for its clients.</li> <li>• All staff work as volunteers and offer in-kind services for the Center and its clients.</li> <li>• The committed in-kind services and the Center's strategic partnerships with other community resources assure future sustainability of their services.</li> </ul>	

**Montgomery County Council  
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<b>Name of Organization:</b> The CareerCatchers, Inc.	
<b>Category/Program Area:</b> Newer; Economic/Workforce Development	<b>Amount Requested:</b> \$50,000
<b>Project Description:</b> Provides employment counseling and vocational services to domestic violence victims.	
<b>Cost-benefit analysis</b> (cost of service or activity; impact on recipient relative to cost):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The request is for \$50,000 approximately 59% of the \$84,650 total program cost.</li> <li>• The proposal expects to serve up to 100 clients in the program.</li> <li>• They project a 60% success rate among clients who finish an 8-10 session series with an employment counselor</li> <li>• The impact on clients is documented anecdotally by the program.</li> </ul>	
<b>Public benefit</b> (identified and demonstrated need; target population well served by proposal; program justification):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The target population, victims of domestic violence, is well described and clearly needs support to reach self-sufficiency.</li> <li>• The program provides many of the supports needed by this audience and offers links to sources of service in areas that they do not cover.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of organization</b> (how long has agency delivered proposed services, received public funds for program; use of volunteers and/or partner organizations in program; leverage non-county government funding/resources; organization's capacity to carry out program):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The organization has provided service since 2007 and received grants of \$20,000 from the Council and \$30,000 from the Executive for the program in FY 2015.</li> <li>• The program works closely with Montgomery College and Montgomery Works to obtain scholarships and assistance to clients.</li> <li>• They have a strong volunteer base and use skilled volunteers to teach computer skills and GED preparation.</li> <li>• Partnerships across the county allow the agency to provide service where it is most convenient for the clients.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of Proposal</b> (clear description, measurable and relevant outcomes, including results achieved to date; integration/coordination with other nonprofits and County services; clear budget description; plan for future funding):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outcomes are clear and measurable with an expected success rate of 70% for the initial step and approximately 50% for the follow-up steps of their programs.</li> <li>• The organization is well connected with others working in with this highly vulnerable population.</li> <li>• The budget is clear and reasonable.</li> <li>• The organization has received some foundation support for the program and will be seeking to expand that source of support.</li> </ul>	

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<b>Name of Organization:</b> The Golden Network Inc.	
<b>Category/Program Area:</b> Newer; Older Adults/Disabilities	<b>Amount Requested:</b> \$20,000
<b>Project Description:</b> Enhance individual friendship visits to homebound and institutionalized seniors by adding musical performance.	
<b>Cost-benefit analysis</b> (cost of service or activity; impact on recipient relative to cost):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cost of the project is \$40,000. Amount requested is \$20,000 (50%). Private funds will provide the remaining \$20,000 (50%). The funds are for the Director to make 100 visits at \$50 each (1 hour) = \$5,000, and musicians to make 300 visits at \$50 each = \$15,000. Some funds expected from private donors.</li> </ul>	
<b>Public benefit</b> (identified and demonstrated need; target population well served by proposal; program justification):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Since its inception, the program offered 200 classes and lectures, 2,000 home and institutional visits and provided 40 musical performances to homebound and institutionalized seniors.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of organization</b> (how long has agency delivered proposed services, received public funds for program; use of volunteers and/or partner organizations in program; leverage non-county government funding/resources; organization's capacity to carry out program):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 75% of the Board made contributions. There are four Board members with no plans to expand. Describe themselves as unique because of outbound friendship visits in Montgomery County. They collaborate with various programs such as senior lunch at the Jewish Community Center, chaplaincy services, and social workers' requests for home visits. They use volunteers as lecturers, musicians, and administration.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of Proposal</b> (clear description, measurable and relevant outcomes, including results achieved to date; integration/coordination with other nonprofits and County services; clear budget description; plan for future funding):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To date, the program makes visits to homes, assisted living facilities, skilled nursing homes and hospitals to contribute to emotional and physical health for the disabled, end-of-life and/or those who cannot communicate. They provide support for aging in place programs.</li> <li>• Outcomes are measured by semi-annual surveys and informal monthly meetings to review status.</li> <li>• While faith-based, the presenters assured there is no religious content and the program is open to people of all faiths. They explained they present generic music and provide friendship visits for anyone in need.</li> <li>• The presenters acknowledged the increase in the number of visits is ambitious.</li> <li>• The program seems to make a difference and the participants can conduct the current activities. It is not clear how the increase in program services will be sustainable at a reasonable cost with no fees.</li> </ul>	

**Montgomery County Council  
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FY16 Evaluative Comments Information Sheet**

<b>Name of Organization:</b> The Ivymount School, Inc. – County Executive	
<b>Category/Program Area:</b> Established; Older Adults/Disabilities	<b>Amount Requested:</b> \$40,000
<b>Project Description:</b> Project SEARCH Montgomery provides training in employability and independent living for young adults with developmental disabilities	
<b>Cost-benefit analysis</b> (cost of service or activity; impact on recipient relative to cost):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project SEARCH serves a very vulnerable population of disabled youth, addressing County goals by focusing on employment</li> <li>• While the project only began in 2013, it has great promise for long-term outcomes</li> <li>• The proposal would benefit from noting the number of youth on a waiting list in each year</li> </ul>	
<b>Public benefit</b> (identified and demonstrated need; target population well served by proposal; program justification):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The need for effective employment services for this population is great</li> <li>• The project partners with the school, County government and SEEC</li> <li>• Again, while the general population is described and the number served each year is clear, the proposal would be stronger if it clarified if there is a waiting list and, if so, how many are on it</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of organization</b> (how long has agency delivered proposed services, received public funds for program; use of volunteers and/or partner organizations in program; leverage non-county government funding/resources; organization’s capacity to carry out program):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The project is a partnership which includes the County government, a community rehabilitation organization, DORS and DDA as well as Ivymount School</li> <li>• Each partner has long-term demonstrated strengths and administrative and financial management experience</li> <li>• The braided funding approach creates a strong potential for sustainability, however, no private funding is listed</li> <li>• The proposal does not discuss the use of volunteers</li> <li>• The proposal describes a strong evaluation component with clear outcomes identified, allowing a true assessment of benefits at least two years out</li> <li>• The proposal had some inconsistencies in the amount requested, showing differing amounts in the answers to Question 6 and in the project budget.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of Proposal</b> (clear description, measurable and relevant outcomes, including results achieved to date; integration/coordination with other nonprofits and County services; clear budget description; plan for future funding):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The proposal is compelling and clear.</li> <li>• The identification and measurement of the most important outcomes are particularly strong</li> </ul>	

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<b>Name of Organization:</b> The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington	
<b>Category/Program Area:</b> Established; Other	<b>Amount Requested:</b> \$45,000
<b>Project Description:</b> Provide a visual deterrent and more rapid emergency response for the CESLC and community Jewish organizations.	
<b>Cost-benefit analysis</b> (cost of service or activity; impact on recipient relative to cost):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 86% of the requested funding will be for the purchase of a security vehicle.</li> <li>• The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington partners with 40 local beneficiary agencies such as Jewish schools, youth groups, community service programs.</li> </ul>	
<b>Public benefit</b> (identified and demonstrated need; target population well served by proposal; program justification):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The campus is home to a social service and homecare agency as well as schools and a low-income senior housing.</li> <li>• The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington Area’s request of a police-like vehicle is to show strong security presence.</li> <li>• The security vehicle will be used on multiple campuses.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of organization</b> (how long has agency delivered proposed services, received public funds for program; use of volunteers and/or partner organizations in program; leverage non-county government funding/resources; organization’s capacity to carry out program):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington partners with various local, regional and nations law enforcement agencies, leading to assistance when necessary.</li> <li>• The Director Manager of Security has over sixteen years of law enforcement and security experience with campus entities.</li> <li>• The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington brings together people and financial resources to advance the mission of caring for those in need; deepen engagement of Jewish life and strengthen Jewish identity and create connections among Jewish people locally, in Israel and around the world.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of Proposal</b> (clear description, measurable and relevant outcomes, including results achieved to date; integration/coordination with other nonprofits and County services; clear budget description; plan for future funding):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The proposal states the number of Jewish households and the number of people served in the Metro area, it would strengthen the proposal by providing the data as it directly relates to Montgomery County.</li> <li>• The proposal would have been stronger if there had been data, e.g., numbers of incidents that required security response, or more detail provided beyond general statements of deterrence, supporting the need for a security vehicle.</li> </ul>	

