

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Delinquency and Court Services Division (DHHS)
INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE: November 10, 2011

TO: Lee Holloway, Chairman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

FROM: Héctor Colón, Director, Department of Health and Human Services
Prepared by Eric Meaux, Administrator/ Chief Intake Officer – DCSD

SUBJECT: **Report from the Acting Director, Department of Health and Human Services, requesting authorization to accept grant revenue totaling \$117,911 from the Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance to support programs administered by the Delinquency and Court Services Division**

Issue

In accordance with section 56.06 of the County Ordinances, the Acting Director of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is requesting authorization to accept grant revenue from the Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance (OJA) to support programs administered by the Delinquency and Court Services Division (DCSD).

Background

DCSD has successfully applied for and received both State and Federal grant revenue to pilot and support new initiatives that have directly resulted in strategic programming for specific target populations served by the Division. These funding opportunities allow the Division to pilot new services and strategies that continue to test and improve the Division's response to youth involved in the juvenile justice system.

Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant (JAIBG) funds were initially awarded to Milwaukee County in 1999 to target youth found to be in possession of a firearm. This funding became available at a critical time when there was both a large number of youth being committed to State correctional facilities and a high demand for structured, community services for delinquent youth. These community services were viewed as effective in reducing youth reoffense, while resulting in cost-effectiveness and maintaining community safety.

Due to the success of the Firearm Project, the Division has continued to be eligible for JAIBG funds on an annual basis since 1999. As a result of the annual allocation of these funds by OJA, the Division has planned for the availability of these grant funds during annual budget development.

Similarly to the Firearm Project, the Serious Chronic Offender program, targets a specific juvenile subpopulation. In early 2009, in response to changing subpopulation demands for service, the current provider and the Division mutually agreed to combine the contract

allocations for the respective target populations to improve overall service capacity and provide program efficiencies. The subpopulations and program are now known as the Targeted Monitoring Program. This has removed episodic waitlist issues that become problematic for both the Division and the juvenile courts.

DCSD received notice of OJA approval on 6/7/2011 with funds being available on 4/1/2012 to support service capacity within the 2012 Budget.

Discussion

These grant funds allow the Division to provide more capacity for the Targeted Monitoring Program, a contractual service currently provided by the Running Rebels Community Organization. The Targeted Monitoring Program is comprised of two focus areas the target two separate juvenile subpopulations: 1) youth found in possession of a firearm (typically a handgun) and 2) youth determined to be serious chronic offender.

The Targeted Monitoring Program allows youth to remain in the community as an alternative to correctional placement. The program is intended to hold youth accountable, improve social competencies and reduce the probability of reoffense. These program services are considered targeted enhancements to regular probation services. All youth referred to the program have been adjudicated delinquent and are serving a supervision period under the supervision of the DCSD. Many youth are on a stayed order to juvenile corrections.

DCSD is required to report quarterly on a number of performance outcome measures during the period in which the grant funds are expended. DCSD has successfully maintained these requirements with in-house personnel since receiving the funds.

The award amount of \$117,911 will allow DCSD to maintain the current service capacity through 2012 including funds available in the 2012 Budget. The award amount includes a match of \$13,101, which is achieved through the anticipated 2012 purchase of service contract for the Targeted Monitoring Program.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the County Board of Supervisors authorize the Acting Director of DHHS, or his designee, to accept grant funds in the amount of \$117,911 associated with Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant: 2010-JB-15-8945 from the State of Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance.

Fiscal Impact

Approval of this request will result in no additional expenditures in 2012. The local match requirement is achieved within the 2012 Adopted Departmental budget and will not result in any tax levy change. A fiscal note is attached.



Héctor Colón, Acting Director
Department of Health and Human Services

cc: County Executive Chris Abele
Tia Torhorst, County Executive Staff
Terrence Cooley, Chief of Staff – County Board
Patrick Farley, Administrator – DAS
Pam Bryant, Interim Fiscal and Budget Administrator - DAS
CJ Pahl, Assistant Fiscal and Budget Administrator - DAS
Antoinette Thomas-Bailey, Fiscal & Management Analyst - DAS
Jennifer Collins, Analyst, County Board Staff
Jodi Mapp, Committee Clerk, County Board Staff