



APPENDIX I - THE APPLICATION

Organization Name: Collin County

Amount Requested: \$100,000

Series 16A – General Assistance

Grant Funding Period: January 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016

All information must be in sufficient detail to ensure the application can be weighed with other application. Do not leave any item blank. Refer to Section V. Grant Application of the accompanying Series 16A RFA document for further instructions.

The grant funding period is based on a 12-month calendar from January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016. The required expenditure and program performance benchmarks (below) should be used as guidelines when completing the Application.

Date	Grant Period Elapsed	Amount Expended	Performance Met
April 1	25%	15%	15%
July 1	50%	40%	40%
October 1	75%	70%	70%

Part I – Proposed Project Information

Proposed Project Name

1. Provide a name for the Proposed Project.
Veterans' Court Assistance

Amount Requested

Check the one box for the amount being requested. Applicants must refer to RFA Section XXX to ensure they are able to support request amount with correct financial documentation and other requirements.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$5,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$125,000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$15,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$150,000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$20,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$200,000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$300,000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$75,000 | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> \$100,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500,000 – <u>This amount may only be requested for Statewide Projects</u> |

Grant Project Service Category

Check the one box that best describes the nature of the Proposed Project. See Page 11 of the General Assistance – Series 16A RFA for more information about what may be included in the Service Categories listed below. **Mental Health projects will not be funded under this General Assistance grant.** Please see the Veterans Mental Health RFA and Application for funding requests for Mental Health projects.

Proposed Project Service Category

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Financial Assistance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Employment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Family Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Legal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Referral |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Supportive Services |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Veterans Court |



APPENDIX I - THE APPLICATION

Organization Name: Collin County

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Grant Funding Period: January 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016

Is this proposed project a new project, an expansion of current services, or continuation of an existing FVA-funded project?

- ☐ New
☒ Expansion
☐ Continuation

Geographic Service Area(s)

The counties that will be served by this grant are called the Geographic Service Area(s). All Texas counties are grouped into one of eight regions. Check **all** counties, regardless of region, that the Proposed Project will serve. If the Proposed Project provides services to Veterans living in all counties statewide, only check the statewide box.

Rural Counties, per the Office of Rural Health Policy, are designated below in bold. Rural counties with an asterisk are designated as being part of a Metropolitan Area but are considered Rural based on their census tracks as determined by the Office of Rural Health Policy.

☐ Statewide

Region 1 – Panhandle

- | | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Armstrong * | <input type="checkbox"/> Bailey | <input type="checkbox"/> Briscoe | <input type="checkbox"/> Brown | <input type="checkbox"/> Callahan |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carson * | <input type="checkbox"/> Castro | <input type="checkbox"/> Childress | <input type="checkbox"/> Cochran | <input type="checkbox"/> Coleman |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Collingsworth | <input type="checkbox"/> Comanche | <input type="checkbox"/> Crosby | <input type="checkbox"/> Dallam | <input type="checkbox"/> Deaf Smith |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dickens | <input type="checkbox"/> Donley | <input type="checkbox"/> Eastland | <input type="checkbox"/> Fisher | <input type="checkbox"/> Floyd |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Garza | <input type="checkbox"/> Gray | <input type="checkbox"/> Hale | <input type="checkbox"/> Hall | <input type="checkbox"/> Hansford |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hartley | <input type="checkbox"/> Haskell | <input type="checkbox"/> Hemphill | <input type="checkbox"/> Hockley | <input type="checkbox"/> Hutchinson |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jones | <input type="checkbox"/> Kent | <input type="checkbox"/> King | <input type="checkbox"/> Knox | <input type="checkbox"/> Lamb |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lipscomb | <input type="checkbox"/> Lubbock | <input type="checkbox"/> Lynn | <input type="checkbox"/> Mitchell | <input type="checkbox"/> Moore |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Motley | <input type="checkbox"/> Nolan | <input type="checkbox"/> Ochiltree | <input type="checkbox"/> Oldham * | <input type="checkbox"/> Parmer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potter | <input type="checkbox"/> Randall | <input type="checkbox"/> Roberts | <input type="checkbox"/> Runnels | <input type="checkbox"/> Scurry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shackelford | <input type="checkbox"/> Sherman | <input type="checkbox"/> Stephens | <input type="checkbox"/> Stonewall | <input type="checkbox"/> Swisher |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Taylor | <input type="checkbox"/> Terry | <input type="checkbox"/> Throckmorton | <input type="checkbox"/> Wheeler | <input type="checkbox"/> Yoakum |