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<b>Name of Organization:</b> The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington	
<b>Category/Program Area:</b> Established; Other	<b>Amount Requested:</b> \$40,000
<b>Project Description:</b> Coordinate transportation services and provide more efficient transportation among the Jewish Federation's partner agencies for the same or less cost.	
<b>Cost-benefit analysis</b> (cost of service or activity; impact on recipient relative to cost):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Federation seeks to reduce the cost of its transportation program involving 14 agencies, 60 vehicles and 100 drivers by partnering with MCPS and parochial schools.</li> <li>• The application is for funding a portion of the cost of a transportation consultant who will manage the vehicle usage and assess the program. Applicant will provide office space and equipment.</li> <li>• This Community Transportation Project is an effort to better leverage costs.</li> </ul>	
<b>Public benefit</b> (identified and demonstrated need; target population well served by proposal; program justification):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The public would benefit to some degree, from a reduction in school transportation costs and fewer vehicles being on the road.</li> <li>• The Federation and partner agencies could use the cost savings (fuel, background checks, maintenance, cost of vehicles and bus rental) for other direct services to those in need.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of organization</b> (how long has agency delivered proposed services, received public funds for program; use of volunteers and/or partner organizations in program; leverage non-county government funding/resources; organization's capacity to carry out program):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington, incorporated in 2007, allocated \$8.7 million in FY15 among 35 Jewish agencies that help those in need. In MC, recipients include the Jewish Social Service Agency, Council on Jewish Aging, Jewish Foundation for Group Homes, Jewish Coalition Against Domestic Abuse, and seniors and persons with special needs.</li> <li>• The Federation has operated the Transportation Program for the past 3 years, with funding from DHHS in each of those years.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of Proposal</b> (clear description, measurable and relevant outcomes, including results achieved to date; integration/coordination with other nonprofits and County services; clear budget description; plan for future funding):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outcomes are specific: increase participating Jewish day schools ridership by 40% with possible expansion to other parochial schools.</li> <li>• Find better and less costly transportation services for seniors and persons with disabilities.</li> <li>• Vehicle upkeep and usage costs will continue to be supported by the participating agencies, which, along with the Federation, will ultimately support the staff cost as well.</li> <li>• The Federation's mid-year FY15 report on this project indicated a significant increase in ridership of Jewish Day School students (1,100) using MCPS buses under the pilot MC public/private school program.</li> <li>• The application would have been stronger if there was clear justification given (more than fewer vehicles on the road) for county funds subsidizing private school transportation without any charge to the users.</li> </ul>	

**Montgomery County Council  
Community Grant Advisory Group  
Evaluative Comments Information Sheet**

<b>Name of Organization:</b> The Muslim Community Center, Inc.	
<b>Category/Program Area:</b> Established; Older Adults/Disabilities	<b>Amount Requested:</b> \$50,000
<b>Project Description:</b> Support the Senior’s Wellness Program to promote holistic healthy lifestyle among diverse elderly population through disease prevention, social engagement and intergenerational volunteerism.	
<b>Cost-benefit analysis</b> (cost of service or activity; impact on recipient relative to cost):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Requesting \$50,000 for the salary of a part time nurse to serve as the coordinator for the expansion of a program that currently serves 40 seniors and would expand to 50.</li> <li>• Transportation for trips that decrease isolation and also allow the seniors to attend a monthly program and additional education workshops would be increased.</li> </ul>	
<b>Public benefit</b> (identified and demonstrated need; target population well served by proposal; program justification):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The program serves an ethnically diverse senior community in the up-county area.</li> <li>• Five surveys identified the needs and concern of senior program participants, many of whom reported social isolation, deteriorating general and mental health issues, lack of affordable housing and financial insecurities.</li> <li>• The senior program has responded to the needs expressed in the survey by developing a program focused on the identified issues.</li> <li>• The program has assisted 25 seniors apply for Medicaid.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of organization</b> (how long has agency delivered proposed services, received public funds for program; use of volunteers and/or partner organizations in program; leverage non-county government funding/resources; organization’s capacity to carry out program):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Muslim Community Center is a 40 year old nonprofit organization that has become a recognized Islamic Center serving thousands of families in Metro Washington.</li> <li>• As the needs of County residents have grown, the Center has been responsive and in 2003 established its Medical Clinic which provides health services to uninsured and indigent adults. Relying on the assistance of 20 volunteers it opened the Dental Clinic in 2014. Three strong partnerships with the Islamic Center of Maryland, MC Muslim Foundation and the Muslim Community Center Mosque have been instrumental in providing credible, effective outreach.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of Proposal</b> (clear description, measurable and relevant outcomes, including results achieved to date; integration/coordination with other nonprofits and County services; clear budget description; plan for future funding):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recognizing the needs of seniors and surveying them in order to develop a relevant program, the proposal demonstrates the Muslim Community Center’s interest in responding to the needs of seniors.</li> <li>• The activities described that relate to health such as the diabetes management program and healing through the arts is important in fostering behavior change.</li> <li>• The Center might explore collaborating with existing programs that provide similar services such as the SOAR program that sponsors trips for seniors, or the Rockville and Gaithersburg Senior Centers that have robust programs that are anxious to grow the diversity of their program participants. It might be cost effective to avoid developing duplicate services already offered by established organizations.</li> </ul>	

**Montgomery County Council  
Community Grant Advisory Group  
Evaluative Comments Information Sheet**

<b>Name of Organization:</b> The National Center for Children and Families	
<b>Category/Program Area:</b> Established; Basic Need	<b>Amount Requested:</b> \$20,000
<b>Project Description:</b> Funding for the National Center for Children and Families' Family Services Program (FSP) to provide transitional housing and social support services for homeless families in Montgomery County.	
<b>Cost-benefit analysis</b> (cost of service or activity; impact on recipient relative to cost):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FSP is requesting 2% of the overall program costs. Funds would contribute to the salary for two additional program managers to serve an additional seven to ten families each.</li> <li>• FSP has an extensive network of collaborative partnerships, which includes more than 1,500 volunteers from local organizations and businesses in MD and DC.</li> </ul>	
<b>Public benefit</b> (identified and demonstrated need; target population well served by proposal; program justification):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FSP partners with the Family Justice Center to offer safety planning, legal advocacy, legal representation for civil protective orders, counseling, criminal investigation, emergency protective orders, and child advocacy center and chaplaincy programs.</li> <li>• They also collaborate with MCPS and the Police Department for mentoring and tutoring services, Montgomery Works to provide work related services, and Mobile Med to provide on-site health care services</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of organization</b> (how long has agency delivered proposed services, received public funds for program; use of volunteers and/or partner organizations in program; leverage non-county government funding/resources; organization's capacity to carry out program):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FSP began operating in 1989 as a transitional housing program with in-home case management support and employment and parenting programs, established in Silver Spring, MD.</li> <li>• FSP served 170 families during the 2012-2014 time period <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 132 or 78% of families transitioned to safe and stable housing in the community</li> <li>○ 152 or 86% were able to increase their incomes and reduce barriers to financial stability and</li> <li>○ 170 or 100% of families were able to negotiate for increased family benefits with external systems.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of Proposal</b> (clear description, measurable and relevant outcomes, including results achieved to date; integration/coordination with other nonprofits and County services; clear budget description; plan for future funding):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FSP concentrates its efforts on preventive work with an emphasis on parental training and fatherhood initiative classes to help with family stabilization.</li> <li>• Homeless families achieve stability and/or transition to permanent housing.</li> <li>• Vulnerable families living in permanent housing improve their personal and financial stability</li> </ul>	

**Montgomery County Council  
Community Grant Advisory Group  
Evaluative Comments Information Sheet**

<b>Name of Organization:</b> The National Center for Children and Families	
<b>Category/Program Area:</b> Established; Basic Need	<b>Amount Requested:</b> \$80,000
<b>Project Description:</b> Provide support for Future Bound Transitional Housing Program (FTHP) for young adults (ages 18-24) who are homeless and not part of the child welfare system.	
<b>Cost-benefit analysis</b> (cost of service or activity; impact on recipient relative to cost):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The proposal is requesting over 50% of the total program costs from the County.</li> </ul>	
<b>Public benefit</b> (identified and demonstrated need; target population well served by proposal; program justification):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FTHP clients receive educational/vocational support from Montgomery College for specific vocational training programs to help young adults gain the credentials the need for gainful employment.</li> <li>• Montgomery Works to provide work related services, and Mobile Med to provide on-site health care services.</li> <li>• NIH volunteers have provided a series of health-literacy workshops and provide a fresh start by furnishing, decorating, and cleaning apartments before clients move in.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of organization</b> (how long has agency delivered proposed services, received public funds for program; use of volunteers and/or partner organizations in program; leverage non-county government funding/resources; organization's capacity to carry out program):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Since 2012 FTHP has successfully provided emergency housing and case management services for homeless transitional age youth.</li> <li>• The National Center for Children and Families has an extensive network of collaborative partnerships, which includes more than 1,400 volunteers from local organizations and businesses in MD and DC.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of Proposal</b> (clear description, measurable and relevant outcomes, including results achieved to date; integration/coordination with other nonprofits and County services; clear budget description; plan for future funding):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This proposal meets an unmet need for homeless and unaccompanied homeless youth that have aged out of the foster care system. Furthermore, they've recently lost their Freddie Mac funding.</li> </ul>	

