CITY OF MADISON INTER-DEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

DATE: February 23, 2012

TO: Laura Noel

FROM: Gray Williams

SUBJECT: OutReach Inc., Services

Attached is a report from OutReach responding to Community Services Commission member's questions of whether Outreach's services were consistent with the goal of Program Area VI.

The report indicates that OutReach staff provides services or referrals in the areas of housing, food pantry, mental health, employment, support group activities for marginalized groups, homelessness, AODA, and abuse services. The agency is involved in considerable outreach efforts as well. For example, the agency has worked with the Senior Center to provide social opportunities for older members of the gay community – a group that traditionally has lacked services.

I met twice with Outreach staff (Executive Director, Program Director) at the OutReach office and was impressed by the range of services the agency provides and by the welcoming environment of the office. The Commission's December meeting will be at OutReach and members will be able then to gather more information on the agency's services and whether they are consistent with the Program Area VI goal.