

# THE JUNCTION

## The Public Service Grant Newsletter

March 2010

Volume II, Issue 1

*City Government and Non-Profit Organizations Meeting the Needs of the Community*

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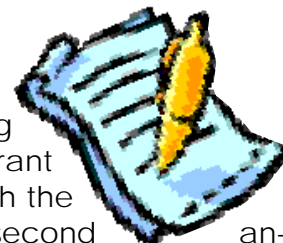
### Public Service Grant Council

- Alberta Hipps, Chairperson
- Gwen Yates, Vice-Chairperson
- Juan Diaz
- John Donahoo
- Ronald Mallett
- Edgar Mathis
- Arnold Tritt

### Grant Compliance Unit Staff

- Roslyn Mixon Phillips, Mayor's Office Liaison, Director, Recreation & Community Services Department
- Nancy Kirts, Assistant Management Improvement Officer
- Sue Andrews, Human Services Planner II
- Sandy Arts, Human Services Planner II
- John Snyder, Human Services Planner II

## Greetings from the Editor:



This issue represents our second year of presenting the quarterly Public Service Grant Newsletter. The Grant Compliance Unit continues to work hand-in-hand with the Public Service Grant Council as they approach the second anniversary of their appointments to the council. The seven members have been generous with their time and efforts as they become acquainted with the many non-profit organizations that supplement their services to the community through Public Service Grant dollars.

March 15, 2010 marked a milestone for the Public Service Grant Program's application process. For the first time, all applicants submitted their applications electronically for FY 2010-2011. Fifty-nine applications were received. Training was provided to all applicants, in addition to optional computer labs held at City Hall.

The review of the applications will soon begin, as well as oral presentations, site visits by council members and staff, and staff administrative monitoring. Each council member has been assigned specific organizations for site visits in advance of the May 18th Public Service Grant Council monthly meeting. The PSG council members are tasked with the responsibility of the allocation of PSG funding for the organizations.

Jacksonville Area Legal Aid (JALA) provided a fourth article in their series of success stories for this quarter's newsletter. We would like to thank Christa Figgins for continuing to send us inspiring articles. Bridge the Gap will also be highlighted in this issue with an article provided by their Executive Director, Yvonne Lane. We hope other organizations will follow their lead and provide articles, photographs and information for publication.

The next issue of the newsletter is projected for June 2010. With that issue, we will begin a series of profiles of the PSG council members. As was said in our first issue last March, we look forward to our continued collaboration with the not-for-profit community and the PSG Council.

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## Dates to Remember:

### April 2010

- April 1 Annual Site Monitoring Visits Begin (will complete in May)
- April 15 2nd Quarter Programmatic Reports Due
- April 20 Public Service Grant Council Meeting/Oral Presentations, 8:00 a.m.– Noon  
Ed Ball Building, 8th Floor Conference Room
- April 27 Public Service Council/Oral Presentations, 8:00 a.m.– Noon  
City Hall, 1st Floor, Committee Room A
- April 30 Audits due for Fiscal Year Ending 12/31/2009

2009 PSG/Grant Compliance Annual Report is now available for your viewing at

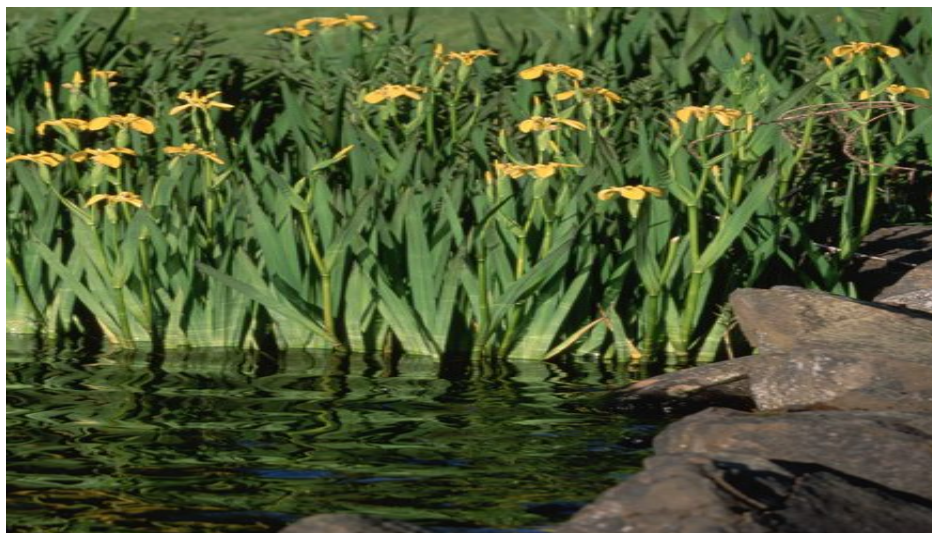
[http://www.coj.net/Departments/Recreation+and+Community+Services/  
Grant+Compliance+Office/PSG+Council.htm](http://www.coj.net/Departments/Recreation+and+Community+Services/Grant+Compliance+Office/PSG+Council.htm)