**Montgomery County Council  
Community Grant Advisory Group  
Evaluative Comments Information Sheet**

<b>Name of Organization:</b> The National Center for Children and Families	
<b>Category/Program Area:</b> Established; Basic Need	<b>Amount Requested:</b> \$178,536
<b>Project Description:</b> Support intensive case management/support services for families transitioning from homelessness to stable permanent housing through the Greentree Shelter (GTS).	
<b>Cost-benefit analysis</b> (cost of service or activity; impact on recipient relative to cost):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GTS is requesting less than 10% of the projects costs (9.9%)</li> <li>• GTS receives funding from a variety of sources including Montgomery County DHHS Contracts, Foundations and almost half from community contributions. They also have a pool of over 1,400 volunteers annually</li> </ul>	
<b>Public benefit</b> (identified and demonstrated need; target population well served by proposal; program justification):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GTS provides family based shelter and case management services for 13 families and a total of 42 individuals at any given time.</li> <li>• Over the last 3 years, they've helped 93 families reach self-sufficiency and transition to stable housing in the community. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 73 families or 79% have transitioned to permanent housing</li> <li>▪ 16 families or 17% reside in transitional housing and</li> <li>▪ 4 families or 4% transitioned to stable housing with family or friends</li> </ul> </li> <li>• A total of 10 families reduced their debt by 10%, meeting their target goal. Three of these families were able to save 30% of their income in addition to reducing their debt by 10%.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of organization</b> (how long has agency delivered proposed services, received public funds for program; use of volunteers and/or partner organizations in program; leverage non-county government funding/resources; organization's capacity to carry out program):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GTS was founded in 1983 in Bethesda, MD and has received much of its funding from various Montgomery County DHHS contracts.</li> <li>• They rely heavily upon their over 1,400 volunteers.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of Proposal</b> (clear description, measurable and relevant outcomes, including results achieved to date; integration/coordination with other nonprofits and County services; clear budget description; plan for future funding):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They follow families for at least 2 years providing a continuum of care for families in both DC and MD.</li> <li>• GTS works with exceptionally vulnerable populations and their efforts and have a strong track record of success helping low income families reach self-sufficiency and acquire permanent housing.</li> </ul>	

**Montgomery County Council  
Community Grant Advisory Group  
FY16 Evaluative Comments Information Sheet**

<b>Name of Organization:</b> The Nonprofit Village, Inc. - County Executive	
<b>Category/Program Area:</b> Established; Community Development	<b>Amount Requested:</b> \$75,000
<b>Project Description:</b> Operating support funds	
<p><b>Cost-benefit analysis</b> (cost of service or activity; impact on recipient relative to cost):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding request (\$75,000) is 18% of total program cost (\$415,000)</li> <li>• By providing shared office space and resources at a reduced rate, the organization saves non-profit organization tenants an average of \$31,000 per year. Organizations, in turn, are able to spend those funds on their operations.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Public benefit</b> (identified and demonstrated need; target population well served by proposal; program justification):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides shared workspace including office equipment, meeting rooms, and training programs for 83 employees working for 20 non-profits (including those supported virtually) that collectively service more than 66,000 Montgomery County residents.</li> <li>• Offered training programs for non-profits (even if they aren't tenants) that reached 132 organizations last year. Topics include: a proposal writing series, fundraising, and best practice workshops.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Strength of organization</b> (how long has agency delivered proposed services, received public funds for program; use of volunteers and/or partner organizations in program; leverage non-county government funding/resources; organization's capacity to carry out program):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The organization was founded in 2006 and began accepting tenants in 2009.</li> <li>• Nonprofit tenants report a satisfaction rate of 92%; all have sustained or grown in size of budget, staff, and programs.</li> <li>• Fundraising plans include: increase revenue from individual donors and corporations, continue annual fundraising event where sponsors commit multi-year donations, continue working with 34 corporate partners, and continue as member of United Way and Combined Federal Campaign.</li> <li>• Volunteer or low-cost participation engages a variety of constituents. Last year 14 volunteers donated 1000+ hours of time; board donated time and money; high school students earned service learning hours; and college students interned for different tenant organizations earn summer stipends, which are subsidized by The Nonprofit Village.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Strength of Proposal</b> (clear description, measurable and relevant outcomes, including results achieved to date; integration/coordination with other nonprofits and County services; clear budget description; plan for future funding):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposal includes clear description of activities and good use of data to describe the number of activities, participants, and satisfaction rates.</li> <li>• Outcomes include: helping nonprofits become sustainable and benefit from best practices sharing, education events, and nonprofit management material availability.</li> </ul>	

**Montgomery County Council  
Community Grant Advisory Group  
Evaluative Comments Information Sheet**

<b>Name of Organization:</b> The Reading Connection, Inc.	
<b>Category/Program Area:</b> Established; Children and Families	<b>Amount Requested:</b> \$22,000
<b>Project Description:</b> Provide books, literacy experiences and associated activities for at risk children and families living in homeless/domestic violence shelters and transitional housing.	
<b>Cost-benefit analysis</b> (cost of service or activity; impact on recipient relative to cost):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organization requests \$25,000 to launch two new sites</li> <li>• 10-15 families to be recipients of reading activities weekly</li> <li>• 35 new volunteers to be recruited</li> </ul>	
<b>Public benefit</b> (identified and demonstrated need; target population well served by proposal; program justification):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organization addresses the Montgomery County priority “Children Prepared to Live and Learn”</li> <li>• Supports early academic success and reading at grade level by the end of 3rd grade</li> <li>• Provides Reading Family Workshops that increase parental confidence in reading with their children</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of organization</b> (how long has agency delivered proposed services, received public funds for program; use of volunteers and/or partner organizations in program; leverage non-county government funding/resources; organization’s capacity to carry out program):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organization has a Reserve Fund creating a 5.2 month operating reserve</li> <li>• Utilizes volunteers in many capacities; 220 in FY14</li> <li>• Diverse foundation funding</li> <li>• Partners with social service agencies and business community to provide volunteers sponsoring events and book drives</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Strength of Proposal</b> (clear description, measurable and relevant outcomes, including results achieved to date; integration/coordination with other nonprofits and County services; clear budget description; plan for future funding):</li> <li>• 98% parents reported increased reading interest, improvement and frequency</li> <li>• Dedicated staff person to development resulting in 5.2 months of reserve funding for operations</li> <li>• Creation of fee-for-service project that launched in 2014 creating funding stream for several years.</li> <li>• 455 Read Aloud’s conducted in FY14, to 518 unique at risk children</li> </ul>	

**Montgomery County Council  
Community Grant Advisory Group  
Evaluative Comments Information Sheet**

<b>Name of Organization:</b> The Senior Connection of Montgomery County, Inc.	
<b>Category/Program Area:</b> Established; Older Adult/Disabilities	<b>Amount Requested:</b> \$65,000
<b>Project Description:</b> Create a one-call, one-click transportation network of transportation providers to increase the number of seniors served and decrease wait time.	
<b>Cost-benefit analysis</b> (cost of service or activity; impact on recipient relative to cost):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$65,000 will go towards development of a web-based ride scheduling system to connect seniors to more ride options without having to reach out to multiple providers.</li> <li>• It is estimated that this advanced system will reduce the wait time for seniors to obtain rides, mostly to medical appointments to 48-72 hours.</li> </ul>	
<b>Public benefit</b> (identified and demonstrated need; target population well served by proposal; program justification):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With the number of seniors projected to increase by 129% by 2030 it is essential to address the transportation needs of older adults with a 21st Century Solution.</li> <li>• Transportation has been identified by the County’s Senior Agenda as an essential component in maintaining seniors’ quality of life.</li> <li>• Coordinating the existing fragmented transportation system by developing a centralized model that improves and increases the existing ride services and volunteers is an important step.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of organization</b> (how long has agency delivered proposed services, received public funds for program; use of volunteers and/or partner organizations in program; leverage non-county government funding/resources; organization’s capacity to carry out program):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Since its founding in 2003, The Senior Connection has provided over 250,000 services to MC seniors for free with the value of services provided in 2014 close to \$1 million. They operate efficiently with a large cadre of volunteers and a small staff.</li> <li>• The Senior Connection is an active participant in Montgomery County Transportation Roundtable, the Senior Subcabinet Transportation Workgroup, and various Chambers of Commerce to increase volunteer capacity and support.</li> <li>• They have also received funding support from the MD DOT “Senior Rides” Grant and foundation and corporate support.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of Proposal</b> (clear description, measurable and relevant outcomes, including results achieved to date; integration/coordination with other nonprofits and County services; clear budget description; plan for future funding):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposal reflects a vision and strategy that will coordinate all County senior transportation programs.</li> <li>• Goal of working with community organizations like the 44 Villages demonstrates a strategy that will target existing community resources as partners.</li> <li>• Ability to identify sources of funding, volunteers and partners is strongly demonstrated by existing success of Senior Connection.</li> <li>• In the future, Senior Connection might wish to explore ongoing funding by considering a fee based service which might contribute to program sustainability.</li> <li>• Proposal recognizes the importance of technology based solutions and the budget reflects the need to invest in technology and staffing to assist in program implementation.</li> </ul>	

