

Project Abstract: Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners

Pinellas County Human Services, 440 Court Street, 2nd Floor, Clearwater, FL 33756
Grant CFDA# 93.243

Project Title: Pinellas Adult Drug Court Expansion and Enhancement
Project Director: Nick Bridenback, Sixth Judicial Circuit
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Federal Funding Requested: \$2,000,000 for 5 years

The Sixth Judicial Circuit is proposing to apply for SAMHSA Treatment Drug Court funds (TI-19-002) in the amount of \$2,000,000 over five years 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 program, the Sixth Judicial Circuit will increase and improve its ability to reduce crime and substance abuse among high risk/high need, nonviolent offenders 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 five (5)-year period from 2019 to 2024, at least 315 offenders will be enrolled in the expansion program and will be served utilizing SAMHSA funding. The project will utilize a Risk-Need-Responsivity (RNR) model to match each offender's level and intensity of services to his/her level of risk and relative to his/her needs. Treatment provider WestCare GulfCoast-Florida, Inc. (subgrantee), will employ several evidence-based programs and practices including Moral Reconation Therapy (MRT), Seeking Safety (SS), Wellness Recovery Action Plan (WRAP) and Motivational Interviewing (MI). 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 (The Adult Drug Court is currently facing both outpatient and residential treatment funding shortfalls) 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.