

W. 3.

Memorandum Date: January 31, 2007
Order Date: February 13, 2007

TO: Board of County Commissioners

DEPARTMENT: Children & Families

PRESENTED BY: Alicia Hays, Department Director

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING THE SUBMITTAL AND, IF AWARDED, ACCEPTANCE OF A GRANT TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, OFFICE OF JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$450,000 OVER THREE YEARS FOR A FAMILY DRUG COURT PROGRAM

I. MOTION

Move to approve submittal and, if awarded, acceptance of a grant to the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention in the amount of \$450,000 over three years for a Family Drug Court Program.

II. AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Each year, many parents in Lane County have their children removed from their homes and eventually placed for adoption due to methamphetamine use. The goal of the Family Drug Courts Program is to build the capacity of states, state courts, local courts, units of local government, and Indian tribal governments to develop and establish drug courts for substance-abusing adults who are involved with the family court due to child abuse and neglect issues. This service is not currently available in Lane County. A community collaborative in Lane County is developing a grant proposal requesting funds from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Family Drug Courts Program. The Family Drug Courts grant program is an opportunity for our community to address gaps in our response to substance abuse and child maltreatment.

III. BACKGROUND/IMPLICATIONS OF ACTION

A. Board Action and Other History

Lane County has not submitted an application for funding for this program before. The County does have an active Adult Drug Court Program in Circuit Court. The Family Drug Court would be part of Dependency Court held at the Juvenile Justice Center on the John Serbu Youth Campus.

B. Policy Issues

This grant application is in line with the County's policies and procedures as well as the purpose and objectives of the Department of Children & Families (DCF). If awarded, the department will administer the grant, with contracting assistance from Health & Human Services (H&HS), and will provide support and assistance to the grant partners. The majority of the funds will pass through to local providers with no significant change in the scope of work for the department.

C. Board Goals

The Comprehensive Community Plan for Services to Children, Youth and Families was approved by the Board of County Commissioners on June 23, 2004 (BO 04-6-23-11) and can be found at:

<http://www.co.lane.or.us/CCF/documents/ComprehensiveCommunityStrategicPlan2004finaljun04.pdf>

It includes the following priorities which the Family Drug Court would help achieve:

High Level Outcome 1: Reduce Adult Substance Abuse

C) Incorporate "strength-based" approaches to services across the continuum of prevention and treatment services.

C1) Promote strength-based treatment models across the continuum of youth and adult treatment services. Specific service priorities include funding for case management services that help the client/family access needed services and family skills enhancement/ development strategies.

High Level Outcome 4: Reduce Child Maltreatment

C) Increase capacity, accessibility and efficacy of community-based supports and services for families

C1) Increase support and access to information, advocacy, and respite services for families in high risk situations, such as raising children with special needs, poverty, drug abuse, parents with disabilities.

C2) Link families exhibiting risk factors for poor childhood outcomes to services including home visiting, parenting classes, a parent help-line, therapeutic early childhood classrooms, respite childcare, and other community-based services.

C3) Design and expand programs specifically for children exposed to domestic violence.

C5) Increase mental health resources for children and families, including recovering from parents' own childhood trauma.

D. Financial and/or Resource Considerations

Willamette Family and Emergence are the current Drug Court treatment providers. If this grant is awarded, Health & Human Services will amend their current

contracts for amounts falling within the allowable limit for amendments in order to provide additional drug court treatment for the Family Drug Court. Funds will also be provided to Oregon Department of Human Services/Child Welfare through intergovernmental agreement for flexible funds to purchase an array of wraparound services. The grant budget will include funding for DCF staff to carry out grant administration duties, including intergovernmental agreements, preparation and submission of required fiscal and program reports, communications with federal project officers, and participation in additional project planning and design by the Family Drug Court Team.

E. Analysis

The objective of the Family Drug Courts Program is to build the capacity of states, state courts, local courts, units of local government, and Indian tribal governments to develop and establish drug courts for non-violent parents involved in the child protection system due to child abuse and neglect issues. In 1994, the Circuit Court in Lane County, Addiction Counseling and Education Services, Inc. (now Emergence), the DA's Office, the Public Defenders' Office, and Lane County Health & Human Services collaboratively developed the second drug court in Oregon, the twenty-second drug court in the nation.

Child abuse and neglect dependency cases are handled by the Juvenile Court in Lane County. Methamphetamine use by parents involved in abuse and neglect cases has been growing and is a major factor in cases where children are removed from their homes. The current system handling these cases has an array of problems and challenges which keep the success rate low:

- Cases set for trial may not come before the judge for 60 days or more
- Caseloads for child welfare workers are very high, meaning follow-up and home visits with families are not frequent enough
- Children removed from their homes are not returned as quickly as they could be
- Parents come before the court for two hearings then the judge does not see them again for a year, so they miss the motivational impact of appearing before the court
- The process lacks accountability and reports back to the court are infrequent
- The focus is more on the parent than on the child for treatment even though the child has been through considerable trauma and may not be ready for re-integration into the family

The goal of this project is to decrease the number of children placed outside the family through an immediate response of treatment, wraparound services, and supervision by the court coupled with child welfare program case management. The Family Drug Court Team designing this project includes the Juvenile Court Judge Kip Leonard along with DHS Child Welfare management, defense

attorneys, a public defender, the Assistant DA assigned to juvenile and dependency cases, LCOG's evaluation coordinator, the Circuit Court Administrator, Willamette Family, Emergence, and DCF staff. All these partners are required by the funder to be included on the Team and in crafting the grant application.