**Montgomery County Council  
Community Grant Advisory Group  
Evaluative Comments Information Sheet**

<b>Name of Organization:</b> Thor Teams, Inc.	
<b>Category/Program Area:</b> Established; Youth Development	<b>Amount Requested:</b> \$6,000
<b>Project Description:</b> Operating funds for a one-time stipend for a fundraising coordinator.	
<p><b>Cost-benefit analysis</b> (cost of service or activity; impact on recipient relative to cost):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposal specifically addresses Thor Teams, Inc.'s need to diversify its funding sources. Grant is to hire a fundraising coordinator who will create a database of Damascus High School Alumni for the purpose of soliciting donations and increasing number of volunteers.</li> <li>• Program costs \$6,000 and projected to provide \$12,000 in donations in the first year.</li> <li>• It is a one-time cost to create the database.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Public benefit</b> (identified and demonstrated need; target population well served by proposal; program justification):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thor Teams provides tutoring, mentoring and cultural experiences for financially disadvantaged high school and middle school students in Damascus. Services are provided free of cost to students.</li> <li>• Funds raised as a result of the alumni database will be used to pay tutors \$20/hour. If additional funds are raised in subsequent years, the program will hire additional tutors and serve more students.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Strength of organization</b> (how long has agency delivered proposed services, received public funds for program; use of volunteers and/or partner organizations in program; leverage non-county government funding/resources; organization's capacity to carry out program):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organization received county funding in six of past eight years. When organization does not receive funding it must substantially cut its services.</li> <li>• Organization has made concrete and successful efforts to diversify funding sources, including an arts and crafts show and golf outing. The creation of the alumni database is an additional effort to diversify the organizations funding sources.</li> <li>• Applicant has not previously employed a fundraising coordinator.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Strength of Proposal</b> (clear description, measurable and relevant outcomes, including results achieved to date; integration/coordination with other nonprofits and County services; clear budget description; plan for future funding):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Designed a fundraising proposal in direct response to the Grants Advisory's recommendation in FY15 of the need to demonstrate other fundraising.</li> <li>• Proposal provides a targeted outreach effort to improve fundraising and provides a clear goal of raising \$12,000 and obtaining five new volunteers.</li> <li>• Proposal would be stronger if it discussed the number of Damascus alumni expected to be included in the database and provided a basis for the goal of raising \$12,000.</li> <li>• Proposal would be stronger if it considered possibility of partnering with Damascus High School to create the alumni database because the high school would receive a benefit from the database as well and may be able to offset the costs.</li> </ul>	

**Montgomery County Council  
Community Grant Advisory Group  
Evaluative Comments Information Sheet**

<b>Name of Organization:</b> Thor Teams, Inc.	
<b>Category/Program Area:</b> Established; Youth Development	<b>Amount Requested:</b> \$12,000
<b>Project Description:</b> Stipends to pay qualified tutors and mentors to provide services to youth.	
<p><b>Cost-benefit analysis</b> (cost of service or activity; impact on recipient relative to cost):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thor Teams provides tutoring, mentoring and cultural experiences for financially disadvantaged high school and middle school students in Damascus. Services are provided free of cost to students.</li> <li>• Program currently provides after-school tutoring for 12 high school students and will provide additional tutoring for middle school students.</li> <li>• Applicant intends to increase the number of students served with county funding.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Public benefit</b> (identified and demonstrated need; target population well served by proposal; program justification):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Head of the organization identified need after working 30+ years as guidance counselor at Damascus High School.</li> <li>• Target population is well served by after-school tutoring, mentorship programs and field trips. Participants in Thor Teams have had a 100 percent graduation rate from high school.</li> <li>• Applicant provides after-school tutoring three days per week, as well as mentoring from local community members.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Strength of organization</b> (how long has agency delivered proposed services, received public funds for program; use of volunteers and/or partner organizations in program; leverage non-county government funding/resources; organization's capacity to carry out program):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organization has provided service for eight years but each year its capacity varies based on its funding. Thor Teams has received county funding in six of past eight years. In years when no funding is received, it greatly reduces services.</li> <li>• Applicant has made attempts to diversify funding from private sources through fundraising efforts, including an arts and crafts show and golf outing.</li> <li>• Organization has survived due to its strong volunteer base. Because the organization did not receive county funding in FY15, all tutors volunteered.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Strength of Proposal</b> (clear description, measurable and relevant outcomes, including results achieved to date; integration/coordination with other nonprofits and County services; clear budget description; plan for future funding):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposal provides a clear budget for services provided and leverages private funds to supplement county funding.</li> <li>• Proposal would benefit from more concrete description of the outcomes (graduation rates, college enrollment, employment, etc.). The organization reports a positive impact on community and quantifiable data will help illustrate that impact.</li> </ul>	

**Montgomery County Council  
Community Grant Advisory Group  
FY16 Evaluative Comments Information Sheet**

<b>Name of Organization:</b> Town of Poolesville – County Executive	
<b>Category/Program Area:</b> Established; Older Adults/Disabilities	<b>Amount Requested:</b> \$20,000
<b>Project Description:</b> Funding for a part-time staff person to develop and coordinate programs for the Poolesville area Senior Center	
<b>Cost-benefit analysis</b> (cost of service or activity; impact on recipient relative to cost):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It's difficult to assess a cost-benefit analysis as the application doesn't state how many individuals they expect to serve. It states how many live within a 5 mile radius of the area, but is not explicit on how many will access services.</li> </ul>	
<b>Public benefit</b> (identified and demonstrated need; target population well served by proposal; program justification):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The program provides a range of programming serving senior citizens and keeping active and engaged is necessary for a healthy community.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of organization</b> (how long has agency delivered proposed services, received public funds for program; use of volunteers and/or partner organizations in program; leverage non-county government funding/resources; organization's capacity to carry out program):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This program was launched in 2012 and operating through the town of Poolesville since 2014. It is recognized that this organization is not a 501(c) 3, and that is being addressed.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of Proposal</b> (clear description, measurable and relevant outcomes, including results achieved to date; integration/coordination with other nonprofits and County services; clear budget description; plan for future funding):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The proposal would be greatly strengthened by identifying the number of participants they expect to serve. The application does not give many specifics on how many have participated in past events and that would be helpful information, as well.</li> <li>While recognizing that the program has only been in existence for a few years, providing more information on plans for collaboration with other organizations, especially other county organizations that deal with similar issues, would have been helpful in evaluating the proposal.</li> </ul>	

**Montgomery County Council  
Community Grant Advisory Group  
Evaluative Comments Information Sheet**

<b>Name of Organization:</b> United Way of the National Capital Area	
<b>Category/Program Area:</b> Established; Children and Families	<b>Amount Requested:</b> \$50,000
<b>Project Description:</b> United Ways “Fun, Fly & Fit” (FFF) provides K-5th grade students with fitness, exercise and nutrition programming in partnerships with community organizations. FFF will improve health outcomes for youth by increasing daily activity, promoting good nutritional choices, working with families to develop healthy habits at home, and providing targeted schools with training and equipment to continue effective nutrition and fitness programming for years to come.	
<b>Cost-benefit analysis</b> (cost of service or activity; impact on recipient relative to cost):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FFF is designed to build capacity at sites and yield results that will allow programming to be extended beyond the Montgomery County grant period. Instructional materials and fitness equipment are a one-time purchase and the program trains and utilizes a train-the-trainers model. These local trainers then carry out FFF programming independent of United Way of the National Capital Area. The overall cost of the program is modest. However the Montgomery County request asks for \$50,000 (85%) of the \$59,000 total cost. United Way plans to contribute \$1500 while its partners’ contributions will be \$7500 in kind.</li> </ul>	
<b>Public benefit</b> (identified and demonstrated need; target population well served by proposal; program justification):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FFF was originally piloted in DC schools in 2009 with then expanded to Prince George’s County. The current program cycle was launched in fall 2012 in sixteen elementary schools in</li> <li>• Prince George’s County. Over 3,000 students participated in the program in the first two years of operation. A major success of FFF is an increase in the number of minutes that students are physically active each day. At the start of FFF, just 69.2% of students engaged in at least 60 minutes of daily activity. At the end of year two, that number had grown to 88.8%. The percentage of students achieving age-appropriate cardiovascular fitness levels based on timed exercise activities was 38.5% at baseline and a remarkable 99.7% at the end of year two.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of organization</b> (how long has agency delivered proposed services, received public funds for program; use of volunteers and/or partner organizations in program; leverage non-county government funding/resources; organization’s capacity to carry out program):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• United Way of the National Capital Area has an impressive 40 year history of mobilizing its members (now at 663 non-profits) and businesses to raise funds and volunteers for community needs. Recently it has begun to work with members to identify high impact community activities that are underserved by members and need initiative and leadership. Child obesity and health are such areas with United Way’s FFF as the response to fill the program gap.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of Proposal</b> (clear description, measurable and relevant outcomes, including results achieved to date; integration/coordination with other nonprofits and County services; clear budget description; plan for future funding):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The FFF program has been successfully developed and implemented in DC and PG county. Given Montgomery County priorities in this area and the special interest of Michelle Obama’s <i>Let’s Move!</i> in the County, United Way’s FFF grant request for Eastern Montgomery County is a well-timed and strong proposal. It would be stronger if the United Way of the National Capital Area contribution was significant. The preponderance of funding (85%) is requested from Montgomery County.</li> </ul>	

