

**METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY**



September 30, 2011

Mr. Richard Fletcher, Board Chair  
**Backfield In Motion**  
920 Woodland Street  
Nashville, TN 37206

Dear Mr. Fletcher:

Please find attached the Monitoring Report of the Backfield In Motion relating to the contract it had with the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011.

The Office of Financial Accountability (OFA) is charged with the responsibility of monitoring grant funds, including Community Enhancement Funds (CEF), from Metropolitan Nashville Government to any nonprofit organization. The OFA is also responsible for monitoring the federal and state grants to departments within the Metropolitan Nashville Government. Staff from the OFA completed its review on September 22, 2011.

We appreciate the assistance provided by your agency during the course of the review. If you have any questions, please call me at 615-880-1035.

Sincerely,

Fred Adom, CPA  
Director

cc: James Donnelly, Executive Director  
Richard M. Riebeling, Director of Finance

Talia Lomax-O'dneal, Deputy Director of Finance  
Gene Nolan, Deputy Director of Finance  
Kim McDoniel, Chief of Accounts  
Mark Swann, Internal Audit  
Kevin Brown, Office of Financial Accountability  
Essie Robertson, Office of Financial Accountability  
Brad Thompson, Office of Financial Accountability



◆ Monitoring Report of ◆

# Backfield In Motion



Conducted by



## Office of Financial Accountability

September 30, 2011

MONITORING REPORT

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## INTRODUCTION

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The Office of Financial Accountability (hereinafter referred to as “OFA”) has completed a monitoring review of Backfield In Motion. A monitoring review is substantially less in scope than an audit. The OFA did not audit the financial statements and, accordingly, does not express an opinion or any assurances regarding the financial statements of the Backfield In Motion. The OFA is responsible for the internal monitoring of Metro agencies that receive federal and state financial assistance, including cooperative agreements and non-profit organizations that receive appropriations and Community Enhancement Funds from Metro government. In summary, any agreement(s) that imposes performance and/or financial requirements on Metro government is subject to review by the OFA.

The purpose of this review was to assess the agency’s compliance with contractual requirements set forth in the following contract with Metro Government:

Contract	Type	Grantor	Amount	Contract Term	
L-2468	Community Enhancement Funds (CEF)	Metro Government	\$105,000	July 1, 2010	June 30, 2011

### Agency Background

Backfield In Motion is a non-profit organization based in Nashville that believes academic achievements and exposure to diverse opportunities for learning can inspire inner-city boys to reach their maximum potential and to become significant contributors to society. Specifically, Backfield In Motion serves boys ranging from 10 to 18, with the majority of them coming from economically disadvantaged households within the Metropolitan Nashville area. The organization provides intensive tutoring throughout the week, plus a Saturday School which is made up of four hours of interactive, hands-on learning with the primary focus on reading, language arts, and math. The Backfield In Motion includes athletics as a motivational tool in support of their academic programs. Working in conjunction with the Metro Parks and Recreational Department, the organization coordinates a year-long sports league at area community centers.

## OBJECTIVES, SCOPE AND METHODOLOGY

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The objectives of our review were:

- 1) To determine whether the agency had the resources and capacity to administer the grant funds.
- 2) To determine if costs and services were allowable and eligible.
- 3) To verify that program objectives were met.
- 4) To test the reliability of the financial and programmatic reporting.
- 5) To verify contractual compliance.

The scope of our review was limited to the contract term July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011.

Audit procedures included meeting with agency management and staff, reviewing the design of internal controls as a basis for establishing our testwork, reviewing Board minutes and obtaining written representations from management. In addition, we examined certain financial records and supporting documentation necessary to ensure compliance with contractual requirements set forth in Contract L-2468. Specific procedures included:

- Interviewing the employees responsible for grant management, financial reporting, and accountability.
- Reviewing supporting documentation of expenditures for allowability, necessity and reasonableness.
- Reviewing the agency's General Ledger and verifying the accuracy of all invoices submitted to Metro.
- Reviewing documentation to determine that funds were used for intended beneficiaries and expended in accordance with the Spending Plan of the contract.
- Reviewing documentation to support program activities for consistency with grant requirements.
- Assessing the financial stability of the agency and its ability to continue to administer the grant program funded by Metro.