### May 2010

- May 18 Public Service Grant Council Meeting, 10:00 a.m.– Noon, Ed Ball Bldg., 8th Floor
- May 31 Memorial Day - City Hall Closed For Holiday

### June 2010

- June 15 Public Service Grant Council Meeting, 10:00 a.m.-Noon, Ed Ball Bldg., 8th Floor





"Always intending to make a new and better life but never to find time to set about it is as to put off eating and drinking and sleeping from one day to the next until you're dead." Mandino

## A Better Life

*How Jacksonville Area Legal Aid, Inc. was able to help  
a neighbor through the City of Jacksonville Public Services Grant Program*

Carrie Garber\*, a married mother of four small children, lived a horrible life. Trapped in a marriage with a dangerous and abusive husband, Carrie had very few options to improve her situation and protect herself and her children.

One fateful day, Carrie's husband beat her in front of their children while she was cooking them dinner. Trying to protect her kids from what was happening, she ran outside to draw her husband from the house. He followed her and proceeded to beat her and kick her in the head in front of their neighbors. When a neighbor tried to help Carrie and intervene, Mr. Garber told the neighbor that Carrie "deserved it".

Carrie then came to Jacksonville Area Legal Aid, Inc. (JALA) for representation. She needed an immediate Injunction for Protection to protect her and her family from her husband, and she also wished to seek a divorce. JALA advocates represented Carrie using funding provided through the City of Jacksonville Public Service Grant Program.

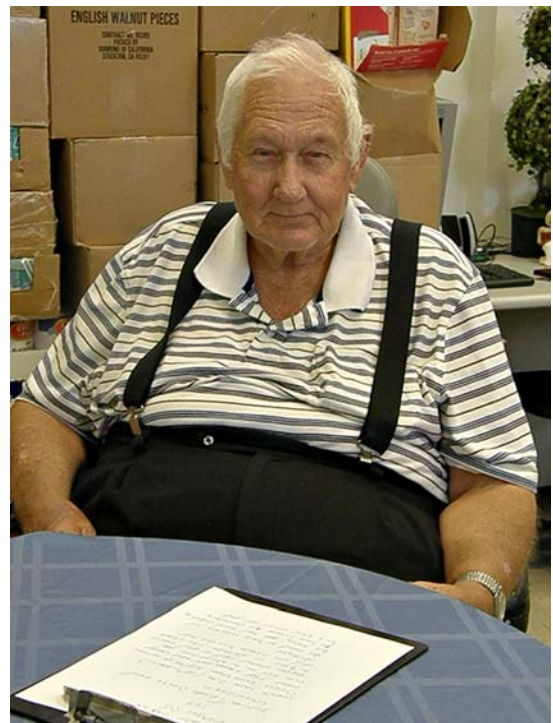
JALA advocates were successful in assisting Carrie stabilize her life. Carrie was successful in obtaining an Injunction for Protection from her husband, and divorce proceedings were initiated by JALA advocates. Finally free from an existence filled with fear and uncertainty, during the divorce proceedings Carrie was able to finish her nursing degree and pass her exams. Carrie was awarded majority timesharing of the couple's children, child support, and exclusive use and possession of the marital home, giving Carrie and her kids a safe place to live and grow. Carrie is now employed as a nurse.

Carrie's life, and that of her four children, is better today because of PSG funding. JALA is proud to be a part of the family of non-profit agencies using PSG funding to assist our friends and neighbors live happier and healthier lives.

\* Not her real name.



## BRIDGE THE GAP WITH THE PEOPLE AT HEART



There are very few people you will meet in life who will make the best of their unfavorable situation. These individuals are determined to remain in control of their lives in spite of their circumstances and situations.

Mr. Richard Bayles is one of those individuals, and he is determined to stay in control no matter what obstacle may come his way. He has been confined in a wheelchair for approximately one year as a result of open heart surgery. Regardless of his physical condition, Mr. Bayles will inform you that just because he is in a wheelchair, it does not mean he needs to stay at home.

Mr. Bayles came to Bridge the Gap Inc. through the Jacksonville Housing Authority (a partner of Bridge the Gap Inc.), after being referred by a social worker, Mrs. Fatima Johnson. When we received his referral, Mr. Bayles was considered to be a homebound client who was not able to do much for himself. He was in desperate need of food, everyday household items and personal care products.

Since that time, Mr. Bayles has received the help he needed and we are so proud to say that he is up and about and getting around well on his own. Mr. Bayles has come a long way. He never lost hope, he never lost faith, and he did not give up because of his circumstances.

It is such a joy to know that you can make a difference in the lives of those in need no matter how small it may seem in the eyes of others.

Submitted By:  
Yvonne Lane, Executive Director  
Bridge the Gap, Inc.