**Montgomery County Council  
Community Grant Advisory Group  
Evaluative Comments Information Sheet**

<b>Name of Organization:</b> Unity Christian Fellowship Incorporated	
<b>Category/Program Area:</b> Newer; Youth Development	<b>Amount Requested:</b> \$40,070
<b>Project Description:</b> Support the Educational and Life Skills Program activities that help Montgomery County youth excel academically and socially.	
<b>Cost-benefit analysis</b> (cost of service or activity; impact on recipient relative to cost):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project FY 16 total budget is \$72,854. The organization is seeking \$40,070 from the County Council.</li> <li>• The funding will support the educational and life skills program that help Montgomery County youth to excel academically and socially.</li> </ul>	
<b>Public benefit</b> (identified and demonstrated need; target population well served by proposal; program justification):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The program seeks to lessen the education disparity among Black and Latino students.</li> <li>• It helps to position these minority students to increase their earning power, thus addressing the issue of poverty in the county.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of organization</b> (how long has agency delivered proposed services, received public funds for program; use of volunteers and/or partner organizations in program; leverage non-county government funding/resources; organization's capacity to carry out program):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Over the past 8 years Unity Christian Fellowship Incorporated established working relationships with local churches, fraternities and sororities, educational institutions and other liked-minded organizations.</li> <li>• In FY 13, 14, 15, Unity Christian Fellowship Incorporated received funding from the County Executive and County Grants.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of Proposal</b> (clear description, measurable and relevant outcomes, including results achieved to date; integration/coordination with other nonprofits and County services; clear budget description; plan for future funding):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The proposal was well-written. It would have benefited from a clearer picture of the actual numbers of youth to be served and since it relies on partnering with parents, how the families of these participants will help impact change.</li> <li>• Also helpful would be more information on how the program is striving to achieve 100% high school diploma graduate rate and increase the number of students that will attend college.</li> </ul>	

**Montgomery County Council  
Community Grant Advisory Group  
Evaluative Comments Information Sheet**

<b>Name of Organization:</b> Unity Christian Fellowship Incorporated	
<b>Category/Program Area:</b> Newer; Youth Development	<b>Amount Requested:</b> \$11,385
<b>Project Description:</b> Support the Game Changer Conference for Young Males.	
<b>Cost-benefit analysis</b> (cost of service or activity; impact on recipient relative to cost):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total program cost is \$20,700.</li> <li>• In previous years, the conference was sustained through donations and in-kind contributions. Due to expansion, they are requesting funding for a larger facility and more meals.</li> <li>• Conference first held in 2012 with 200 attendees; 2013 had over 400 attendees; 2014 about 600.</li> </ul>	
<b>Public benefit</b> (identified and demonstrated need; target population well served by proposal; program justification):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Game Changer conference is aimed at Black and Hispanic male students from 3rd grade to college. It provides workshops geared toward education and life skills topics.</li> <li>• The conference also provides a parents' session where concerns are discussed and guidance is provided regarding positive behavior and career preparation beyond high school.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of organization</b> (how long has agency delivered proposed services, received public funds for program; number of staff, volunteers and/or partner organizations in program; leverage non-county government funding; organization's capacity to carry out program):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The program is 3 years old, and each year attendance has increased by around 200.</li> <li>• The organization has established relationships with local churches, fraternities/sororities, and educational institutions that provide volunteer services, mentors, and sponsorships.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of Proposal</b> (clear description; measurable and relevant outcomes, including results achieved to date; activities and timeline to achieve outcomes; integration/coordination with other nonprofits and County services; clear budget description; plan for future funding):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a demonstrated community need/interest in this conference based on the increasing attendance numbers. However, the proposal would be strengthened by demonstrating the actual benefits and impact of attending the conference.</li> <li>• The proposal also would be improved if the methods to measure the existing anticipated outcomes were more clearly defined. For example, the mentors are given the task of tracking their student's progress. However, the proposal does not describe those tracking methods or how children without assigned mentors are tracked, if at all.</li> </ul>	

**Montgomery County Council  
Community Grant Advisory Group  
Evaluative Comments Information Sheet**

<b>Name of Organization:</b> UNITY Youth Development Corporation	
<b>Category/Program Area:</b> Established; Youth Development	<b>Amount Requested:</b> \$36,400
<b>Project Description:</b> Support the operations of this After-School Athletic Program and provide more scholarships for program participants	
<p><b>Cost-benefit analysis</b> (cost of service or activity; impact on recipient relative to cost):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UNITY is asking \$36,400 towards a \$42,400 total program budget, or 85% of the budget. Funds would be used for uniforms, storage, permits, league fees, transportation, staff development and insurance.</li> <li>UNITY is currently serving 180 county youth at approximately \$235 per child.</li> <li>Fees are very reasonable compared to other area youth sports programs but youth who cannot pay are not turned away.</li> <li>Total organizational budget for FY 15 is \$56,375. A small deficit has been anticipated.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Public benefit</b> (identified and demonstrated need; target population well served by proposal; program justification):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UNITY's after-school program makes sports accessible to low-income county youth, primarily from middle schools in the eastern part of Silver Spring. The year-round sports program focuses on basketball, football and cheerleading.</li> <li>There is a tutoring and mentoring component to the program through a study-hall format. Program goals include improved academic performance and behavior and a reduction in gang activity. Youth also participate in volunteer service activities.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Strength of organization</b> (how long has agency delivered proposed services, received public funds for program; use of volunteers and/or partner organizations in program; leverage non-county government funding/resources; organization's capacity to carry out program):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UNITY has been in existence since 2004.</li> <li>There are no salaries; all staff donate their time. Other volunteers include the parents of participating youth and high school students who earn SSL hours.</li> <li>UNITY does collaborate with several other county agencies. UNITY has leveraged these relationships to gain access to gyms and other facilities, etc.</li> <li>UNITY received a grant from the County Council in FY 2014. Other sources of revenue include registrations, concessions, merchandise, sponsorships and events and individual donations.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Strength of Proposal</b> (clear description, measurable and relevant outcomes, including results achieved to date; integration/coordination with other nonprofits and County services; clear budget description; plan for future funding):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UNITY has a small budget and the staff simply spend what they bring in, sometimes operating at a minor deficit. They are working to diversify their revenue and as noted above do bring in additional funds through private donations and small fundraisers.</li> <li>UNITY appears to provide quality out-of-school-time programming on a shoestring budget.</li> <li>Outcomes include measuring academic progress, as well as improved behavior and the avoidance of gang activity. UNITY works with the schools and with the Street Outreach Network to track each student's progress. To date they report a 100% success rate keeping their participants from becoming involved with gangs.</li> </ul>	

**Montgomery County Council  
Community Grant Advisory Group  
Evaluative Comments Information Sheet**

<b>Name of Organization:</b> Upcounty Community Resources, Inc.	
<b>Category/Program Area:</b> Newer; Older Adults/Disabilities	<b>Amount Requested:</b> \$4,500
<b>Project Description:</b> Secure equipment and supplies to support the activities for people with developmental differences in upper Montgomery County.	
<b>Cost-benefit analysis</b> (cost of service or activity; impact on recipient relative to cost):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is a low cost proposal to purchase equipment and supplies. Approximately 30% of the cost is supported by other contributions.</li> <li>• The activities proposed will impact more than 200 individuals so the cost per participant for the year is approximately \$22.</li> </ul>	
<b>Public benefit</b> (identified and demonstrated need; target population well served by proposal; program justification):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The upcounty section of Montgomery County is much more rural and spread out than other parts of the County. This is a challenge for service delivery and can result in difficulty for citizens needing supportive programs.</li> <li>• The target population of young adults with developmental differences is particularly challenging since they are out of school and can become isolated.</li> <li>• Providing this target audience with coordinated supported activities allows them to form connections and friendships which help integrate them into community life.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of organization</b> (how long has agency delivered proposed services, received public funds for program; use of volunteers and/or partner organizations in program; leverage non-county government funding/resources; organization's capacity to carry out program):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The organization is relatively new (2007), but models itself on a successful organization serving a similar population in another section of the County.</li> <li>• The leadership is strong and enthusiastic and dedicated to collaborating with programs dedicated to developmentally different clients to ensure that services are provided with no duplication of effort.</li> <li>• The program also collaborates with other organizations to get space for activities. This allows their focus to be entirely programmatic.</li> <li>• The program has an active Board of Directors that participate in fund raising and programs.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of Proposal</b> (clear description, measurable and relevant outcomes, including results achieved to date; integration/coordination with other nonprofits and County services; clear budget description; plan for future funding):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The proposed activities have been successful in other jurisdictions and the organization has researched their implementation.</li> <li>• The organization is dedicated to working collaboratively with non-profits, faith communities, and the private sector to partner on programs, share equipment and share training for volunteers.</li> <li>• The organization has a plan for fundraising to support activities and provide scholarships for programs which run with nominal fees.</li> </ul>	

