



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Justice Programs

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

Washington, D.C. 20531

MEMORANDUM

TO: Regina B. Schofield
Assistant Attorney General
Office of Justice Programs

FROM: J. Robert Flores
Administrator
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

DATE: July 23, 2007

SUBJECT: Award Recommendations: OJJDP FY 2007 Substance Abuse
Prevention and Intervention Programs

OVERVIEW

The Substance Abuse Prevention and Intervention Programs solicitation was posted on May 21, 2007 and closed on June 8, 2007. The purpose of this solicitation was to foster innovation and advancement in juvenile justice and child protection-related programs or strategies that focus on substance abuse prevention and/or intervention. The amount available for funding under this solicitation is \$5 million. Applicants were able to request amounts ranging from \$250,000 to \$1,000,000.

REVIEW PROCESS

Lockheed Martin managed the external peer review process. A total of 173 applications were received. The Basic Minimum Requirement review eliminated 14 applications either for formatting violations or failure to include a program narrative. A total of 159 applications were peer reviewed.

The OJJDP Administrator is recommending a total of ten grant applications; of these, nine grant applications were included in top 15 percent of non-faith-based grant applications and one grant application which received the highest score as a faith-based grant application.

OJP000010124

JUSTIFICATION

Given funding limitations, the Administrator awarded grants to qualified applicants that promoted OJJDP and Administration priorities. These priorities included applicants being new partners, focusing on a new population, or using new methods of collaborating among multiple disciplines with communities. Additionally, the Administrator selected applications where there is a significant and pre-existing investment by the applicant and partners. Applicants in rural areas that traditionally do not receive significant support, that advance systems change that will endure after funding ends, promote low cost interventions, or focus on priority populations or problems such as Native American youth or methamphetamine were favored.

A faith-based outreach program provides a unique opportunity to reach a targeted population who otherwise would not voluntarily seek assistance with substance abuse. This approach supports President Bush's Executive Order 13279 which guides *Federal agencies in formulating and developing policies with implications for faith-based organizations and other community organizations, to ensure equal protection of the laws for faith-based and community organizations, to further the national effort to expand opportunities for, and strengthen the capacity of, faith-based and other community organizations so that they may better meet social needs in America's communities, and to ensure the economical and efficient administration and completion of Government contracts.*

Applications seeking funding primarily for operations without providing for significant systems improvement, increasing focus on the highest risk youth, or adding a significant resource in the community that is extremely limited were disfavored.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The following applications are recommended for funding by OJJDP:

Non-Faith Based Grant Applications

Family Service of Rhode Island, Inc. (FSRI)

2007-51302-RI-JL (score 99.22%)

Rhode Island's child welfare agency, DCYF, certifies multiple, separate programs focusing on specific areas like children's mental health, child protection, family instability, and wayward and delinquent youth. DCYF is in the process of systems change, transforming their own separate programs into wrap-around care to reduce artificial barriers and constraints. These changes could provide a vehicle for funding prevention programs and increasing coordination with the juvenile justice system. FSRI intends to advance their current practice through a combination of system improvement and direct service prevention and intervention. The applicant proposes to advance the

knowledge base of juvenile justice practices by testing the effectiveness of an evidence-based substance abuse prevention model, CLFC, and a cannabis intervention model, MET/CBT and its adaptations for delinquency prevention targeting high-risk minority youth. \$250,000.

Hennepin County Department of Community Corrections

2007-51141-MN-JL (score 98.22%)

Hennepin County Department of Community Corrections proposes a county-wide implementation of Brief Intervention for Adolescent Alcohol and Drug Use, an intervention developed by Ken Winters, Ph.D. of the University of Minnesota and tailored for the juvenile justice population for youth involved in the criminal justice system in Hennepin County. This intervention has demonstrated promising results in a school setting and has recently been adapted for use with at-risk juvenile offenders. This intervention for juvenile justice youth with mild or moderate problems associated with alcohol or drug use includes four sessions, with each session lasting approximately one hour. Sessions one and three involve individual counseling with the adolescent; session two involves individual counseling with the parent or guardian; and session four provides a booster session for both the youth and parent. The primary goal of the brief intervention is to promote abstinence and prevent relapse among drug using and delinquent adolescents through the development of adaptive beliefs and problem-solving skills. The applicant expects to serve 1,000 youth who meet a definition of mild-to-moderate substance use and their parents in the course of the four-year grant period. \$750,000.

