



Pinellas County

Staff Report

File #: 18-097D, Version: 1

Subject:

Grant Application for Improving Criminal Justice Responses to Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence and Stalking with the U.S. Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women.

Recommended Action:

Approval and execution by the County Administrator of the supplemental forms and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for a grant application to be submitted to the U.S. Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women (OVW).

Strategic Plan:

Ensure Public Health, Safety, and Welfare

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

Summary:

The Improving Criminal Justice Responses Program challenges communities to work collaboratively to identify problems and share ideas that will result in effective responses to ensure victim safety and offender accountability. The local project proposes to focus on reducing domestic violence and domestic violence homicides in Pinellas County. It is a collaboration with the County, Sixth Judicial Circuit, Community Actions Stops Abuse (CASA), The Haven of Religious Community Alternatives and the Pinellas County Sheriff.

Background/Explanation:

The Pinellas County Civil Domestic Violence Court offers intake coverage by local domestic violence service providers, legal assistance for petitioners, a general magistrate to handle child-related issues on the same day as the final order of protection is granted, and implementation of a compliance monitoring program. Pinellas County was previously awarded a three-year domestic violence grant in 2014. The grant was able to assist 881 victims by providing legal representation and case management services for sexual assault, domestic violence and dating violence.

The current grant application seeks to maintain the previous grant-funded efforts as well as to focus on adults (defendants and victims) who are parties to misdemeanor domestic battery cases. The project anticipates providing these enhancements to over 5,000 cases during the grant period.

Fiscal Impact:

Requested federal grant funding is \$300,000.00 per year for 3 years, for a total request of \$900,000.00. No cost sharing/match is required.

Delegated Authority:

Authority for the County Administrator to sign this Grant Application, Memorandum of Understanding and supplemental forms is granted under Code Section 2-62 (a)(4).

Staff Member Responsible:

Daisy Rodriguez, Health Care Administrator, Human Services

Partners:

Sixth Judicial Circuit Court

Pinellas County Sheriff

Community Action Stops Abuse, Inc.

The Haven of Religious Community Services, Inc.

U.S. Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women

Attachments:

OMB Intent to Apply

Project Narrative

Memorandum of Understanding

Certification of Eligibility Letter

Confidentiality Notice Form

Letter of Nonsupplanting

HIV Certification