

IMPACT STATEMENT

Legislation title: Authorize a Special Appropriation grant agreement with Volunteers of America (VOA) Oregon, in an amount not to exceed \$23,658 to provide economic empowerment services to adults and children who survived domestic violence (Ordinance)

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Purpose of proposed legislation and background information:

VOA offers economic empowerment services to survivors of domestic violence. Financial abuse experienced in 98% of abusive relationships, is a common tactic used to gain power and control. These tactics limit access to assets or conceal information and accessibility to family finances, control victims' access to money, destroy their credit, or interfere with their employment. Volunteers of America tailors their approach to better meet survivors' needs as they prepare to enter job training and employment. VOA recognizes the need for and effectiveness of trauma-informed financial literacy and economic empowerment services as a first step in preparing survivors to move into more conventional programs.

To my knowledge there has been no previous Council action directly related to this legislation. VOA Oregon has applied for funding from the Portland Children's Levy. They were awarded funding for the Gateway Domestic Violence Center Drop-in Childcare, their Family Relief Nursery child abuse prevention program, and their East Portland culturally specific child abuse prevention services for African American families. Home Free also contracts with Portland Police Bureau's Domestic Violence Response Unit.

The proposed legislation does not change any specific City policy.

This legislation is consistent with the Council's desire for equity and inclusion, prosperous households, job growth and a safer city.

Financial and budgetary impacts:

Funding for this grant is available in the FY2016-17 budget in the General Fund Special Appropriations.

Community impacts and community involvement:

The economic empowerment services provided to survivors of domestic violence works to change the lives of survivors by promoting self-determination, building strong communities, and providing trauma-informed financial literacy and economic empowerment services as a first step in preparing survivors to move into more conventional programs.

Budgetary Impact Worksheet**Does this action change appropriations?**☐ **YES:** Please complete the information below.☒ **NO:** Skip this section

Fund	Fund Center	Commitment Item	Functional Area	Funded Program	Grant	Sponsored Program	Amount