



VENTURA COUNTY COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

Human Services Agency
4601 Telephone Road, Suite 117,
Ventura, CA 93003
Mailing Address: 4651 Telephone Rd, #200
Ventura, CA 93003-8393
(805) 658-4193
www.vccw.net

December 21, 2011

Supervisor Linda Parks
Chair, Ventura County Board of Supervisors
625 W. Hillcrest Drive
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360

Subject: Request for assistance with and approval of the application for VCCF/WLF/Fairburn Funded Project for the Status of Women & Girls in Ventura County Research Project

First much appreciation goes to your staff for the swift response by email to our letter of December 16, 2011 from the CEO's office and forwarded by Vanise Castillo-Saad, of your office, to me.

According to the response, Statement 1 finds that the Commission supposedly has been operating on its own with no County's oversight since its creation in 1981. However, there are fiscal files and reports in our office indicating that the County up to 1992 funded the Commission. A bill introduced by State Assembly Member McClintock removed funding from the Commission for Women (February 20, 1992). Up until that time County directly paid for the staffing and other expenses. This was for a period of 10 plus years.

Statement 2 is true, that the Commission does have its own bank account. The account contains the small amount of funds that members and friends donate to help with small expenses. In addition, the VCCF holds funds earned through the Commission's work with the Women's Forum Collaborative (prior to their incorporation). The Ventura County Counsel is aware of this as that office settled a disagreement for VCCW on that matter. No files as yet found indicate that the County is funding the Commission for Women with its critical budget needs. The Commission appreciates the office space and access to a meeting room the County provides.

Statement 3 & 4 gives VCCW the direction it needs to precede with its research project, Status of Women & Girls in Ventura County. Attached is the requested Board Letter requesting the Board of Supervisors' ratification of the grant application and the acceptance of grant funds should they be forthcoming.

If there are any questions regarding this submittal, please contact me by my [REDACTED]
We are most appreciative of the timely assistance your office has provided.

Sincerely,

LEE RIGGAN
Chair 2011-2012
VCCW



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Supervisor Linda Parks
Chair, Ventura County Board of Supervisors
625 W. Hillcrest Drive
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360

Board of Supervisors
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, California 93009

Subject: Ratification of Submittal of the Application to the Ventura County Community Foundation/Women's Legacy Fund/Fairburn Fund for the Status of Women & Girls in Ventura County Research Project, and Adopt Resolution Authorizing the Ventura County Commission for Women Chair or Vice Chair to Execute on Behalf of the County any Documents Pertaining to this Application.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that your Board:

1. Ratify the submittal of the Commission for Women's grant application to the Ventura County Community Foundation/Women's Legacy Fund/Fairburn Fund requesting \$20,000.00, which includes the contribution of \$2,500.00 from the VCCF/VCCW Fund.
2. Approve the VCCF Fiscal Sponsorship Fee Option A allowing the Commission to manage the research project as a grant to a non-charity requiring expenditure & sub-contracting responsibility on the part of Commission for Women; or, Approve VCCF Sponsorship Fee Option #1 in which VCCF will serve as fiscal sponsor for BOTH the project as a whole and provide approved grants to the project under this fiscal sponsorship umbrella.

Reason for Ratification:

In order to meet the VCCF timeline the Commission for Women's submittal was required by December 20th for consideration by the Women's Legacy Fund Grant Committee on January 11, 2012. The County Executive Office stated that at a minimum the Commission must submit a Board letter requesting the Board of Supervisors' ratification of the grant application.

Fiscal Impact/Mandates:

**Mandatory
Source of Funding:**

No
Women's Legacy Fund and the Fairburn Fund through the Ventura County Community Foundation



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Funding Match Required: Yes; It is provided by the \$2,500.00 contribution from the VCCF/VCCW Fund and approved by the VCCW.