Region 2 – West Texas

- | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Andrews | <input type="checkbox"/> Borden | <input type="checkbox"/> Brewster | <input type="checkbox"/> Crane | <input type="checkbox"/> Culberson |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dawson | <input type="checkbox"/> Ector | <input type="checkbox"/> El Paso | <input type="checkbox"/> Gaines | <input type="checkbox"/> Glasscock |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Howard | <input type="checkbox"/> Hudspeth * | <input type="checkbox"/> Jeff Davis | <input type="checkbox"/> Loving | <input type="checkbox"/> Martin |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Midland | <input type="checkbox"/> Pecos | <input type="checkbox"/> Presidio | <input type="checkbox"/> Reeves | <input type="checkbox"/> Terrell |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Upton | <input type="checkbox"/> Ward | <input type="checkbox"/> Winkler | | |

Region 3 - Alamo

- | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Atascosa | <input type="checkbox"/> Bander | <input type="checkbox"/> Bexar | <input type="checkbox"/> Coke | <input type="checkbox"/> Comal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Concho | <input type="checkbox"/> Crockett | <input type="checkbox"/> Dimmit | <input type="checkbox"/> Edwards | <input type="checkbox"/> Frio |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gillespie | <input type="checkbox"/> Guadalupe | <input type="checkbox"/> Gonzales | <input type="checkbox"/> Irion * | <input type="checkbox"/> Karnes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kendall | <input type="checkbox"/> Kerr | <input type="checkbox"/> Kimble | <input type="checkbox"/> Kinney | <input type="checkbox"/> La Salle |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mason | <input type="checkbox"/> Maverick | <input type="checkbox"/> McCulloch | <input type="checkbox"/> Medina | <input type="checkbox"/> Menard |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reagan | <input type="checkbox"/> Real | <input type="checkbox"/> Schleicher | <input type="checkbox"/> Sterling | <input type="checkbox"/> Sutton |



APPENDIX I - THE APPLICATION

Organization Name: Collin County

Amount Requested: \$100,000

Series 16A – General Assistance

Grant Funding Period: January 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016

