

W. G. B. 2.

Agenda Date: April , 2005

To: Lane County Board of Commissioners
Department: Youth Services

Presented By: Lisa Smith

- 1) Title: ORDER/ IN THE MATTER OF AUTHORIZING the Department of Youth Services to develop and submit a grant application to the Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) for up to \$400,000 per year for up to three years of the Family and Juvenile Treatment Drug Courts and Authorize the County Administrator to designate Youth Services' staff, Linda Wagner, as the authorizing representative for the purpose of this application.

I. MOTION:

- 2) Move approval of Board Order _____ \ IN THE MATTER OF AUTHORIZING the Department of Youth Services to develop and submit a grant application to the Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) for up to \$400,000 per year for up to three years of the Family and Juvenile Treatment Drug Courts and Authorize the County Administrator to designate Youth Services' staff, Linda Wagner, as the authorizing representative for the purpose of this application.

II. ISSUE:

Should Lane County submit an application to the Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to conduct a Lane County juvenile drug court and should the County Administrator designate Youth Services as the authorizing representative for the purpose of this application?

III. DISCUSSION:

a. Background

Program Background - The Lane County community is acutely aware of the negative impact of alcohol and other drug (AOD) issues. AOD manufacturing, delivery and abuse has produced crime, medical costs, child welfare trauma, domestic violence, the loss of life's potential, and other negative impacts. In response, the community has developed and implemented AOD prevention and treatment options.

As part of this effort, the Department of Youth Services (Youth Services) has focused on interrupting the cycle between juvenile crime and AOD usage for juvenile offenders. This work has produced a synergy between a) working with substance-abusing juvenile offenders, b) learning more about their needs and the needs of their families, c) identifying emerging national research concerning what works to respond to these needs, and d) testing the national research at a local level for program efficacy in this community. This work has created a *network* of local corrections officials, AOD treatment providers, school representatives, mental health specialists, and others to provide coordinated services to these youth. Network participants provide corrections interventions, family-based treatment, gender-specific and culturally relevant services, and out / in-patient options.

Research indicates that the network approach is greatly enhanced by a drug court model. It includes intensive and on-going court monitoring and supervision, random urinalysis, and incentives / sanctions.

Youth Services has piloted this model as part of the Breaking the Cycle project and Juvenile Drug Court Project. Staff received technical assistance through three Juvenile Drug Court workshops funded by SAMHSA. The workshops provided information on best practices concerning juvenile drug courts and allowed a team of local providers to plan a local project. The team includes: juvenile court judge, juvenile assistant district attorney, defense lawyer, probation counselor, drug treatment providers, school representatives, mental health specialist, and researcher.

The goal of the project is to serve substance-abusing juvenile offenders through the existing juvenile drug court components within a family-focused and strength-based model. The strength-based model is a departure from the traditionally “risk focused” corrections system. While youth are still assessed for levels of risk and corresponding needs, they are also assessed for individual and family strengths, e.g., what is working well. The goal is to capitalize on these strengths and use them to reduce risks.

. There is an on-going need to test the most effective intervention for substance-abusing juvenile offenders. Youth Services developed the RAP Court project initially through the Breaking the Cycle grant program. This functioned for three years. Under the Juvenile Drug Court Project grant some modifications were made including restricting youth who had committed “violent” offenses from participation. SAMHSA does not have restrictions on participating youth offenses. The drug court model has provided enough evaluation data to suggest it is a “promising” approach to working with juvenile offenders. Initial data found a seventy percent (70%) reduction in re-offending one year after referral to the program. Youth Services continues to track these juveniles for two and three years. Unfortunately, our current budget options are limited, if not declining. Federal funds provide the best support for continuing this program

Budget – The details of the budget need to be developed along with the grant application. Youth Services' goal in this application is to maximize funding for direct treatment. The grant parameters include up to \$400,000 in federal funds per year for up to three years with no required cash or "in-kind" match from the applicant agency.

Youth Services will request the full allowable indirect rate for federal grants.

Youth Services currently supports many AOD outpatient services for substance-abusing juvenile offenders through the Juvenile Breaking the Cycle (JBTC) grant and Juvenile Drug Court grant. Both projects will expire in FY 2005-2006. If awarded, the Juvenile Drug Court grant will begin on October 1, 2005. Youth Services anticipates a smooth transition between projects with no new hires for the drug court grant.

Evaluation – The federal project requires a local evaluation of the juvenile drug court which is also a desire of Youth Services. The evaluation must include a process and outcome evaluation. The process evaluation will track program implementation measurements like number of youth referred, retention rates, completion rates, dosage of services (court time, urinalysis, AOD treatment, family interventions, etc).

