

## Panel Summary Report

**Agency:** St Vincent dePaul

**Date:** May 10, 2005

**Program:** First Place Child Abuse Project

**Panel #:** 9

**Allocation recommendation:** \$31,843

**Previous Allocation (20003/2004):** \$23,161

**1. Was allocation recommendation: (please check one)**

X Increased?  Decreased?  Kept Level?

**2. Describe primary reasons for decision**

First Place is the entry level for many homeless families in Lane County. The services provided enable many families to get into stable housing and a main focus of the agency is to get the kids and keep the kids in the same school. First Place provides an evidence-based pre-school curriculum and works directly with parents on improving their parenting skills. The agency enables children to be outfitted and equipped for school and provides a place for their parents to take care of basic needs.

First Place rated highly in all the SB6 goal areas. They leverage community resources by working with numerous churches to provide shelter for their families. Their goal of standardizing behavioral expectations throughout the agency and the many churches is to be commended.

The panel was impressed with the agency and scope of services. We recommend funding the full amount requested.

**3. Describe specific concerns of panel relating to funding request, operation of agency or use of funds expended by agency:**

- Work with Relief Nursery for development of the training program for new employees.
- Improve the appearance of the facility. It is commendable that the agency spends its resources on services, but there is a lot to be said about the space one calls "home". There is good research to show that high self-esteem is associated with and reflected in attractive surroundings. United Way reports that those people who contribute to facilities are different from those who contribute to programs. So, a capital campaign would generate new donors.

**4. Describe any limitations or conditions on funds imposed by panel:** None

**5. Panel members present at deliberation:** Sara Olson, Kelli McKnight, Jeff Petry, Jenny Obermiller, Colin McDonnell, Susan Niles, Lou Enge, United Way staff

**6. Agency representatives present at site visit:**

**Panel Chair:** Sara Olson