

**COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE**  
Inter-Office Communication

DATE : November 24, 1992

TO : **Supervisor Sheila A. Aldrich**

FROM : F. Thomas Ament, County Executive

SUBJECT : **AWARDS FROM THE FORD FOUNDATION FOR INNOVATIONS  
IN COUNTY GOVERNMENT**

The Ford Foundation in concert with the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University make annual awards to local governments whom they feel have made significant innovations. They are particularly interested in new state and local government programs which:

- Tap the creativity of front-line employees.
- Reshape core agency functions such as budgeting.
- Involve policy innovations of unusual significance.

The due date for a five to eight page nomination (format also attached) is January 6, 1993.

I believe we have some very innovative programs in process throughout County government. Whether or not they meet the grant criteria and whether or not we have operated them long enough to really have tested their permanence and their effectiveness are additional decisions. I ask that you share this announcement with your staff and give some serious thought to whether or not you have a program which the County should nominate.

In this instance the County system ought not compete against itself. Would you please send your nominations to Lynne Oehlke, Grants Coordinator, Courthouse, Room 212. She will batch and forward them to my office. If there is more than one nomination we will bring together a group representative of the branches of government to make the final decision.

Anticipating the advent of the Christmas/New Year Holiday would you have your nominations to Lynne by December 15. For our internal purposes your nomination need not be in final copy.

Thank you for your consideration.

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F. Thomas Ament

FTA:mc