**Montgomery County Council  
Community Grant Advisory Group  
FY16 Evaluative Comments Information Sheet**

<b>Name of Organization:</b> Upcounty Community Resources, Inc. – County Executive	
<b>Category/Program Area:</b> Newer; Older Adults/Disabilities	<b>Amount Requested:</b> \$30,000
<b>Project Description:</b> Support Upcounty Community Resources, Inc. continued expansion of services for people with developmental disabilities	
<p><b>Cost-benefit analysis</b> (cost of service or activity; impact on recipient relative to cost):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The proposal is to provide additional, community activity and personal development services to disabled adults and teens in a generally underserved part of Mont. Co.</li> <li>• It is difficult to understand how long the program has been operating, but the intent is to increase services and programs based on the Potomac Community Resources model while assuring no duplication of services and many partnerships. This is a strategic approach for the use of county funds</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Public benefit</b> (identified and demonstrated need; target population well served by proposal; program justification):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• While the need for services for this population in this area of the County is compelling, the proposal would benefit by a description of the process for identifying those services which are most beneficial and desired by participants</li> <li>• The population is generally identified; the proposal would be stronger if the number of the target population in the catchment area allowed an assessment of the program’s reach</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Strength of organization</b> (how long has agency delivered proposed services, received public funds for program; use of volunteers and/or partner organizations in program; leverage non-county government funding/resources; organization’s capacity to carry out program):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The organization stands out because it is serving a very underserved area of the County</li> <li>• The proposal would be stronger if it made clear the length of time it has been in operation and, if longer than 2 years, its track record for attracting participants to activities</li> <li>• The proposal acknowledges the need to attract additional volunteers, but does now rely on them; the organization is also committed to working with numerous partners</li> <li>• The proposal and future funding efforts would greatly benefit from better identifying and measuring important outcomes</li> <li>• Because the mixture of activities is so great, it is difficult to assess whether the budget makes sense overall. However, the request centers on basic operational needs that would facilitate growth and stability</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Strength of Proposal</b> (clear description, measurable and relevant outcomes, including results achieved to date; integration/coordination with other nonprofits and County services; clear budget description; plan for future funding):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The proposal is compelling given the vulnerable population and the underserved portion of the County to be addressed</li> <li>• As the organization grows, it will be better able to identify activities, timelines and outcomes</li> </ul>	

**Montgomery County Council  
Community Grant Advisory Group  
Evaluative Comments Information Sheet**

<b>Name of Organization:</b> Washington Youth Foundation	
<b>Category/Program Area:</b> Established; Children and Families	<b>Amount Requested:</b> \$50,000
<b>Project Description:</b> Prevent child abuse in the Korean immigrant community and promote healthier parenting styles.	
<b>Cost-benefit analysis</b> (cost of service or activity; impact on recipient relative to cost):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reasonable cost for information campaign plus six seminars/workshops in the community in conjunction with local churches; also covers partial salary for staff involved.</li> </ul>	
<b>Public benefit</b> (identified and demonstrated need; target population well served by proposal; program justification):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preventing child abuse and promoting healthier parenting styles is an important goal for target as well as other populations in the county.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of organization</b> (how long has agency delivered proposed services, received public funds for program; use of volunteers and/or partner organizations in program; leverage non-county government funding/resources; organization's capacity to carry out program):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agency has received county funds for other programs over last few years, including one focused on internet safety</li> <li>Agency is familiar with target population through these existing programs</li> <li>Would leverage private donations and program service fees from other programs</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of Proposal</b> (clear description, measurable and relevant outcomes, including results achieved to date; integration/coordination with other nonprofits and County services; clear budget description; plan for future funding):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As a new program, proposal would benefit from a clearer explanation of how program model was chosen, and how it would be adapted to target population</li> <li>Proposal would also be stronger with an indication of how the program would draw upon expertise on child abuse</li> </ul>	

**Montgomery County Council  
Community Grant Advisory Group  
Evaluative Comments Information Sheet**

<b>Name of Organization:</b> Washington Youth Foundation, Inc.	
<b>Category/Program Area:</b> Established; Health/Behavioral Health	<b>Amount Requested:</b> \$50,000
<b>Project Description:</b> Increase awareness of behavioral health and provide information about adequate resources to Korean immigrant parents and their children.	
<b>Cost-benefit analysis</b> (cost of service or activity; impact on recipient relative to cost):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Washington Youth Foundation proposes a four-step strategy to increase awareness of behavioral health issues in the Korean community: (1) First Wave – launch campaign through the Internet, (2) Second Wave – produce brochures and posters providing detailed information regarding behavioral health and professional services to distribute in public libraries, businesses, churches, and other key locations; (3) Third Wave – conduct follow up and one-on-one outreach opportunities for students and parents to meet with professionals, and (4) Fourth Wave – provide referral services.</li> </ul>	
<b>Public benefit</b> (identified and demonstrated need; target population well served by proposal; program justification):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The organization seeks to address an unmet need for mental health and cultural support for Korean youth and their parents.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of organization</b> (how long has agency delivered proposed services, received public funds for program; use of volunteers and/or partner organizations in program; leverage non-county government funding/resources; organization’s capacity to carry out program):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Washington Youth Foundation has worked with the Korean Community in Montgomery County for 13 years.</li> <li>According to the Washington Youth Foundation, it has “helped the immigrant youth and parents to learn and adapt American culture and language and make them to be healthier community members in various perspectives including education, community education, and leadership.”</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of Proposal</b> (clear description, measurable and relevant outcomes, including results achieved to date; integration/coordination with other nonprofits and County services; clear budget description; plan for future funding):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Washington Youth Foundation launched its program on September 1, 2014, and the program is still in the beginning stages.</li> <li>In future proposals, it will be helpful to see a record of the organization’s work and track record in the community.</li> </ul>	

**Montgomery County Council  
Community Grant Advisory Group  
Evaluative Comments Information Sheet**

<b>Name of Organization:</b> We Refuse Inc.	
<b>Category/Program Area:</b> Newer; Children and Families	<b>Amount Requested:</b> \$81,000
<b>Project Description:</b> Provide immediate emergency funding for victims of domestic abuse.	
<p><b>Cost-benefit analysis</b> (cost of service or activity; impact on recipient relative to cost):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We Refuse’s goal is to empower victims of domestic violence and connect them to appropriate resources available within the County. The FY16 grant request is for operational funds to set up their administrative infrastructure.</li> <li>• An effective cost-benefit analysis of their service is difficult to determine, without sufficient records of their past service(s), numbers served, and accurate budget information.</li> <li>• Except for publication of their magazine, for which they received a County Council Discretionary Grant in FY13, the overall impact of their services is hard to assess at this point.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Public benefit</b> (identified and demonstrated need; target population well served by proposal; program justification):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We Refuse wants to raise public awareness against domestic abuse/violence and to provide immediate emergency assistance to its victims; and educate youth about domestic violence.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Strength of organization</b> (how long has agency delivered proposed services, received public funds for program; use of volunteers and/or partner organizations in program; leverage non-county government funding/resources; organization’s capacity to carry out program):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We Refuse Inc. initiated its efforts in July 2010, to help empower and provide emergency assistance to victims of domestic violence. The one-time publication and distribution of their magazine, to promote awareness on dangers of domestic abuse/violence, appears to be the most visible component of their work.</li> <li>• The proposal submission was notably incomplete and among other issues, the proposed budget for the county grant did not match the requested grant amount. Requests for the additional proposal components and required corrections were only partially addressed.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Strength of Proposal</b> (clear description, measurable and relevant outcomes, including results achieved to date; integration/coordination with other nonprofits and County services; clear budget description; plan for future funding):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The project description primarily provides information on their mission objectives and the target population they intend to serve, without providing information on the infrastructure of the organization, staffing, location, etc. Thus, it is not clear how the grant would be used, by which staff, delivering which services.</li> <li>• The proposal would be strengthened by providing specifics, e.g., numbers of clients served, past and expected outcomes, how they collaborate with other domestic violence prevention organizations operating in Montgomery County to avoid duplication of services, and specifics about planned activities.</li> <li>• The proposal would also be strengthened by more realistic fundraising plans and accurate budget information. The proposal and later responses to review team inquiries supplied inconsistent figures for funding/fundraising and budget information and essentially resulted in an unclear picture of what funds were being sought, from which funding entities, and how they would be used in furtherance of planned activities.</li> </ul>	

