

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA OFFICE OF PARTNERSHIPS  
AND GRANTS DEVELOPMENT  
Executive Office of the Mayor**

**Fiscal Year 2001 Annual Report  
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

---

*“Responsive Government Promoting Partnerships for a Better District of Columbia”*

---

**I. Introduction**

The FY2001 Annual Report provides a summary of the activities of the Office of Partnerships and Grants Development (OPGD) during this period as well as future opportunities for FY2002.

In fiscal year 2001, a Mayoral Order was signed that formally established OPGD within the Executive Office of the Mayor (EOM). At the end of the fiscal year, the four staff assigned to the Office of the Chief Financial Officer, were officially transferred to the EOM to support OPGD, along with some NPS support.

All of OPGD’s efforts advance Mayor Anthony Williams’ assertion that *“as we move forward in rebuilding the nation’s capital city, our success will be determined by our combined commitment to work together.”* Through the development of multi-sector partnerships, OPGD creates vehicles for District Government, Federal Government, nonprofit groups, foundations, businesses, and faith institutions to come together, work together and succeed together.

**II. Competitive Federal Grants**

OPGD’s primary focus is on enhancing federal grants development. By identifying and communicating new competitive federal grant opportunities and providing technical assistance to District agencies, the quality and quantity of grant applications improved, which resulted in increased grant funding for the City.

Fiscal year 2001 was a banner year for the District Government’s receipt of new federal competitive grant awards. During that period, federal competitive grant awards totaled \$28.3 million compared to \$18.5 million in FY 2000. Of the total 238 NOFAs announced, the District applied for 119 grants of which 56 were awarded. \$23.3 million went to programs under the Strengthening Children, Youth and Families strategic priority area. The Department of Health received \$13.5 million or nearly 50% of these awards in FY 2001.

	NOFAs for which DC was eligible	Applications Submitted	Awards	Pending Award Announcements
Number	238	119	56	7
Dollar Amounts	\$68.3 million	\$50.9 million	\$28.3 million	\$1.6 million

In addition, OPGD also provided assistance and support to eight agencies applying for Federal funds. These services included hiring grant writers, coordinating the application process, writing portions of

the proposal, facilitating planning meetings, participating on grant writing teams, identifying partners, securing letters of support and signatures, and facilitating the sub-granting process. They generated approximately \$1.3 million in federal funds, \$800,000 of which was new grant awards made to the District. To support District employees in their grant development function, the Office also coordinated the presentation of a three-day proposal-writing course with the Office of Personnel's Center for Workforce Development.

To improve the performance of District grant-funded programs and streamline the grants management process, OPGD played a major role in re-establishing an inter-agency Grants Council. The Grants Council, made up of 40 grant experts, began meeting in July. OPGD oversaw the work of the committees and held a second Grants Council meeting before the end of the fiscal year. Effective FY02, the OCFO's Office of Research and Analysis assumed leadership of the Grants Council, with the support of OPGD and other members, to better coordinate the District's grant reform efforts with those underway in the OCFO.

In July, OPGD became the District's State Single Point of Contact (SPOC) for all federal grant programs covered by Executive Order 12372, called the "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs". Its purpose is to encourage greater coordination between federal agencies, and state and local governments by giving local governments the right to review and comment on proposed federal grant assistance in their jurisdiction. Over the next few years, OPGD will explore ways to increase compliance and maximize strategic usage of the SPOC process.

### **III. Multi-sector Partnerships**

The Office of Partnerships and Grants Development has a special emphasis on establishing and enhancing public private partnerships with foundations, individuals, private businesses and corporations that can directly support the City-Wide Strategic Plan and the Mayor's top partnership initiatives. OPGD's primary objective is to facilitate the creation and long-term sustainability of meaningful multi-sector partnerships that provide a combination of financial, in-kind, and technical support to District Agencies and their respective partners.

In FY 2001, OPGD expanded its analysis of private grant revenues received by the District of which \$7 million was deposited into the District Treasury while \$2 million in indirect private support was provided to benefit government programs. One example of a successful public-private partnership in which OPGD was involved as the lead, was the Adopt-a-Block initiative, a neighborhood beautification and anti-litter program launched in July.

### **IV. Services to Nonprofit Community**

OPGD's commitment to strengthening the relationship between District government and nonprofit organizations reflects a recognition of the important role community partners play in meeting strategic goals, and in delivering key services to District residents. OPGD's capacity-building events (workshops, panels, presentations and conference) and one-on-one technical assistance for nonprofit and faith-based organizations reached over 1500 people.

In FY 2001, OPGD:

- Provided one-on-one technical assistance for approximately 150 nonprofit and 135 faith-based organizations;
- Held meetings with close to 300 nonprofit organizations;
- Provided 55 topical information packets;

- Held workshops attended by over 350 participants, principally from the faith-based community, in partnership with the Mayor's Office of Religious Affairs.

OPGD also sponsored the third annual Public-Private Partnership Conference: Tools for Building and Maintaining Multi-sector Regional Partnerships, in partnership with GWU, the Support Center of Washington, and Citibank, F.S.B. An Advisory Committee made up of members of the Metro D.C. Nonprofit Capacity Builders, supported the conference. Over 350 individuals from District Government, federal government, foundations, nonprofit and faith-based organizations, corporations, businesses, universities and colleges were involved in the conference. This conference allowed participants from different sectors opportunities to meet and consider future relationships.

## **V. Communications**

Communication is the foundation for effective collaboration. With this in mind, in FY2001, OPGD greatly expanded its outreach by establishing a website and utilizing email communications accuracy.

The weekly *Funding Alert* provides over 2000 District agencies and nonprofit organizations with time sensitive information of federal and foundation programs currently being funded as well as helpful information on how to access the funding. OPGD launched an extensive website that makes the office's services and information available to citizens in a convenient and comprehensive manner. The response was exceptional. In March 2001, fewer than 300 visits were logged, however, by June an average 8,000 hits per month were being recorded.

Another communication tool is an email-based local listserv created and maintained in partnership with the Washington Council of Agencies, which provides online communication among over 300 participants from governments, nonprofits, community organizations and foundations. Approximately 300 postings were made to the list across a range of discussion threads that included partnerships with District Government, statistical information for grant writers, tips for starting a nonprofit organization, communication strategies, meeting spaces, and the impact of September 11, 2001 on fundraising.

## **VI. Looking Ahead**

Looking ahead to FY 2002, the Office of Partnerships and Grants Development is steadfast in its commitment and vision of "*Responsive Government Promoting Partnerships for a Better District of Columbia.*" OPGD plans to establish and enhance new public-private partnership opportunities that lead to greater resources and advancement of the District's city-wide and neighborhood priorities. Some of OPGD's goals for FY02 are: help generate \$30M in new competitive federal grants, support the District's Grants Council, launch the "Strengthening Partners" capacity building project, establish more international partnerships, produce a first-class system governing donations to the District government, and improve OPGD's customer service operations to District employees and residents.

To accomplish the above goals, OPGD has joined forces with the Office of Neighborhood Action (ONA) and DC Commission for National and Community Service (CNCS) in a new service cluster under the direction of ONA and COS entitled, Strategic Planning and Resources.

OPGD's goals and work plan for FY 02 capitalizes on the unique position and time in the District of Columbia to promote the spirit of Unity of Purpose and Democracy and also facilitate more effective partnerships between District government leaders and multi-sector partners.