

Project Summary - AURORA

Pinellas County, Florida, on behalf of the Sixth Judicial Circuit, is requesting BJA grant funds in the amount of \$500,000 (\$166,666 per year for up to three years) to expand and enhance the capacity of its Adult Drug Court program. The Sixth Judicial Circuit's Adult Drug Court of Pinellas County has been offering the non-violent offender, who struggles with the disease of addiction, a safe and therapeutic judicial environment to assist nonviolent offenders achieve successful rehabilitation. The Sixth Judicial Circuit's Adult Drug Court of Pinellas County adheres to the best practices of adult drug courts outlined by the National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP). By implementing the proposed AURORA project, the Sixth Judicial Circuit will improve its ability to effectively provide meaningful therapeutic services to the target high risk population of individuals with history of sexual abuse and/or victims of human trafficking. By improving the services provided to aforementioned population, the Sixth Judicial Circuit will continue to build on reducing crime and substance abuse among high-risk/high-need, nonviolent offenders who are diagnosed with substance abuse disorder. During the three-year grant period, 2020 to 2023, the proposed program will serve 100 offenders. The program will utilize a client-centered approach which will identify the individual's specific strengths, needs, abilities and preferences to structure the therapeutic interventions to most effectively assist the individual successfully reaching their goals. The treatment provider, Center for Rational Living (CRL), will utilize several evidence-based therapeutic modalities and programs including Rational Emotive Behavioral Therapy (REBT), Seeking Safety (SS), Motivational Interviewing (MI) and Accelerated Resolution Therapy (ART). All therapeutic interventions will be evidence-based, gender-specific and trauma informed. The goal of the proposed program is to address the needs of a specific high-risk/high-need population identified in the community, which is currently underserved, and provide an effective client-centered therapeutic program addressing both substance abuse and trauma related issues.