Our Lady of Lourdes Memorial Hospital, Inc.

2007-51174-NY-JL (score 97.22%)

Our Lady of Lourdes Memorial Hospital, Inc. Youth Services Department proposes to fund the Rural Methamphetamine Abuse Prevention Project (RMAPP). The proposed project will implement two effective evidence-based programs: *All Stars* and *Family and Schools Together* (FAST) - in the rural school districts of Broome and Tioga Counties to more effectively prevent reduce or delay the use and/or spread of methamphetamine abuse in these two vulnerable areas. Five rural school districts will be involved in the Rural Methamphetamine Abuse Prevention Project because of the prevalence of methamphetamine labs in these areas. *All Stars*, an alcohol and drug prevention program with a parent involvement component will reach approximately 1400 7th and 8th Grade students. *FAST*, a family strengthening program with a focus on alcohol and drug prevention and family communication will serve approximately 50- 60 children and their families. In addition to these two model prevention programs, approximately 300 school staff in the five schools will receive annual training on methamphetamine identification. \$447,500

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

2007-51132-MA-JL (score 95.8%)

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health Bureau of Substance Abuse Services, on behalf of the Governor's Interagency Council for Substance Abuse and Prevention, and in cooperation with five community coalitions, seeks to implement CASASTART prevention and intervention programs for 150 families of youth ages 8-13.

CASASTART is a community-based, school-centered intervention program for high risk youth which has proven positive outcomes for youth, their families and the community. Massachusetts seeks funding to advance implementation of CASASTART programs in five communities with the goals of strengthening collaboration among community agencies, improving the delivery and impact of services, evaluating practice and outcomes, and sustaining services. The participating communities represent every region in the state; each has a disproportionately high number of youth who are at high risk for or involved in delinquency, substance abuse, school failure, family violence, and social and behavioral problems. The applicant seeks funding to continue direct services, conduct an independent evaluation of the program, and improve/enhance program components in response to lessons learned from the evaluation. \$700,000.

Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters, Inc.
2007-51278-WY-JL (score 95.8%)

The Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters, in partnership with the Wyoming Department of Family Services, propose to expand a restorative justice, pilot program targeted at adjudicated youth, entitled: *Progressive Youth*. The program is intended to hold youth accountable for actions that harmed the community; reintegrate youth into their communities safely; and help youth become competent members of their community. The program provides youth with quality mentoring, academic assistance, meaningful community service and job training, community and family support services, and positive recreation opportunities. Expanding this program to additional Wyoming communities would enable implementation at a scale large enough to allow for formal experimental research and eventually potential practical application nationwide. \$811,447.

Pima Prevention Partnerships
2007-51361-AZ-JL (score 94.36%)

Pima Prevention Partnerships proposes to conduct experimental research on its Pima County Teen Court juvenile justice diversion program to demonstrate its effectiveness as an innovative approach in specifically reducing youth drug recidivism. The Pima County Teen Court (Teen Court) is a juvenile justice early intervention program that has been widely used in Pima County, AZ, for the past 12 years as a strategy for substance abuse prevention and intervention for first and second-time juvenile offenders (12-17). Averaging over 400 court-referrals each year (4,400 since program inception), the Pima County Teen Court is the largest Teen Court in the U.S. and participates actively at a national level with other Teen Courts and their Juvenile Court and Probation partners. As such, it provides a rich proving ground to foster innovation and advancements in juvenile

justice practice at the regional and national level by focusing research efforts to measure its effect in reducing drug and alcohol recidivism. An evaluation of Teen Court is expected to expand the local and national knowledge base and contribute to effective practice in the following three ways: 1.) distinguishing effective elements of the Teen Court model; 2.) providing data on minority youth populations; and 3.) examining the effectiveness of a peer-led restorative justice model. \$250,000

Third Judicial Circuit of Michigan, Clinic for Child Study

2007-51467-MI-JL (score 94.16%)

