

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM

SUBJECT: FY 2017 Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant

DATE OF MEETING: April 26, 2016

BUDGET IMPACT: \$551,040.00

FUNDING SOURCE

Annual

Capital

Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (\$551,040.00)

Regular Meeting

Work Session

Recommendation

Policy/Discussion

Report

Other

COUNTY ACTION REQUESTED ON: FY2017 Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant

HISTORY, FACTS AND ISSUES: In 2011, the Special Council on Criminal Justice Reform was formed to study Georgia's criminal justice system and was charged by Governor Nathan Deal with recommending policy changes. In keeping with Governor Deal's goal of increasing public safety through a more effective juvenile system, the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) and the Juvenile Justice Incentive Funding Committee has issued requests for proposals seeking local juvenile justice projects that aim to reduce the number of youth served out of home. This goal can be realized by using available grant funds to develop programs that address the needs of youth who are typically committed to the Department of Juvenile Justice.

In each of the last three years, Lowndes County has been awarded funding to implement evidence based diversion programs through the Juvenile Court System which provide the Judge alternatives to confinement for offending youth which appear before the court. First year funding was split between two programs, Functional Family Therapy (FFT) and Aggression Replacement Training (ART) and the current funding is allocated solely to the FFT.

The CJCC has recently announced the availability of funding for the Fiscal Year 2017 Grant Cycle. The current funding opportunity allows applicants that were awarded funding in previous years, and have demonstrated success in meeting the goals of the program, to submit a proposal for continuation of their current programs. Lowndes County currently funds two full time therapists to provide FFT in Lowndes County. For planning and budgeting purposes one therapist is allocated per 32 youth referred per year. Based on current and projected numbers Lowndes County Juvenile Court has a case load high enough to support a third therapist along with a supervisor which would bring the total youth capable of being served up to 112 per year. This will also improve the fidelity of the program as it will allow the supervision to take place here in Lowndes as opposed to the therapists reporting to a supervisor in Albany, as is currently the case.

Included as part of the application is an updated Memorandum of Understanding with Evidence Based Associates as the service provider for implementation of services and reporting requirements.

There will be no direct budget impact to Lowndes County as the grant covers 100% of the costs for program implementation up to the maximum grant award amount. However, the grant is a reimbursement grant which means that all costs associated with program implementation will be paid by Lowndes County and will be reimbursed upon the submission of appropriate documentation to the CJCC.

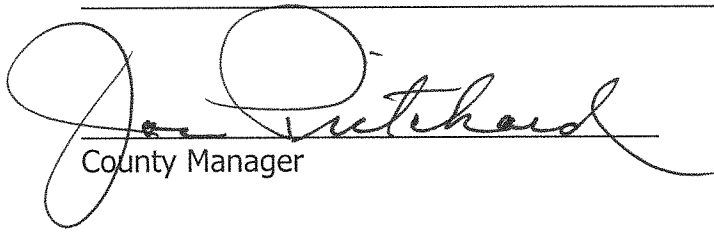
- OPTIONS: 1. Authorize the Chairman to sign the required documentation for staff to submit the proposal to CJCC.
2. Board's Pleasure

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Option 1

DEPARTMENT: Emergency Management

Department Head: Ashley Tye

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATION:



County Manager

Action Taken By Board: _____