☐ Tom Green

☐ Uvalde

☐ Val Verde

☐ Wilson

☐ Zavala

Region 4 – South Texas

☐ Aransas

☐ Bee

☐ Brooks

☐ Calhoun

☐ Cameron

☐ DeWitt

☐ Duval

☐ Goliad

☐ Hidalgo

☐ Jackson

☐ Jim Hogg

☐ Jim Wells

☐ Kenedy

☐ Kleberg

☐ Lavaca

☐ Live Oak

☐ McMullen

☐ Nueces

☐ Refugio

☐ San Patricio

☐ Starr

☐ Victoria

☐ Webb

☐ Willacy

☐ Zapata

Region 5 – Gulf Coast

☐ Austin *

☐ Brazoria

☐ Chambers

☐ Colorado

☐ Fort Bend

☐ Galveston

☐ Harris

☐ Liberty

☐ Matagorda

☐ Montgomery

☐ Walker

☐ Waller

☐ Wharton

Region 6 – Central Texas

☐ Bastrop

☐ Bell

☐ Blanco

☐ Bosque

☐ Brazos

☐ Burleson

☐ Burnet

☐ Caldwell

☐ Coryell

☐ Falls

☐ Fayette

☐ Freestone

☐ Grimes

☐ Hamilton

☐ Hays

☐ Hill

☐ Lampasas

☐ Lee

☐ Leon

☐ Limestone

☐ Llano

☐ Madison

☐ McLennan

☐ Milam

☐ Mills

☐ Robertson

☐ San Saba

☐ Travis

☐ Washington

☐ Williamson

Region 7- East Texas

☐ Anderson

☐ Angelina

☐ Bowie

☐ Camp

☐ Cass

☐ Cherokee

☐ Delta

☐ Franklin

☐ Gregg

☐ Hardin

☐ Harrison

☐ Henderson

☒ Hopkins

☐ Houston

☐ Jasper

☐ Jefferson

☐ Lamar

☐ Marion

☐ Morris

☐ Nacogdoches

☐ Newton

☐ Orange

☐ Panola

☐ Polk

☐ Rains

☐ Red River

☐ Rusk

☐ Sabine

☐ San Augustine

☐ San Jacinto

☐ Shelby

☐ Smith

☐ Titus

☐ Trinity

☐ Tyler

☐ Upshur

☒ Van Zandt

☐ Wood

Region 8 – North Texas

☐ Archer

☐ Baylor

☐ Clay

☒ Collin

☐ Cooke

☐ Cottle

☐ Dallas

☐ Denton

☐ Ellis

☐ Erath

☒ Fannin

☐ Foard

☒ Grayson

☐ Hardeman

☐ Hood

☒ Hunt

☐ Jack

☐ Johnson

☒ Kaufman

☐ Montague

☐ Navarro

☐ Palo Pinto

☐ Parker

☒ Rockwall

☐ Somervell

☐ Tarrant

☐ Wichita

☐ Wilbarger

☐ Wise

☐ Young

Proposed Project Services



APPENDIX I - THE APPLICATION

Organization Name: Collin County

Amount Requested: \$100,000

Series 16A – General Assistance

Grant Funding Period: January 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016

1. Briefly describe the Proposed Project. Be specific in your answer and include the Who, What, Where, When, and Why of the Project.

The Collin County/North Texas Regional Veterans' Court is a specialized program for justice-involved veterans (JIV) with combat-related mental impairments directly correlated to the crime with which they are charged. The program provides a second chance through a judicially-supervised, team-based approach to ensure participants receive treatment for underlying risk factors that contributed to their crime(s), including substance abuse, medical, and/or behavioral conditions. PTSD, traumatic brain injuries, and substance abuse all change the way the brain functions and impacts the ability of individuals to make responsible choices. Research has demonstrated that establishing a supportive, non-adversarial judicial relationship, employing progressive sanctions and incentives, and providing regular, meaningful involvement with a judge are significant factors leading to positive behavioral changes among offenders.

The goal of the Collin County/North Texas Regional Veterans' Court is to move JIV out of the traditional criminal justice process and into appropriate, individualized rehabilitative alternatives that improve mental health and successfully lead to community reintegration and criminal case resolution. Once veterans have been screened, assessed, and approved for participation in this voluntary program, they promptly begin a treatment program that is specific to their needs. In addition to program team meetings, the program may involve drug and/or alcohol treatment, random drug testing, support group meetings, vocational or job counseling, educational classes, and community supervision. Many services are provided by outside agencies, and participants are referred as needed. While actual length varies based on participant progress, the 12-to-24 month program consists of 3 phases requiring frequent meetings with the Judge and Program Team during the initial phase, which become less frequent during the second and final phases of the program. Upon successful completion of the program, the case(s) are normally dismissed or never filed.

For the past two years, our program has requested and received grants funds to pay for program costs and daily life expenses that, unfortunately, prevented some veterans from being able to participate in this beneficial program. This year, the program is transitioning into the North Texas Regional Veterans' Court and will include participants from neighboring Rockwall, Grayson, Hunt, Fannin, Hopkins, and Van Zandt Counties. Many smaller counties in the area do not possess the resources to manage a veterans' court program, resulting in justice-involved veterans in those counties not receiving the treatment and support needed for recovery and restoration to their pre-combat lives. The proposed project includes a request for a contractual Program Manager to oversee the participants and coordinate between the counties, as well as monies for the necessary office supplies and equipment for the new position.