**Montgomery County Council  
Community Grant Advisory Group  
Evaluative Comments Information Sheet**

<b>Name of Organization:</b> Widow Care Inc.	
<b>Category/Program Area:</b> Newer; Health/Behavioral Health	<b>Amount Requested:</b> \$40,000
<b>Project Description:</b> Provide desperately needed support and professional services for widowed residents of Montgomery County.	
<b>Cost-benefit analysis</b> (cost of service or activity; impact on recipient relative to cost):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Widow Care started their services in Sept. 2014, has already provided essential services to over 100 residents, has recruited 40 active volunteers, and established an effective social network.</li> <li>• An online Resource Center has been established, which is readily accessible to 100% of their clients and connects the widowed residents to the volunteers and locally available pro-bono services.</li> <li>• The organization is requesting funds to reach more high-risk county residents through their Volunteer program, and their Resource Center and Educational Series.</li> </ul>	
<b>Public benefit</b> (identified and demonstrated need; target population well served by proposal; program justification):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The mission of Widow Care is to provide essential supportive services to at-risk widowed residents who would remain neglected and socially isolated, without an organized support system after sudden death of a partner.</li> <li>• Widow Care wants to help those who are unprepared to navigate life by providing available resources and connecting them to local pro-bono professionals.</li> <li>• The proposed program would build an infrastructure of supportive services for neglected residents, for whom cohesive services are not currently available.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of organization</b> (how long has agency delivered proposed services, received public funds for program; use of volunteers and/or partner organizations in program; leverage non-county government funding/resources; organization's capacity to carry out program):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Widow Care has generated partnerships with many non-profit organizations and County Government services.</li> <li>• They partner with various local businesses and foundations for their funding resources, and with Phoenix Computers to secure low-cost computer equipments for administrative services and effective networking with their clients, and have initiated an internship program for students attending local universities and colleges.</li> <li>• The organization consists of one staff person and a board of directors.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of Proposal</b> (clear description, measurable and relevant outcomes, including results achieved to date; integration/coordination with other nonprofits and County services; clear budget description; plan for future funding):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The proposal is well written, their mission-objectives/goals are clearly defined, and the funding-request is reasonable and justifiable.</li> <li>• Widow Care has made impressive strides within the short period of their existence. The proposal documents measurable outcomes, provides a clear budget description and fundraising plan.</li> <li>• The proposal would be strengthened by more detail on the program's referral process; participants are referred to Widow Care panel members for professional services. Those panelists (attorneys and other professionals) pay a membership fee to Widow Care so that they become eligible for referrals. It was unclear what if any screening is done by Widow Care of these professionals.</li> </ul>	

**Montgomery County Council  
Community Grant Advisory Group  
Evaluative Comments Information Sheet**

<b>Name of Organization:</b> Winter Growth Inc.	
<b>Category/Program Area:</b> Established; Older Adults/Disabilities	<b>Amount Requested:</b> \$37,210
<b>Project Description:</b> Provides financial assistance to older and disabled adults who need to attend adult medical day care.	
<b>Cost-benefit analysis</b> (cost of service or activity; impact on recipient relative to cost):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medical adult day care can cost up to \$81 per day which includes door to door transportation; without financial assistance, many older adults and their families cannot afford this service, which delays institutionalization and also provides respite for the family.</li> </ul>	
<b>Public benefit</b> (identified and demonstrated need; target population well served by proposal; program justification):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With over 120 program participants of which 75% have been diagnosed with dementia, daycare has been shown to prevent or postpone nursing home placement.</li> <li>• In addition to adult day care, Winter Growth offers an array of services including respite care, physical, occupational and speech therapy.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of organization</b> (how long has agency delivered proposed services, received public funds for program; use of volunteers and/or partner organizations in program; leverage non-county government funding/resources; organization's capacity to carry out program):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incorporated in 2007, Winter Growth's mission is to provide community based services for health impaired older and disabled adults.</li> <li>• They have demonstrated an ability to engage over 3,300 hours of volunteer service in all of their programs. Their staff retention and diversity of staff speak to the supportive environment that is available to employees as well as program participants.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of Proposal</b> (clear description, measurable and relevant outcomes, including results achieved to date; integration/coordination with other nonprofits and County services; clear budget description; plan for future funding):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The applicant's ability to provide a variety of services to low income older adults while obtaining 70-75% of their revenue from private fee for service, in addition to a variety of funding sources such as the Montgomery County Senior Nutrition Program, supports a business model that is not totally reliant on Public funds.</li> <li>• In addition, the anticipated annual retention rate of program participants (70%) and the reduced rate of client falls (75%), speak to the anticipated outcome of an effective adult day care program.</li> </ul>	

**Montgomery County Council  
Community Grant Advisory Group  
Evaluative Comments Information Sheet**

<b>Name of Organization:</b> Workforce Solutions Group of Montgomery County, Inc.	
<b>Category/Program Area:</b> Established; Economic/Workforce Development	<b>Amount Requested:</b> \$35,000
<b>Project Description:</b> Workforce Solutions is launching an independent social enterprise, alternative staffing operation. The requested funds will defray one-time costs of start-up.	
<b>Cost-benefit analysis</b> (cost of service or activity; impact on recipient relative to cost): Workforce Solutions says that no other organization in Montgomery County serves its three target populations (people with disabilities, ex-offenders, and veterans) in the same way. It proposes to produce 48 placements in the first year. It seeks only first-year start-up funds from Montgomery County. It says it will seek ongoing funding from the private and philanthropic sectors. At less than \$1,000 per client served, this proposal is relatively inexpensive and properly scaled.	
<b>Public benefit</b> (identified and demonstrated need; target population well served by proposal; program justification): The needs of the three target groups are difficult to meet via more comprehensive job placement programs, because each of the three groups needs special attention and special handling. Workforce Solutions says its proposal is worthy because it has long and close experience with all three populations. Workforce Solutions also says its proposal for "alternative staffing" is based on similar for-profit efforts across the country. This grant would not be a way to reinvent the wheel. It would help Workforce Solutions expand what it is already doing in the workforce development sphere.	
<b>Strength of organization</b> (how long has agency delivered proposed services, received public funds for program; use of volunteers and/or partner organizations in program; leverage non-county government funding/resources; organization's capacity to carry out program): The proposal is for a new service. Workforce Development has run programs for many years that are somewhat similar, but not the same. The new organization would not use volunteers. It would be organized and run like a private business. The new organization will necessarily have to connect with other organizations to ferret out and arrange job placements, and those efforts are already being explored unofficially. If successful, the new business would stand alone. It would not need future government funding. The mother-ship organization clearly has the experience and the drive to create this new operation. However, it argues that it needs dedicated space apart from its other facilities to run the program correctly. The cost of this separate office (and the facilities in it) accounts for all of the money in the grant application.	
<b>Strength of Proposal</b> (clear description, measurable and relevant outcomes, including results achieved to date; integration/coordination with other nonprofits and County services; clear budget description; plan for future funding): Because this is a proposal for a new program, there is no track record to assess. However, Workforce Solutions is well-established and well-known, and its reputation is excellent. Nevertheless, this proposed new program would be a major leap into a new world. The proposal would move a non-profit into an area where it would have to make money to survive. It isn't clear exactly what expertise Workforce Solutions possesses to make this a reality, or why its proposed staffing agency can serve difficult populations better than staffing agencies that already exist. The proposal is strong in terms of scale; serving only 46 people in a first year is a manageable and measurable goal. The proposal is somewhat less detailed in how each of the three groups of clients would be managed. Each of the three would need a different (and perhaps conflicting) focus. It isn't clear that a small, first-year operation could provide that.	

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<b>Name of Organization:</b> Workforce Solutions Group of Montgomery County, Inc.	
<b>Category/Program Area:</b> Established; Economic/Workforce Development	<b>Amount Requested:</b> \$70,785
<b>Project Description:</b> Funds to support staff providing vocational services to ex-offenders. The requested funds will support one position and ancillary costs.	
<b>Cost-benefit analysis</b> (cost of service or activity; impact on recipient relative to cost): Workforce Solutions has operated some form of this program for eight years, but because funding waxes and wanes, it has not been able to provide consistent staffing. This proposal seeks to fund one fulltime position, plus benefits and routine expenses. The \$70,785 being sought is slightly more than one-fourth of the total annual program cost, so the impact and breadth of the program will depend on other dollars. The money being sought will help underwrite the most distinctive piece of the program--counselors inside correctional facilities who begin counseling clients eight months before they are released, and continue on the outside at "one-stop shopping" centers.	
<b>Public benefit</b> (identified and demonstrated need; target population well served by proposal; program justification): Ex-offenders are far more likely than the general population to need jobs, to lack jobs and to need help rebuilding their lives. This program directly addresses all three areas. It has always enjoyed full cooperation of the staff at the Department of Corrections. The program clearly enhances the life of the county by reducing recidivism, making more families more stable and generating more tax revenue.	
<b>Strength of organization</b> (how long has agency delivered proposed services, received public funds for program; use of volunteers and/or partner organizations in program; leverage non-county government funding/resources; organization's capacity to carry out program): Workforce Solutions has very wide experience in the workforce development sphere--not just for ex-offenders but for troubled populations of all kinds. Its budget has been underwritten by county government departments for many years. It clearly has the capacity and experience to operate an expanded version of this program. It partners with other organizations in the county, but mostly to identify job opportunities, not to help it run its programs. Workforce Solutions does not have current plans to seek outside financial support from the private or the philanthropic sectors. It says it will do so in the future. But it notes that that effort will be far more difficult without county government support.	
<b>Strength of Proposal</b> (clear description, measurable and relevant outcomes, including results achieved to date; integration/coordination with other nonprofits and County services; clear budget description; plan for future funding): This proposal is very well articulated and very solidly grounded in positive results. It has two key elements: initial contact inside jails, and strong follow-up after release. Results can be measured very accurately, via the percentage of ex-offenders who are placed in jobs in a typical year (a very impressive 32 percent) and the number who seek follow-up help after release (64 percent). The program also offers continuous contact (if necessary and if requested) for the first 90 days after release, when backsliding is most likely to occur. The basic aim of the program is well-established: a job is the most likely way to keep an ex-offender from becoming an offender again. Workforce Solutions has produced strong results with this program via this approach. It seeks to expand a proven winner by assuring that the program will be there for all who need it, despite staffing changes and funding dips from year to year.	

