



Pinellas County

Staff Report

File #: 23-0687A, Version: 1

Subject:

Letter to rescind funds for award acceptance 8C218 - Directions - Telehealth Remote Access to Crisis Intervention for the Fiscal Year 2021 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Countywide.

Recommended Action:

Approval to rescind funds for award acceptance for 8C218 - Directions - Telehealth Remote Access to Crisis Intervention for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Countywide (JAG-C).

- 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.
- For FY21, JAG-C can provide up to \$237,081.00 in funding to support projects in Pinellas County.
- On July 26, 2022, the Substance Abuse Advisory Board reviewed and ranked applications for projects to be funded by JAG-C and developed award recommendations for the Board of County Commissioners. Four non-profits were recommended for awards, in addition to an award for the Human Services Department and the City of Tarpon Springs.
- Since being award, one non-profit, Directions for Mental Health, Inc. d/b/a Directions for Living (Directions) for Telehealth Remote Access to Crisis Evaluation counselor position (\$57,500.00), has decided not to proceed or to sign their agreement. Funding for Directions must be rescinded from Directions and released to FDLE, because the application stage has passed.
- Funding to support this agreement was partially anticipated and \$150,650.00 is included in the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget. A budget resolution for additional funds is no longer needed.

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

5.1 Maximize partner relationships and public outreach

5.2 Be responsible stewards of the public's resources

5.3 Ensure effective and efficient delivery of county services and support

Summary:

On July 26, 2022, the SAAB approved the recommendation of six (6) projects for funding under JAG-C. These recommendations were approved by the Board on October 11, 2022. One of the awarded non-profits, Directions has decided not to proceed or sign their agreement due to concerns with standard contract and grant terms and conditions. At this point in the state grant process, Direction's portion of the proposed JAG-C award must be rescinded and released to FDLE because the application stage has passed.

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.

Fiscal Impact:

Initial funding in an amount not to exceed \$237,081.00 was to be provided by the JAG-C to support six (6) projects in Pinellas County, with \$196,208.00 of that funding being administered directly by Human Services. However, since Directions for Living (\$57,500.00) will not be moving forward Human Services will administer a total of \$138,708.00 across three (3) non-profits and an award for the department.

The City of Tarpon Springs will administer its own project directly with FDLE. Their project total is \$40,873.00.

Funding to support this agreement was partially anticipated and \$150,650.00 is included in the FY23 Budget. A budget resolution for additional funds is no longer needed.

Staff Member Responsible:

Karen Yatchum, Director, Human Services

Partners:

MORE Health
Suncoast
WestCare
FDLE

Attachments:

Letter to Cody Menacof, Bureau Chief