## RESULTS OF REVIEW

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### Summary of Results

Criteria	Yes	No
Sufficient Resources and Capacity to Administer Funds?	✓	
Costs and Services are Allowable and Eligible?	✓	
Program Objectives being Met?		✓
Reporting Requirements Met?	✓	
Sufficient Internal Control Environment?	✓	
Compliance with Civil Rights Requirements?	✓	

## **RESULTS OF REVIEW**

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The overall results of the monitoring review are provided in this section. Results are based on testwork performed and include conclusions regarding specific review objectives and, if applicable, recommendations for improvement and an action plan for implementation. Where applicable, the Findings and Recommendations section of this report provides more insight into any issues identified below.

### **1. Sufficient Resources and Capacity to Administer Grant Funds**

Our review of the agency's accounting system and the qualifications of the individuals assigned to manage the accounting records indicate that the agency possesses the necessary resources and professional expertise to effectively administer the grant funds.

### **2. Allowable and Eligible Costs and Services**

Our review covered all of the core compliance areas identified by OMB Circular A- 133: *Audit of States, Local Government, and Non-Profit Organizations*. Based on our test work, costs and services during the period were allowable and eligible. Costs incurred by the agency complied with applicable guidelines stated in OMB Circular A-122.

Additionally, the Metro Grants Manual requires separate accounting of the Metropolitan Nashville Government grant funds to prevent co-mingling of Metro Funds with other sources of funding. The agency was in compliance with this requirement. Different revenue classes as well as expenditure classes had been established to separately track the sources and amounts of funding. Also, the agency could easily and accurately report their expenses supported by the Metro Grant.

### **3. Program and Performance Objectives**

The grant contract stipulates that the agency was to provide the following program objectives:

## **RESULTS OF REVIEW**

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- Of 150 boys in the program, ages 10 – 18, those with 90% school attendance will show:
  - 1) 50% reduction in disruptive behavior during school hours.
  - 2) 95% school attendance rate.
  - 3) 1 letter grade increase in individual courses.

Based on our review of program documentation and discussions with staff, program performance objectives were not met and the agency was not in compliance with contractual program objectives. Please see Finding #1 for specific information regarding unmet program outcomes.

### **4. Reliability of Financial and Programmatic Reporting**

The contract requires submission of an annual audit report performed by a Certified Public Accountant. The contract also requires the agency to submit to Metro year end reports of the program outcome and a final expenditures report, no more than 45 days after the close of the contract. We reviewed all applicable financial and programmatic reports required by the contract, including audited financial statements. Based on our review, the agency was in compliance with the reporting requirements.

### **5. Internal Control Environment**

In order to determine the adequacy of the design of internal controls, we obtained and reviewed an independent auditor's report on internal control over financial reporting and/or a completed internal control questionnaire. This audit procedure was performed solely as a basis for determining our test work and to assist us in making suggestions for improvement to management.

Our review of the design of the agency's internal controls did not reveal any control deficiencies. Further, nothing came to our attention that would necessitate suggestions for improvement in internal control activities to management.

## **RESULTS OF REVIEW**

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### **6. Civil Rights Requirements**

Our review did not reveal anything to indicate that the agency was noncompliant with civil rights requirements. The agency also has necessary written policies and procedures relating to civil rights. The agency has not received any complaints regarding any form of discrimination. Further, civil rights and ADA postings are publicly displayed.

## **FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

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### **1. Program Performance Goals Not Met**

Backfield In Motion was to provide the following program objectives:

- Of 150 boys in the program , ages 10 – 18, those with 90% school attendance will show:
  - 1) 50% reduction in disruptive behavior during school hours.
  - 2) 95% school attendance rate
  - 3) 1 letter grade increase in individual courses.

Based on documentation reviewed and discussion with agency staff, the OFA auditor determined that only 60% of the program participants, and not 100% as required by the grant contract, increased one letter grade. OFA determined the agency had counted participants that improved in a particular course but may have digressed in one or more other courses as being successful.

### **Recommendation:**

The Backfield In Motion should ensure that program objectives of the CEF program are met.

### **Corrective Action Plan Required**

Please submit a corrective action plan indicating the actions the agency intends to take to correct the findings identified in this report. The corrective action plan should be submitted within 30 days from the report date to the address below:

Ms. Brandie Haywood, Director  
Division of Grants Coordination  
700 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue South, Suite 201  
P.O. Box 196300  
Nashville, TN 37219-6300