

104TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 282

To authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants and contracts to establish domestic violence community response teams and a technical assistance center to address the development and support of such community response teams, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 26 (legislative day, JANUARY 10), 1995

Mr. BRADLEY (for himself, Mr. HATFIELD, and Mr. WELLSTONE) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants and contracts to establish domestic violence community response teams and a technical assistance center to address the development and support of such community response teams, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Domestic Violence
5 Community Response Team Act of 1995”.

6 **SEC. 2. PURPOSE.**

7 The purposes of this Act are to—

1 (1) establish and strengthen the partnership be-
2 tween law enforcement and community groups in
3 order to assist victims of domestic violence;

4 (2) provide early intervention and followup serv-
5 ices in order to prevent future incidents of domestic
6 violence; and

7 (3) establish a central technical assistance cen-
8 ter for the collection and provision of programmatic
9 information and technical assistance.

10 **SEC. 3. GRANTS AUTHORIZED FOR COMMUNITY RESPONSE**

11 **TEAMS.**

12 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of Health and
13 Human Services (referred to in this Act as the “Sec-
14 retary”), is authorized to award grants to encourage eligi-
15 ble entities to serve as community response teams to assist
16 in the prevention of domestic violence. Grants awarded
17 under this section shall be awarded in a manner that en-
18 sures geographic and demographic diversity.

19 (b) **MAXIMUM AMOUNT.**—The Secretary shall not
20 award a grant under this section in an amount that ex-
21 ceeds \$500,000.

22 (c) **DURATION.**—The Secretary shall award grants
23 under this section for periods of not to exceed 3 years.

24 (d) **ELIGIBLE ENTITY.**—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this section,
2 the term “eligible entity” means a nonprofit, com-
3 munity-based organization whose primary purpose
4 involves domestic violence prevention, and who has
5 demonstrated expertise in providing services to vic-
6 tims of domestic violence and collaborating with
7 service providers and support agencies in the com-
8 munity.

9 (2) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.—In order to
10 be considered an eligible entity for purposes of this
11 section, an entity shall—

12 (A) have an understanding of the racial,
13 ethnic, and lingual diversity of the community
14 in which such entity serves as a community re-
15 sponse team;

16 (B) be able to respond adequately to such
17 community; and

18 (C) to the extent practicable, include per-
19 sonnel that reflect the racial, ethnic, and lingual
20 diversity of such community.

21 (e) ROLE OF COMMUNITY RESPONSE TEAMS.—Com-
22 munity response teams established pursuant to this sec-
23 tion shall—

1 (1) provide community advocates to work (in
2 conjunction with local police) with victims, imme-
3 diately after incidents of domestic violence;

4 (2) educate victims of domestic violence about
5 the legal process with respect to restraining orders
6 and civil and criminal charges;

7 (3) discuss with such victims immediate safety
8 arrangements and child care needs, and educate vic-
9 tims about resources provided by local agencies;

10 (4) provide for followup services and counseling
11 with local support agencies;

12 (5) educate victims regarding abuse tactics, in-
13 cluding increased incidence of violence that occurs
14 after repeated episodes of violence; and

15 (6) act in partnership with local law enforce-
16 ment agencies to carry out the purposes of this Act.

17 (f) APPLICATIONS.—

18 (1) IN GENERAL.—Applications for grants
19 under this section shall be submitted to the Sec-
20 retary at such time, in such manner, and accom-
21 panied by such information as the Secretary may
22 reasonably require.

23 (2) CONTENTS.—Each application submitted
24 pursuant to paragraph (1) shall—

1 (A) include a complete description of the
2 eligible entity's plan for operating a community-
3 based partnership between law enforcement of-
4 ficials and community organizations;

5 (B) demonstrate effective community lead-
6 ership, commitment to community action, and
7 commitment to working with affected popu-
8 lations;

9 (C) provide for periodic project evaluation
10 through written reports and analysis in order to
11 assist in applying successful programs to other
12 communities; and

13 (D) demonstrate an understanding of the
14 population to be served, including an under-
15 standing of the racial, ethnic, and socio-
16 economic characteristics that influence the roles
17 of women and affect treatment.

18 (g) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—Of the amount
19 made available under section 5 for a grant under this sec-
20 tion for a community response team, not more than 5 per-
21 cent of such amount may be expended to cover the admin-
22 istrative expenses of the community response team.

23 **SEC. 4. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER.**

24 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary is authorized to
25 award a contract to an eligible entity to serve as a tech-

1 nical assistance center under this Act. The technical as-
2 sistance center shall—

3 (1) serve as a national information, training,
4 and material development source for the develop-
5 ment and support of community response teams na-
6 tionwide; and

7 (2) provide technical support and input to com-
8 munity programs, including assisting local groups in
9 the establishment of programs and providing train-
10 ing to community volunteer staff persons.

11 (b) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—For purposes of this section,
12 the term “eligible entity” means a nonprofit organization
13 with a primary focus on domestic violence prevention and
14 demonstrated expertise in providing technical assistance,
15 information, training, and resource development on some
16 aspect of domestic violence service provision or prevention.
17 An eligible entity shall be selected by the Secretary under
18 this section based on competence, experience, and a proven
19 ability to conduct national-level organization and program
20 development. In order to be considered an eligible entity
21 for purposes of this section, an entity shall provide the
22 Secretary with evidence of support from community-based
23 domestic violence organizations for the designation of the
24 entity as the technical assistance center.

1 (c) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—Of the amount
2 made available under section 5 for a contract under this
3 section for a technical assistance center, not more than
4 5 percent of such amount may be expended to cover the
5 administrative expenses of the technical assistance center.

6 **SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

7 There are authorized to be appropriated \$5,000,000
8 for fiscal years 1996, 1997, and 1998 to carry out the
9 provisions of this Act, of which \$300,000 shall be made
10 available for a contract under section 4.

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