Additionally, grant funding will still be utilized to provide Veterans' Court program candidates with financial assistance for program evaluations, treatment, counseling, and abstinence monitoring. Furthermore, as program success can be affected by daily life circumstances, grant funding will also be used to assist participants with other needs that are critical to the veterans' overall wellbeing such as emergency utility, housing, medical, transportation, education, and/or employment assistance. The program currently consists of 18 participants – 11 from Collin County and 7 from Rockwall County.

2. Briefly describe how Beneficiaries will access and/or be provided with Project services by your organization. Be specific in your answer and include the How of the Project.

The North Texas Regional Veterans' Court will operate as most treatment courts do with a court team overseeing an intensive supervision program with strong judicial interaction. Judge John Roach, Jr., will preside over the newly expanded Veterans' Court for both counties, while the proposed Program Manager will travel between



APPENDIX I - THE APPLICATION

Organization Name: Collin County

Amount Requested: \$100,000

Series 16A – General Assistance

Grant Funding Period: January 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016

counties and coordinate and schedule services between the counties. With the exception of the VA Veterans Justice Outreach Officer (VJOS) and the Licensed Therapist/Evaluator, who will also serve on both counties' teams, all other members will only serve their respective county's participants.

For each county, the court team will meet biweekly to review and discuss each participant's program progress. Reports can cover a range of topics including employment, rule violations, drug/alcohol screening results, and treatment among others. Any failure to comply with program requirements is addressed and progressive sanctions, based on a written matrix, may be imposed. While the program length varies for each individual participant and their needs, it consists of three phases requiring less frequent monitoring and supervision with each subsequent phase.

Prior to program admission, Veterans' Court candidates are evaluated by the licensed therapist/evaluator program team member. However, some candidates cannot afford the expense, and thus, choose not participate in the program. In these cases, TVC grant funds will be used for evaluation costs. If the candidate is accepted into the program, evaluation findings are then used to design individualized treatment plans in coordination with the veteran. The VA Veterans Justice Outreach Officer (VJOS) and the proposed Program Manager will coordinate to formulate goals, assign the veteran to treatment programs, consult with clinical staff for co-morbidity treatment, and coordinate with partner agencies for any additional needs.

Treatment is usually provided at no charge through the VA. However, some veterans have needs beyond the scope of VA counseling programs or are unable to find transportation to the nearest VA clinic. Additional counseling, such as equine therapy, family counseling, etc., will be performed by partner agencies and private practitioners. If the veteran is unable to meet the expense of these needed treatments, grant funds will be used. Mid-point evaluations will be conducted to assess treatment progress and make adjustments as needed.

Additionally, during the initial program phase, participants may need to be equipped with a SCRAM (secure, continuous remote alcohol monitoring) device (if needed) to monitor abstinence and promote substance-free living while they progress with counseling and treatment. Grant funds will be used to defray abstinence monitoring costs for veterans who are unable to afford the monthly service costs.

The Veterans' Court program also provides or assists with provision of other needs and services to help participants succeed on a case-by-case basis. These services are specific to the individual and can include, but are not limited to, medical services (such as MRIs or detox drugs that are not covered); transportation, utility, or housing assistance; and interview appropriate clothing. Monies are paid directly to the service provider, as opposed to the veteran themselves. For instance, monthly bus passes are purchased from local public transportation entities and are provided to the participant for as long as needed, up to a year.

Need Identified

1. What is the community need(s) or existing service gap(s) that the Proposed Project will address? Be specific in your answer and sufficiently describe the need that your service area faces.
After more than a decade of international conflict, more than 1 million U.S. service men and women have been deployed to engage in combat operations in the Middle East. Many of these veterans served multiple tours of duty, spending long periods being hyper-vigilant in high stress situations. Unfortunately, research has previously shown that veterans can have a difficult time of readjusting to civilian life following combat duty which can result in criminal behaviors and incarceration.