The outcome evaluation must include a pre / post design and a comparison group. This model looks at crimes before and after the intervention and compares them to a similar group of youth who did not receive the intervention. It answers the questions, "*What are program impacts and to what extent would these impacts occur without the program?*" The comparison group will be selected from a matched group of youth who took part in the Youth Intervention Network – a grant funded program which also included a "network" approach to case coordination but did not have a drug court intervention. Youth Services' research and development coordinator will manage data collection. Data analysis will be conducted in cooperation with the University of Oregon's Institute on Violence and Destructive Behavior.

Authorizing Youth Services As The Representative For The Purposes Of This Application – The SAMHSA gives applicants the ability to submit the applications on-line. This reduces the time it would take the application to arrive at the SAMHSA east coast offices and the likelihood of loss of the application. The SAMHSA requires that either the authorized representative (the County Administrator) submit the application or may designate Youth Services staff as the representative for the purpose of this application.

b. Analysis

SAMHSA has funds for existing juvenile drug courts. There is an established local need for this program and national research suggesting it is a promising approach. Youth Services, in working with the U of O, has the expertise to conduct a rigorous test of the program in our community. There are no alternative funds to test this program. This grant

will allow us the opportunity to provide this program and increase our knowledge base concerning what works for substance-abusing juvenile offenders.

In terms of authorizing Linda Wagner to submit the application, the primary on-line submission process that SAMHSA developed assumes that the authorizing agent will also submit the grant. SAMHSA has a secondary on-line application process that acknowledges that staff other than the authorizing agent may conduct the grant work. This latter process allows the authorizing agent to designate staff within a sub-unit of government to submit the application.

It is more appropriate for Youth Services' grant writer to conduct the submission work than ask the County Administrator to do that work for the department. Youth Services will supply a final hard copy of the application to the County Administrator prior to submitting the application

One of the only disadvantages of this application is the fact that, like all grants, it has a cap on funding years. As Youth Services reviewed that issue, we asked the question, "What will we get at the end of three years that we will not have without the grant?" The responses are: 1) We will have conclusive evidence of program efficacy; 2) We will have generated fourteen years of non-county general funds specifically for juvenile offenders with AOD issues (five years of the YIN project, three years of Juvenile Breaking the Cycle, and three years of juvenile drug court with the possibility of an additional three years of juvenile drug court); and 3) It will expand our options for working with substance abusing juvenile offenders.

c. Alternatives

1. Approve the request to develop and submit the grant application and authorize the county administrator to designate Youth Services' staff, Linda Wagner, as the authorizing representative for the purpose of submitting this application
2. Reject the request to develop and submit the application.
3. Approve the request to develop and submit the application and reject the request to designate Linda Wagner as the authorizing representative for the purpose of submitting this application and designate the County Administrator as the authorizing representative.

d. Impact of Each Alternative

1. Approval allows Youth Services to compete for funding and provide the benefits described in this order and designates Linda Wagner to submit the grant.
2. Rejection omits Youth Services from the opportunity to be considered for funding.
3. Approval allows Youth Services to compete for funding but reduces time to work on the grant application due to time needed to get hard copy of grant to the east coast and increases the opportunity for the application to be lost and or mis-directed which could result in the proposal not being considered for funding. If this option is selected a hard copy of the application will be submitted to the County Administrator for his signature.

e. Recommendation

Approve alternative 1.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION

April 15, 2005 – grant application is due
Fall, 2005 - BCC authorization of grant award

V. ATTACHMENTS

1. Proposed board order.

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, LANE COUNTY, OREGON

ORDER AND RESOLUTION 01 - _____

IN THE MATTER OF AUTHORIZING
YOUTH SERVICES TO DEVELOP AND
SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION TO
THE SUBSTANCE ABUSE MENTAL
HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
(SAMHSA) FOR UP TO \$400,000 PER
YEAR FOR UP TO THREE YEARS OF
THE FAMILY AND JUVENILE
TREATMENT DRUG COURTS AND
AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY
ADMINISTRATOR TO DESIGNATE
YOUTH SERVICES' STAFF, LINDA
WAGNER, AS THE AUTHORIZING
REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE PURPOSE
OF THIS APPLICATION

WHEREAS, The SAMHSA memorandum has been reviewed with approval by the Board of Commissioners and Youth Services; and

WHEREAS, federal funding is available to fund services for juvenile offenders with alcohol and other drug problems; and

WHEREAS, There is a demonstrated relationship between juvenile delinquency and alcohol and other drug problems; and

WHEREAS, Youth Services is prepared to develop and submit the SAMHSA grant application.

NOW THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Youth Services is authorized to develop and submit the grant application to SAMHSA and that the County Administrator has authority to designate Youth Services' staff, Linda Wagner, as the representing agent for purposes of this application.

APPROVED this _____ day of April, 2005.

Anna Morrison, Chair
BOARD OF LANE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

APPROVED AS TO FORM
Date 3/29/05 lane county
[Signature]
OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL