



# Pinellas County

## Staff Report

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File #: 22-1284A, Version: 1

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### **Subject:**

Funding recommendations for the 2021 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant-Countywide and related grant administration documents.

### **Recommended Action:**

Approval of funding recommendations by the Substance Abuse Advisory Board (SAAB) documents for the 2021 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Countywide (JAG-C) and execution of the funding distribution letter, and approval and execution of the letter for delegation of authority to the County Administrator for JAG-C for the remaining grant items

- The JAG-C is a formula-based U.S. Department of Justice pass-through grant administered by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE). It supports projects that help reduce crime and improve the criminal justice system.
- Based on crime and population statistics, FDLE has allocated \$237,081.00 for Pinellas County. This is a slight increase over last year (\$236,358.00). No local match is required.
- The SAAB reviewed applications for projects to be funded by JAG-C. The selected projects were voted on and recommended by the SAAB on July 26, 2022.
- The JAG-C will provide \$237,081.00 in funding to support seven projects in Pinellas County.

A delegation letter is requested for FDLE to allow the County Administrator to complete the application process.

### **Strategic Plan:**

Ensure Public Health, Safety, and Welfare

2.1 Provide planning, coordination, prevention, and protective services to ensure a safe and secure community

2.2 Be a facilitator, convener, and purchaser of services for those in need

Deliver First Class Services to the Public and Our Customers

5.2 Be responsible stewards of the public's resources

### **Summary:**

Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Countywide (JAG-C), is a formula-based pass-through grant of federal funds awarded to Pinellas County by the FDLE through the Bureau of Justice Assistance. JAG-C applications were received through a competitive solicitation and reviewed by the Substance Abuse Advisory Board (SAAB). On July 26, 2022, the SAAB approved the recommendation of seven (7) projects for funding.

JAG-C has a multistep process that requires a Certificate of Participation, coordination of 51% letters from the community, facilitation of award recommendations and application submissions, acceptance of awards, and award administration. The delegation letter provides documentation to FDLE

regarding the authority to sign JAG-C-related documents that do not require Board approval.

**Background Information:**

The JAG-C is a recurring DOJ pass-through grant administered by FDLE. JAG-C Projects must fall within a specific federal purpose area that reduces crime and/or improves the criminal justice system. Florida's JAG-C program represents 60% of the state's total federal Justice Assistance Grant award. The program is governed by Rule 11D-9 of the Florida Administrative Code (Code 11D-9) and funds are allocated to the County based partially on population and crime statistics.

The SAAB was established in 1989 to comply with Code 11D-9, stating Florida counties should appoint a substance abuse policy board that represents all components of the criminal justice system. The SAAB serves in an advisory capacity to the Board of County Commissioners and one of its primary duties is to review applications and recommend projects to be funded by JAG-C.

**Fiscal Impact:**

Funding in an amount not to exceed \$237,081.00 is provided by the JAG-C to support seven (7) projects in Pinellas County. Of these projects, five (5) will be administered by Human Services. These projects have a combined total of \$153,708.00.

The City of Tarpon Springs and Pinellas County Sheriff's Office will administer their own respective project directly with FDLE. These two projects have a combined total of \$83,373.00.

Funding to support this agreement was anticipated and included in the FY22 Adopted Budget. This item is consistent with the development of the FY22 estimate and FY23 budget.

**Staff Member Responsible:**

Karen Yatchum, Director, Human Services

**Partners:**

Directions for Mental Health, Inc. DBA Directions for Living  
MORE Health, Inc.  
Pinellas County Sheriff's Office  
Suncoast Center, Inc.  
City of Tarpon Springs  
WestCare  
The Florida Department of Law Enforcement  
U.S. Department of Justice

**Attachments:**

JAG-C Funding Recommendations  
Letter Delegating Authority to County Administrator

JAG-C 51% Approval Letter  
Lobbying Debarment and Drug-Free Certificate