Combat zone duty can result in injuries both to the body and psyche including post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injuries (TBI), orthopedic injury and/or amputations, which are all conditions that can



APPENDIX I - THE APPLICATION

Organization Name: Collin County

Amount Requested: \$100,000

Series 16A – General Assistance

Grant Funding Period: January 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016

derail emotional control and lead to interpersonal conflicts and/or other erratic behaviors resulting in job loss, divorce, and strained relationships. Additionally, veteran populations have been shown to have higher than normal prevalence of mental health and substance abuse issues, which frequently result in illegal, violent, and/or risky behaviors and increased contact with the criminal justice system. In fact, national statistics show that nearly 10% of adults arrested have served in the military.

Additionally, as delayed onset of mental health issues and substance abuse are well documented in veterans of previous military engagements, it is likely that the United States is at the very start of what will likely be decades-long law enforcement engagement with these returning veterans. Currently, more than 43,000 veterans reside in Collin County and over 5,000 in Rockwall County. During FY 2014, 195 unduplicated veterans were jailed in Collin County with 63 being detained multiple times.

2. How did you identify the community need(s) or problem(s)? Be specific in your answer and sufficiently describe any methods used to identify that the need described above in **Need Identified #1** is present in your service area (example: current client experiences, word of mouth, client surveys). Include references to data that may substantiate and support that this need exists in your service area.

With the ongoing Middle East conflicts, Judge Roach, in his 296th District Court, noticed an increase in veterans being charged with crimes that were directly related to their military service, evidencing a need for a veteran-specific treatment court. Since the program began in January 2013, 63 veterans have been assessed for eligibility into the program; currently there are 11 veterans participating in the program and 2 successful graduates.

The benefits of program expansion were initially recognized by the Veterans Service Officer through networking avenues. Many of the smaller counties in North Texas are unable to support a veterans' court program, leaving the justice-involved veterans in those counties without the support and treatment needed to recover. Understanding that a regional court would be able to reach more veterans by having smaller counties coordinate with larger counties to maximize resources in North Texas, Judge Roach offered to create and preside over a regional veterans' court. Establishing a regional court brings this valuable program and its potential benefits to veterans outside of Collin County. The Presiding Judge over the First Administrative Judicial Region has given her support for the project. Currently, Rockwall County has joined the regional court with 7 participants.

3. How will the Proposed Project address the identified need(s) or problem(s)? Be specific in your answer and sufficiently describe how the components of the Proposed Project as described above in **Proposed Project Services #1** will assist in attempting to resolve the need described above in **Need Identified #1**.

Similar to other drug or treatment courts, the Veterans' Court utilizes a judicially-supervised, multi-agency team-based approach to serve veterans struggling with addiction, mental illness, and other underlying risk factors that contributed to their crime(s). The voluntary program requires participants to undergo intensive treatment and counseling, submit to frequent supervision and random alcohol and/or drug testing, make frequent appearances in court, and to be closely monitored for program compliance. Promotion of sobriety, recovery, and stability through individualized substance abuse and mental health treatment and counseling, coupled with connections for housing, medical, vocational, and other support issues, diverts military offenders away from the tradition criminal justice system and attempts to reduce recidivism through provision of services while holding offenders accountable for their actions and addressing the underlying issues related to their criminal behavior.

With the expansion of this program into nearby counties, more justice-involved veterans will be able to participate in this successful treatment model, which otherwise would be unavailable to them based solely on the county lines within which they live. This project proposes funds for a full-time Program Manager who will oversee the program and participants, schedule and coordinate for the Judicial Officer, monitor the grant budget, submit payment for client services, and complete and submit reports as required by TVC.



