

**VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE
REPORT FOR THE VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 9, 2010 AGENDA**

SUBJECT:	TYPE:	SUBMITTED BY:
Discussion of Referral to the Human Services Commission	Resolution Ordinance Motion ✓ Discussion Only	David Fieldman Village Manager

SYNOPSIS

Pursuant to the Village Council policy regarding Council meeting agendas, Commissioner Beckman has requested that the Council discuss the proposed referral to the Human Services Commission.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT

The Five Year Plan and Goals identified *Exceptional Services & Communication*.

FISCAL IMPACT

N/A.

RECOMMENDATION

Action at the discretion of the Village Council.

BACKGROUND

At the October 5, 2010 Village Council meeting, Commissioner Barnett discussed the Village's Board and Commissions, most notably Human Services and the Grants Commission. This is an excerpt of the minutes:

Under New Business, Commissioner Barnett discussed the Village's Board and Commissions, most notably Human Services and the Grants Commission. The effects on government resources are clear, and the tolerance on taxes is known, but the needs of those Commissions are ongoing and greater than ever before. He asked if the Village could leverage the name and authority of the Village, and the volunteers from the community to act as a clearinghouse for information, and perhaps even funds, to fill voids left by the economic reality we are presently living in. He thinks they may be able to do a lot of good without budget implications. He asked for the consent of the Council to do initial research into this matter.

Based on Village Council comments and direction provided at the October 5, 2010 Council meeting, staff plans on referring this issue to the Human Services Commission for review and consideration. Staff plans on placing this issue on the December 2, 2010 Human Services Commission agenda. Staff will be preparing a staff report to assist in the Commission's consideration of this item.

During the initial four-hour review and consideration of this proposal, staff has identified the following key questions that should be considered by the Human Services Commission during their upcoming meetings.

- What role, if any, could the Village play in providing information and creating awareness about existing resources for social services?

- What role, if any, could the Village play in facilitating and coordinating the provision of social services by existing private not-for-profit entities, faith based organizations and governmental agencies?
- What role, if any, could the Village play in assisting not-for-profit entities, faith based organizations and governmental agencies in applying for grants for the provision of social services?
- What role, if any, could the Village play in collection and redistribution of donated funds and in-kind services for the provision of social services?
- What are the legal parameters associated with the above items?
- What Village resources would be required if the Village were to play a role in the provision of social services as described above? How would the allocation of the resources required to operate any proposed program affect the provision of services currently provided by the Village?