**Impact on Other
Departments:**

Minimal accounting, tracking and reporting required by the Commission for Women

Current Fiscal Year Budget Projections:

Current FY 2012 Budget Projection for Commission for Women Status Project

	Projected Budget		
VCCF/WLF/Fairburn Fund	\$20,000.00		
VCCF/VCW Fund	2,500.00		
PROJECT BUDGET TOTAL	\$22,500.00		

Discussion:

The Ventura County Commission for Women (VCCW) application seeking \$20,000.00 in funding for the Status of Women & Girls in Ventura County Project from the Women's Legacy Fund and Fairburn Fund awaits final approval on January 11, 2012. In this process VCCW has been asked to select its Fiscal Sponsorship Fee Option. At its Special Meeting on December 14, 2011, Commissioners approved the Ventura County Community Foundation (VCCF) Option A. With this Option, VCCW will manage the research project as a grant to a non-charity requiring expenditure responsibility on the part of VCCF. VCCW would apply for the funds and VCCF would cut the check to VCCW, which would be responsible for all the staffing (managing and paying consultants) and direct payment of expenses. VCCW would be required to report back to VCCF on an annual basis until the project is completed. The selection of Option A is contingent upon approval by the Ventura County CEO's office to carry out or allow the following:

1. The approval by the County to provide for the annual issuance of, or to allow VCCW to issue the Annual Form 1099 for the consultant(s) to be hired for the Project;
 2. Approval for VCCW to hire a Consultant(s);
 3. A Consultant Contract that meets County requirements;
 4. Guidelines for County Reporting requirements if needed.
 5. Any other guidelines required by the Board of Supervisors or the CEO's office for the Commission to follow in carrying out this project to determine the needs of the women and girls in Ventura County.
3. If the County is not able to approve this request, the VCCF Sponsorship Fee Option #1 will be adopted as fiscal model for the Status of Women & Girls in Ventura County



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Research Project. This would result in a fewer funds available for the Project and less control by VCCW. VCCF would establish a sub-fund of the VCCF fund and manages oversight of the project including, contracting with & paying consultants, and ensuring public benefit outcomes of the project. VCCF provides direct payment of expenses and maintains control and discretion over all funds (required as fiscal sponsor).

In order to meet the VCCF timeline our submittal is required by December 20th for consideration by the Women's Legacy Fund Grant Committee on January 11, 2012. Your response and guidance prior to that meeting would be appreciated.

The VCCW membership is composed of 13 members, 11 of whom are very actively involved in this project. Their professional background includes Administration, Management, Nursing & Health Clinic Management, Certified Meeting Professional, Entrepreneur, Preschool Founder & Operator, Teacher, Energy Consultant, Construction & Housing Complex Management, Promotoras Organization Founder & Chair, Journalist, Planner & Grant Writer, Advocate. The Commission is an interactive organization with members acting as "ambassadors" at women's organizational meetings in the community, participating in collaborative and partnership efforts on various projects, and conducting open noticed meetings monthly.

The mission of the VCCW is to encourage, support, and facilitate the empowerment and education of Ventura County women. VCCW serves in an advisory capacity to the Board of Supervisors on issues impacting and/or relating to women and families, to coordinate efforts with federal, state, and local community groups to improve the quality of life for women and families. To accomplish this mission access to current data regarding women in Ventura County across a range of indicators is required.

The need for the study is the following:

- Women in the United States have made so many strides toward equality that many believe gender discrimination and inequality are no longer justifiable concerns;
- To determine whether or not there is a need for a concern, it is necessary to continue tracking women's progress and current degree of equity;
- Therefore, the collection of data based on gender continues to be imperative in the identification of systemic problems and inequities for women;
- To fully understand the implication of such information the data must be disaggregated to discern progress between women of color and white women as well as between women and men;
- The disaggregation of statistics would also promote more effective use of County resources. Most of the data available is aggregated and therefore misleading due to white women's exceeding status skewing the statistics;
- To ensure Ventura County policy makers and advocates are aware of the needs of local women, the Ventura County Commission on Women has initiated this study to report on the status of women and girls in Ventura County.



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The purposes of the study are the following:

- Provide data to develop programs to reduce systemic social inequalities and lead to positive social change;
- Informing and advising policy-makers on the matter of gender equity in Ventura County, provide valuable information;
- Establish a baseline of measurement for future data;
- Demonstrate the necessity of collecting statistics on women of all races and ethnicities;
- Strategically target origins of differences between men and women;
- Removing barriers women face to allow them economic self-sufficiency and social independence;

This project report will discern progress between men and women; and between women of color and white women in the four Power Components:

1. Power to make decisions and policies
2. Power in Occupation Selection and Flexibility
3. Power to Meet Basic Needs
4. Power to Stay Healthy and Safe

The total project narrative, budget, timeline, and scope of work/ research are enclosed describing the Status of Women & Girls in Ventura County Research Project:

If there are any questions or need additional information regarding this request to assist VCCW, please contact me at my [REDACTED]

Sincerely,

LEE RIGGAN
Chair 2011-2012
VCCW