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<b>Name of Organization:</b> World Organization for Resource Development and Education (WORDE)	
<b>Category/Program Area:</b> Established; Basic Need	<b>Amount Requested:</b> \$104,279
<b>Project Description:</b> Continuing the Crossroads program to provide quality care coordination, counseling, and empowerment of vulnerable individuals and families.	
<b>Cost-benefit analysis</b> (cost of service or activity; impact on recipient relative to cost):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Caseload increased from 5 in 2013 to 30 in 2014; focused on high risk teens potentially susceptible to violent extremism</li> <li>• Presented Forums and Community workshops on prevention of violent extremism and methods for better integrating into American communities.</li> </ul>	
<b>Public benefit</b> (identified and demonstrated need; target population well served by proposal; program justification):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Target population (Middle Eastern, South Asian and North/East/West African immigrant communities) Low to moderate income.</li> <li>• There seems to be good coordination with MC Police Department, MCPS, and other organizations in the county who refer students to WORDE and utilize its services.</li> <li>• Provides cultural competency training for other organizations who also serve this target population.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of organization</b> (how long has agency delivered proposed services, received public funds for program; use of volunteers and/or partner organizations in program; leverage non-county government funding/resources; organization's capacity to carry out program):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The program is only a couple of years old but has received national recognition for the tools it is developing to recognize and address risk for violent extremism and radicalization. A recent participant in a White House Summit on Violence Prevention.</li> <li>• In the past year they have presented 3 Global Citizen Forums for teens. These focus on leadership development and conflict resolution for youth.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of Proposal</b> (clear description, measurable and relevant outcomes, including results achieved to date; integration/coordination with other nonprofits and County services; clear budget description; plan for future funding):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordination with other county agencies and non-profits is clearly stated.</li> <li>• Despite a relatively high per client cost it would seem that the impact of some of the other work being done with the grant, i.e., forums and assessments, is harder to measure. There are few roadmaps and seemingly few or no other organizations doing this work (countering violent extremism).</li> <li>• Future proposals might include data on the number of students who participate in the Global Citizen Forums or other workshops/panels which the Crossroads program presents.</li> </ul>	

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<b>Name of Organization:</b> World Organization for Resource Development and Education (WORDE)	
<b>Category/Program Area:</b> Established; Community Development	<b>Amount Requested:</b> \$80,860
<b>Project Description:</b> The grant proposes to expand and continue the Faith Community Working Group's programming that fosters social cohesion amongst county residents and promotes public safety.	
<b>Cost-benefit analysis</b> (cost of service or activity; impact on recipient relative to cost):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They are, at their core, a collaborative organization and their cost-benefit is difficult to quantify. This project increases engagement with 17 programs including over 300 congregations (that's a lot of people). Their reach extends across the Country and some international areas as well.</li> </ul>	
<b>Public benefit</b> (identified and demonstrated need; target population well served by proposal; program justification):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promotes Montgomery County's priorities of Safe Streets and Neighborhoods</li> <li>• Advances vital living for all our residents</li> <li>• Responsive and accountable government</li> <li>• Cultivating relationships across organizations</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of organization</b> (how long has agency delivered proposed services, received public funds for program; use of volunteers and/or partner organizations in program; leverage non-county government funding/resources; organization's capacity to carry out program):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grown from 75 participants (FY-13) to over 500 currently and 300 congregations</li> <li>• They continue to identify and reach new participants</li> <li>• Dept. of Justice recognized their outstanding work, and awarded them a 3 year grant (through FY16).</li> <li>• Proposal would be stronger if Board were larger/more developed.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of proposal</b> (clear description, measurable and relevant outcomes, including results achieved to date; integration/coordination with other nonprofits and County services; clear budget description; plan for future funding):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nationally recognized</li> <li>• Public-Private partnership</li> <li>• Funding from Department of Justice</li> <li>• Strategic in focus, exponential in reach (through congregations)</li> <li>• Proposal would be stronger if outcomes were more aggressive.</li> </ul>	

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<b>Name of Organization:</b> XYZ Services, Inc.	
<b>Category/Program Area:</b> Established; Health/Behavioral Health	<b>Amount Requested:</b> \$40,000
<b>Project Description:</b> This proposal seeks funding to support its ‘close-the-gap’ program, which provides affordable, sober housing to recovering alcoholics and addicts. It also requests funds for a housing coordinator position to help manage the houses and support the tenants.	
<b>Cost-benefit analysis</b> (cost of service or activity; impact on recipient relative to cost):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funds will be used to supplement rental payments for residents who are trying to maintain sobriety but find it difficult to obtain employment.</li> <li>• At this time, all services are provided by volunteers. A part-time paid Housing Coordinator would be helpful in dealing with residents, who are spread over several houses, and be better able to serve their needs.</li> </ul>	
<b>Public benefit</b> (identified and demonstrated need; target population well served by proposal; program justification):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This program attempts to fill the gap by offering sober housing to people in the early stage of recovery.</li> <li>• Many of XYZ’s clients are referred from the court system and from the County’s Outpatient Addiction Services program, and may have limited options outside of this program.</li> <li>• XYZ currently leases 8 houses, 7 for men and 1 for women. Each house serves between 4 and 5 residents.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of organization</b> (how long has agency delivered proposed services, received public funds for program; use of volunteers and/or partner organizations in program; leverage non-county government funding/resources; organization’s capacity to carry out program):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This program began about 9 years ago. The model it uses draws most of its revenue from its tenants and the houses are generally self-run.</li> <li>• XYZ gives preference in its available housing to veterans.</li> <li>• The organization has been running on limited funding, seeking donations from private parties, including its Board members, in -donations from tenants, churches and AA. It has no grants or salaried staff.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of Proposal</b> (clear description, measurable and relevant outcomes, including results achieved to date; integration/coordination with other nonprofits and County services; clear budget description; plan for future funding):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Based on the working relationship XYZ has with the courts and OAS, it appears that XYZ provides a much-needed opportunity for this population to find stable, sober housing in local neighborhoods.</li> <li>• In applications in the future, it could be helpful to provide more detail about the organization in order to let the “spirit” of the organization come through to those readers who are unfamiliar with it.</li> <li>• It would be beneficial to provide a better understanding of how the new Housing Coordinator position would work and some measures of how individuals fare within the program, and perhaps, following them for some period as they move on.</li> </ul>	

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<b>Name of Organization:</b> YMCA Youth & Family Services (YMCA-YFS)	
<b>Category/Program Area:</b> Established; Youth Development	<b>Amount Requested:</b> \$85,000
<b>Project Description:</b> Continue operating two decade old after-school program and mentoring program for youth and adults through a neighborhood based community center.	
<b>Cost-benefit analysis</b> (cost of service or activity; impact on recipient relative to cost):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Program has relatively high cost per student with 30 elementary school and 22 middle school students served.</li> <li>• YMCA follows best practices with 12:1 staff-to-student ratio.</li> </ul>	
<b>Public benefit</b> (identified and demonstrated need; target population well served by proposal; program justification):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• YMCA provides substantial after-school services four days per week for three hours per day in the Carroll Avenue and Quebec Terrace Community (CAQT) Center.</li> <li>• Program demonstrates need in the Long Branch community of Silver Spring where 53% of parents report total household incomes of less than \$20,000 per year.</li> <li>• Proposal would benefit from more detailed explanation of the unique circumstances, in addition to low income households, in the Long Branch community that create the ongoing need for the program.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of organization</b> (how long has agency delivered proposed services, received public funds for program; use of volunteers and/or partner organizations in program; leverage non-county government funding/resources; organization's capacity to carry out program):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In 2014, YMCA-YFS served more than 2,800 children and adults in Montgomery County.</li> <li>• YMCA has provided this program at CAQT for nearly two decades and successfully leveraged mix of funding from private and public sources.</li> <li>• Organization attempts to maintain costs by using a part-time staff and leveraging high school volunteers and also forms strategic partnerships that provide for donated equipment, discounted rental space and shared resources.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strength of Proposal</b> (clear description, measurable and relevant outcomes, including results achieved to date; integration/coordination with other nonprofits and County services; clear budget description; plan for future funding):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposal provides clear description of after-school and mentoring services.</li> <li>• Applicant has shown strong ability to plan for and obtain future funding, including aggressively pursuing grants and gifts in support of program.</li> <li>• Proposal would benefit from more concrete description of the impact of the program on past participants, including greater survey participation from parents on benefits to the children. The organization reports a positive impact on the community and quantifiable data will help illustrate that impact.</li> </ul>	