These partners agree there is a strong need for a Family Drug Court in Lane County. They are willing to pool their current resources to address these cases and, with the additional support from a Family Drug Courts Program grant, become more effective with families where methamphetamine abuse is contributing to the abuse and neglect of children. The partners believe that by working collaboratively they can better address child maltreatment and its causes.

Administrative Policies and procedures questions for Grant Applications:

1. What is the match requirement, if any, and how is that to be covered for the duration of the grant?

This grant require \$150,000 match which can be cash or inkind over the three year period of the grant. This match will be provided by Circuit Court and DHS Child Welfare Program, partners in this effort.

2. Will the grant require expenditures for Material and Services or capital not fully paid for by the grant?

No, all expenditures will be fully paid for by the grant.

3. Will the grant funds be fully expended before county funds need to be spent?

There are no county funds in the budget for this application.

4. How will the administrative work of the grant be covered if the grant funds don't cover it?

All administrative expenses will be covered by grant funds. DCF will administer the grant, with contracting assistance from Health & Human Services (H&HS). The majority of the funds will pass through to local providers with no significant change in the scope of work for the department. DCF will be responsible for Intergovernmental Agreements with Oregon Department of Human Services/Child Welfare and LCOG; H&HS will be responsible for contract administration with Drug Court treatment providers.

5. Have grant stakeholders been informed of the grant sun-setting policy so there is no misunderstanding when the funding ends? Describe plan for service if

funding does not continue.

The Family Drug Court Team understands that the grant period is three years; further, partners understand that this is a competitive, discretionary program and there is no guarantee of continuation funding from OJJDP. The stakeholders creating the application understand this application must include a plan for sustaining services beyond the life of the federal funding.

6. What accounting, auditing, and evaluation obligations are imposed by the grant conditions?

This grant requires semi-annual progress reports and quarterly financial reports; grantees are required to collect certain data to comply with the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 (GPRA). As the lead department on this grant, DCF will be responsible for assuring this obligation is met; the data collection obligation will be a key requirement in contractual work plans. The grant also requires an outside evaluation. Lane Council of Governments will provide this service under an intergovernmental agreement with Lane County and will assist with data collection for reporting.

7. How will the department cover the accounting, auditing, and evaluation obligations? How are the costs for these obligations covered, regardless whether they are in the department submitting the grant or a support service department? Does the department acknowledge that the county will need to cover these costs and it is an appropriate cost incurred by support service departments?

Accounting, auditing, and evaluation costs will be covered by the grant funds. DCF will fulfill auditing/accounting activities. As noted above, GPRA requirements will be included in contractual work plans.

8. Are there any restrictions against applying the county full cost indirect charge?

The budget to be submitted includes indirect charges at the negotiated rate. Should the budgeted amount be inadequate, DCF will absorb the excess with Oregon Commission on Children & Families funding that allows for community mobilization and resource development.

9. Are there unique or unusual conditions that trigger additional county work effort or liability, i.e., maintenance of effort requirements or supplanting prohibitions or indemnity obligations?

This grant has a requirement against supplanting state or local funds. This requirement is not unique and exists with other federal grant agreements currently administered by DCF.

F. Alternatives/Options

1. Approve the submittal of the Family Drug Court grant application and, if awarded, accept the grant award and authorize the County Administrator to sign all grant application and award related documents.
2. Decline to submit the grant proposal at this time. The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention eligibility criteria state that grants under the Family Drug Courts Program may only be awarded to states, state courts, local courts, units of local government, and Indian tribal governments. The community partners working on this effort have no other potential local government partner and must undergo a lengthy process to obtain State approval to apply. This process could not be completed in time to apply for the funding. The county is already the lead agent for Adult Drug Court funding. Should the Board decline to approve the submission of this grant application, the local community will not have an opportunity to benefit from these federal funds.

IV. RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommend Option 1: Adopt the Order to authorize the County Administrator to sign the grant application and all related grant award documents.

V. TIMING/IMPLEMENTATION/FOLLOW UP

The Board must take action at its meeting February 13th in order to meet the deadline for electronic submission in Washington, DC, on February 14th, 2007. Upon Board approval the grant will be submitted.

VII. ATTACHMENTS

Board Order

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, LANE COUNTY, OREGON

ORDER No. IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING THE SUBMITTAL AND, IF AWARDED, ACCEPTANCE OF A GRANT TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, OFFICE OF JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$450,000 OVER THREE YEARS FOR A FAMILY DRUG COURT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency, is requesting proposals for Family Drug Courts Program Grants; and

WHEREAS, Lane County through the Department of Children and Families is working with agencies, groups, and services supporting children and families involved in dependency cases to develop a competitive proposal; and

WHEREAS, reducing adult substance abuse by incorporating "strength-based" approaches to services across the continuum of prevention and treatment services is a priority in Lane County Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, reducing child maltreatment by increasing capacity, accessibility and efficacy of community-based supports and services for families is a priority in Lane County's Comprehensive Plan; and

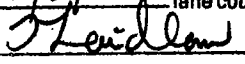
WHEREAS, the grant application amount is beyond the County Administrator's delegated authority, and

WHEREAS, if the proposal is approved and funding awarded, the revenue agreement will be beyond the County Administrator's delegated authority;

NOW IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT the Board of County Commissioners approve the submission of the grant to the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention for the Family Drug Courts Program and delegate the County Administrator to sign the application; and, it is further

ORDERED that the Board of County Commissioners delegate authority to the County Administrator to accept the award and sign a revenue agreement with the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention in the amount of \$450,000 over a period of three years.

APPROVED this _____ day of February, 2007

APPROVED AS TO FORM
Date 2/5/07 lane county

OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL

Faye Stewart, Chair
BOARD OF LANE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS