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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Ha	all	ORIGINAL DATE LAST UPDATED	2/13/07 HB	1029
SHORT TITLE	Family Advocacy	Center in Albuquerque	SB	
			ANALYST	Propst

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Approp	riation	Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
	\$500.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Department of Finance and Administration (DFA) Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD) Public Education Department (PED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 1029 appropriates \$500.0 from the General Fund to fund operating costs for a family advocacy center administered by the City of Albuquerque.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$500.0 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the General Fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY08 shall revert to the General Fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

According to a study by the University of New Mexico 1 in 3 women and 1 in 7 men will be victims of violence in their lifetime. Almost 70% of rape victims are under 18 years of age and the offenders were adults. In 2005, 20% of homicides were related to domestic violence in Bernalillo County.

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DFA reports that this is a new program and the proposed appropriation will fund operational costs associated with start up of the Family Advocacy Center. The center will be staffed by both law enforcement agencies as well as various victim service providers. This center will offer a wide range of services under the same roof reducing trauma to the victim. Providing these services in the same facility will allow for the secured collection of evidence and subsequently increase the conviction rates and minimize collection errors which may result in case dismissals.

CYFD currently funds five programs in the greater Albuquerque area (Bernalillo, Sandoval, Valencia) for adult survivors/victims and child witnesses to domestic violence. These programs could partner with the Family Advocacy Center to ensure that currently funded services of crisis intervention, life skills, case management, counseling, and legal advocacy are not duplicated.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

DFA would enter into a Grant Agreement with the City of Albuquerque for the funds. The City of Albuquerque will request reimbursement on behalf of the Family Advocacy Center for expenditures.

The City of Albuquerque is in the process of entering into a lease agreement with the owner of the selected site. The Family Advocacy Center will then sublease the facility and provide services to the community to satisfy any anti-donation violation issues.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

DFA suggests that the program would be better assigned to the Department of Health. DFA/LGD does not have sufficient staff to provide oversight for such an activity or program.

WEP/mt