The Clinic for Child Study proposes to advance its present practice by training its therapists in an evidenced-based model of family therapy, Brief Strategic Family Therapy (BSFT), which has been established as a successful model to treat delinquent and substance abusing youth. The goal of this project is threefold: 1.) the Clinic aims to become more family-focused and to develop additional programming to address the needs of families; 2.) the Clinic wants to provide an evidenced-based model of family therapy to youth; and 3.) the Clinic plans to begin a home-based therapy program to increase intensity and success assisting youth on Intensive Probation (IPU) who are at risk of placement and drug use. BSFT focuses on improving parent-child interactions, parent training, and skill development. It is expected that the results of this program will demonstrate the impact that a family based model such as BSFT can provide with a challenging population. The findings will also inform Jurists of an alternative to placing youth out of their homes and help them recognize the importance of ordering services that address family issues impacting delinquent and substance abusing youth. Lastly, it is anticipated that reducing the number of youth that are placed within the juvenile justice system will reduce the cost of services for taxpayers and the county. \$374,059.

University of Montana

2007-51189-JL (score 93.94%)

The University of Montana, in collaboration with its partners, proposes to implement the Native Youth Rising: Trauma-Informed Youth and Family Services for Substance Abuse Prevention and Intervention (NYR), an innovative and trauma-informed approach to substance abuse treatment for American Indian youth. Partners will include the Montana Center for Childhood Trauma (MCCT) for the Assiniboine and Sioux tribes, Tribal Youth Services (TYS) department, the Spotted Bull Treatment Center, the Fort Peck Juvenile Probations Center, the public schools, and tribal elders. The NYR project will create a comprehensive, trauma-informed substance abuse youth services system that will: 1) decrease the percent of children involved in the juvenile justice system for substance abuse issues by providing evidence-based trauma treatment concurrent with substance abuse treatment; 2) reduce the percent of program youth who offend, or re-offend by providing evidence based trauma treatment for youth involved in the juvenile justice system; 3) reduce the percent of youth who offend, or re-offend by strengthening their family's ability to cope with their own, and their children's trauma; and 4) increase the number of families served by creating public awareness of the impact of loss and violence on well-being. \$800,000.

Phoenix House of Texas, Inc.
2007-52078-TX-JL (score 93.74%)

The Phoenix House of Texas, Inc. proposes a multi-disciplinary collaborative project that includes several community partners including the Harris County Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program (JJAEP), the Houston Public Housing Authority, Houston WorkSource and Phoenix House. The project's goal is to reduce substance abuse in the target population, strengthen the families of youth, and demonstrate the effectiveness of the community collaboration as an intervention approach. This partnership-building model has been designed for practical service delivery advancing the program's current model and using well documented research-based substance abuse prevention and intervention models that are available to the general public. The inclusion of the Department of Labor's WorkSource tools and skills will give the youth and their family opportunities for positive community connections, employment, and a better future. Community connections with home and school will be established through the participation of the Housing Authority and the Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program's Charter School. Goals of this project include improving system effectiveness by training staff on the selected prevention and intervention models and developing a community collaborative coalition that includes the juvenile, the family, the school, and other community participants. \$318,665

Faith Based Grant Application
Minnesota Teen Challenge
2007-51048-MN-JL (score 58.72%)

The purpose of Minnesota Teen Challenge's Drug and Alcohol Prevention Program is to support and augment the drug prevention efforts of Minnesota secondary-level schools in order to increase teenage awareness of the dangers of drug and alcohol use and decrease teenage drug and alcohol use, through the use of effective, proven prevention models. Program aspects utilize multi-media and interactive components and are conducted by presenters who are recovering addicts with close proximity in age and background to the students. These multi-faceted presentations include self-assessment surveys to measure program outcomes, along with the gathering of statistical data at each presentation. Along with student programming, this project also works with family members and schools to build a network of support through parents, guardians, teachers, counselors and administrative staff providing them with education, resources, and substantial means to successfully interact and combat teenage drug use. It is the goal of Minnesota Teen Challenge through the implementation of this prevention program to impart education, awareness, and tools to teenagers in order to increase their drug and alcohol refusal skills, thus reducing juvenile delinquency. As OJJDP has done with other promising grantees that have not scored highly but offer a sound program, substantial technical assistance and support will be provided this grantee. \$298,329.

SUMMARY

OJJDP recommends you approve 10 applications totaling \$5,000,000 for funding.

APPROVED

DISAPPROVED

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