

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM

SUBJECT: Approval of FY24 Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Grant
Application

DATE OF MEETING: July 25, 2023

Work Session/Regular
Session

BUDGET IMPACT: \$50,000.00 - 100% of eligible expenses are reimbursed by CJCC

FUNDING SOURCE:

- CJCC Funding - \$50,000.00
- Capital
- N/A
- SPLOST
- TSPLOST

COUNTY ACTION REQUESTED ON: Approval of FY2024 Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Grant
Application

HISTORY, FACTS AND ISSUES: In April 2022, Lowndes County was awarded funding as part of the Delinquency Prevention Grant for the implementation of evidence-based programs and prevention strategies for youth who are first-time offenders, diverted from the juvenile justice system, or charged with a status offense and identified as at risk. This funding was used to implement the Strengthening Families Program. In 2023, Lowndes County was awarded a grant for continuation funding. The Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) recently announced the availability of another round of continuation funding for Year 3 of programs for those who were previously awarded funding under this grant program.

Lowndes County is eligible for up to \$50,000.00 in continuation funding and intends to apply for the full amount in order to continue the Strengthening Families Program (SFP). This amount will allow for the provision of services to at least two (2) cohorts of SFP, an increase over the single cohort provided with the initial funding. Each cohort is a minimum of eight (8), and a maximum of twelve (12), youth and their families. During the FY2023 grant cycle, Lowndes County utilized Peaceway Counseling as the provider for SFP. They have successfully completed the first cohort for this grant cycle and the second cohort is currently underway. Peaceway has expressed an interest in continuing to be the service provider of SFP for FY24.

The Strengthening Families Program (SFP) is an evidence-based family skills training program for high-risk and general population families that is recognized both nationally and internationally. Parents and youth attend weekly SFP skills classes together, learning parenting skills and youth life and refusal skills. They have separate class training for parents and youth the first hour, followed by a joint family practice session in the second hour.

- OPTIONS: 1. Authorize staff to submit an application for the FY 2024 Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Grant to CJCC.
2. Board's Pleasure

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve

DEPARTMENT: Emergency Management

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Ashley Tye

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: