

## **Abstract**

Pinellas County, Florida, on behalf of the Sixth Judicial Circuit, is requesting Joint Adult Drug Court Grant Program funds in the amount of \$1,275,000 (\$300,000 from BJA and \$975,000 from SAMHSA, over a three-year period) to expand and enhance the capacity of its Adult Drug Court program. Established in 2001, the Sixth Judicial Circuit's Adult Drug Court of Pinellas County, Florida, assists nonviolent offenders to achieve successful rehabilitation from the use of drugs and/or alcohol. The Sixth Judicial Circuit's Adult Drug Court is in adherence with all ten (10) key components of drug courts as identified by BJA and SAMHSA.

With the implementation of the proposed *Elevate* program, the Sixth Judicial Circuit will increase and improve its ability to reduce crime and substance abuse among high risk/high need, nonviolent youthful offenders (ages 18-30) who are diagnosed with a substance abuse disorder (SUD), have experienced trauma and may also be living with a mild co-occurring mental health disorder, and are in immediate need of treatment.

During a three (3)-year period from 2015 to 2018, at least 185 youthful offenders will be enrolled in *Elevate* and will be served utilizing BJA and SAMHSA funding. *Elevate* will utilize a Risk-Need-Responsivity (RNR) model and the Level of Service Inventory-Revised™ (LSI-R™) to match each offender's level and intensity of services to his/her level of risk and relative to his/her needs. Treatment providers, WestCare GulfCoast-Florida, Inc. and Center for Rational Living (subgrantees), will employ several evidence-based programs and practices (from NREPP) including Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT), Seeking Safety (SS), Wellness Recovery Action Plan (WRAP) and Motivational Interviewing (MI). *Elevate* also incorporates a unique home visitation component within its community-based comprehensive case management services which maximizes coordination with probation officers.

All services offered will be evidence-based, trauma informed, gender responsive and in alignment with the National Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) in Health and Health Care. The overall goal of the proposed program is to expand and enhance the capacity of the Sixth Judicial Circuit to address gaps in the continuum of treatment and facilitate reductions in recidivism and substance abuse among the population of focus that will increase the likelihood of their successful reintegration into their community.