

#050792

**PROPOSAL**

**Requesting Financial Assistance  
For Crime Prevention/Intervention Programs  
Provided by Corner Drug Store, Inc.  
Through Support of  
Spotlight on Youth Campaign 2006**



**Submitted by  
CDS Special Committee for  
Spotlight on Youth  
Wayland Clifton, Jr., Chair  
Joyce Stechmiller  
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## **Proposal**

A request to Chief Norman Botsford and the Gainesville Police Department to provide financial assistance from its forfeiture and contraband funds to facilitate Corner Drug Store, Inc., (CDS) in continuing crime prevention, intervention and direct care services for youth in Gainesville/Alachua County MSA. Specifically, it is requested that the Department contribute seized funds from their forfeiture accounts in the amount of \$ 10,000, as a principal sponsor of "Spotlight on Youth", the only annual fundraiser that benefits CDS programmatic services.

## **Spotlight on Youth**

Spotlight on Youth is in its seventh year of being the primary fundraiser for CDS programs. It is a unique program that features talented youth throughout Gainesville/Alachua County and exhibits their artistic talents, including performing arts (music, dance and orchestra productions), visual arts (oil paintings, sketches, sculptures, and abstract) and literary works (poems, prose and artistic descriptions) in one gala event held annually at the University of Florida Performing Arts Center. Notable sponsors that have been involved each year include the Gainesville Sun, CBS 4, WCJB-TV20, Cox Communications, GRU, Office of the State Attorney and Shands Healthcare.

As a principal sponsor for 2006, the Gainesville Police Department will be recognized and honored at the singular matinee performance on 12 March 2006. The Police Department and City of Gainesville will be recognized from the stage, in the program, at a site exposition in the lobby and GPD/City of Gainesville banners will be draped over elevated box seats near the main stage. Complimentary passes will be provided for all GPD and City officials.

## **Utilization of Funding**

No funding provided by the Gainesville Police Department will be used for production of the *Spotlight* stage presentation. Other public and private donations, including numerous in-kind time donations by professional musicians, artists and stagecraft personnel, combined with food and beverage donations by local restaurants and contributed advertisements in the Gainesville Sun and on local affiliates of CBS, ABC and PBS television, are sufficient to produce the focal gala. In addition, proposals for similar contributions will be requested of the Alachua County Sheriff's Office and other local/state law enforcement agencies. Tickets for under-privileged youth will be issued at no cost and credited as compliments of the Gainesville Police Department. All GPD funding will be used to maintain and enhance the following services for at-risk youth or juveniles who are in the early stages of system penetration and may be treated and diverted from incarceration.

## **Program:**

*Corner Drug Store, Interface Youth Program Central:* This program and shelter, located at 1400 NW 29<sup>th</sup> Road in Gainesville, is a twenty-bed facility that provides short-term residential care to truants, runaways and ungovernable youth. The goal of the program is to prevent children from entering the juvenile justice system by offering a safe, structured environment away from home where they may begin working on family issues with the aim of reuniting them with their families. Interface provides shelter, 24-hour supervision, food, clothing (if necessary) and counseling to each child. Last year over 500 youth were served, mostly between the ages of 12 and 17. The majority of youth who receive services reside in high crime zip code areas and are experiencing problems in school, home and the community with respect to high-risk behavior. Interface also acts as the Alachua County Truancy Center, which is the location where local law enforcement drops off truants. These youth who are often at-risk of committing delinquent acts are assessed and offered services by CDS. Many of these youth and families receive services from Interface, as well as a wide range of CDS community programs. CDS has a long history of success in

providing services to these youth and families. Consistently 90-95% are reunited with their families and do not commit new law violations resulting in their adjudication.

Although there are many other community services provided by CDS that directly impact law enforcement, e.g., drug testing and therapy, youth drug counseling, dysfunctional family and sibling counseling, prevention campaigns modeled on the successful annual Youth Summit, it was determined that the full financial request of \$ 10,000 would be most appropriately used for direct operational costs of the *Interface Youth Program/Shelter Central*.

<b><u>Budget</u></b>	<b><u>Item Explanation</u></b>	<b><u>Amount</u></b>
Total request	Contribution requested of Gainesville Police	\$ 10,000
Administration	Administrative Oversight of Program and Shelter	-0-
Direct Operational Costs	Staff salaries, expenditures for purchase of food, clothing and bedding supplies	\$ 10,000
Utility/Shelter Maintenance	Heating/Air Conditioning and required renovations	-0-
In-direct Costs	Auditing, executive management	-0-

Corner Drug Store, Inc. is a private 501(c)(3) non-profit agency and is audited annually by James Moore & Co. Annual audit reports are available on request of contributing agencies.