APPENDIX I - THE APPLICATION

Organization Name: Collin County

Amount Requested: \$100,000

Series 16A – General Assistance

Grant Funding Period: January 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016

4. How is the Proposed Project unique from other similar services that may be available in your proposed service area? Be specific with details about what sets your Proposed Project apart.
- The Veterans' Court operated by the 296th District Court is the only veterans' treatment court in Collin County. The purpose of the program is to provide veterans with individualized rehabilitative alternatives that successfully lead to community reintegration and criminal case resolution. While there are other drug/treatment courts in Collin County, there aren't any that specifically target veterans and their specialized needs. The Veterans' Court team is composed persons who can coordinate veteran-specific treatment and benefits and whom, as mostly veterans themselves, are better equipped to mentor justice-involved veterans. With the expansion of this program into the North Texas Veterans Court, it will be the first regional veterans' court in Texas and one of few in the country. The expanded program will be able to reach veterans in multiple counties that otherwise, based on county lines, would not receive the support and treatment needed for recovery and restoration to their pre-combat lives.

Beneficiaries

1. Related to the information provided in **Need Identified** above, Applicants may restrict Proposed Project services to particular groups to address needs. For example, Proposed Projects may serve only Veterans of a particular era (such as Vietnam or OEF/OIF era Veterans); Veterans with a specific discharge status (such as Honorable); Veterans of a particular branch of service (such as Navy or Army); or particular Veteran dependents (such as dependents of newly separated veterans, or surviving spouses of reservists or Guards Members). Provide a definition below for each applicable category that will be eligible to receive services, listing any service restrictions of the Proposed Project. Be specific.
- Veterans: Project beneficiaries will be Veterans' Court candidates and participants whose criminal case(s) have been filed in Collin, Rockwall, Hopkins, Van Zandt, Fannin Grayson, Hunt, or Kaufman County. To participate in the program, veterans cannot be charged with crimes outlined in the Texas Code of Criminal Procedures 42.12 (3) (g). Veterans must have been diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injury (TBI), or substance abuse/addiction related to combat/hazardous duty zone exposure which directly correlates to the criminal offense. Eligibility for program participation is determined by the court team members through a review of criminal and military records.
- Veteran Dependents: NA
- Surviving Spouses: NA
2. Describe any other restrictions on eligibility, if applicable (example: income level, beneficiaries living in a specific service area like a county or region, or referral from VA or other such organization).
- Financial assistance will be for program candidates who cannot afford program-associated or daily living expenses. As most counseling will be provided through the VA, financial assistance for counseling will be for program participants with counseling needs beyond what the VA can provide, given reasonable means of transportation, access, and program offerings.
3. If your organization receives grant funds, it will be responsible for tracking each individual Veteran, their dependents, and survivors that receive grant-funded service(s). The number of unduplicated Veterans, dependents and survivors, as well as cumulative totals, will be reported to the FVA quarterly.
- a. Estimated Number of Clients to be Served
- Enter the estimated number of unduplicated Veterans, Dependents, and Surviving Spouses to be served by the Proposed Project. The information to be entered is a number. Do not enter a percentage and do not enter a range.

Performance Measure	Estimated Number of Clients to be Served
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APPENDIX I - THE APPLICATION

Organization Name: Collin County

Amount Requested: \$100,000

Series 16A – General Assistance

Grant Funding Period: January 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016

Number of Veterans served. (Required performance measure for all applicants.)	30 Veterans
Number of Dependents served. (Required performance measure if served.)	0 Dependents
Number of Veterans' Surviving Spouses served. (Required performance measure if served.)	0 Surviving Spouses
Total Estimated Number of Clients to be Served	30 Total Unduplicated Beneficiaries

b. Additional Performance Measures and Estimated Volume of Services Provided to Clients

First enter additional performance measures that align with and are related to the Proposed Project in the Performance Measure column. For example, if the Proposed Project is to provide free transportation services via a dial-a-ride van service, an additional performance measure may be “number of rides provided to beneficiaries.” Another example, if the Proposed Project is to provide homelessness prevention services through rental assistance, an additional performance measure may be “number of rental assistance payments to be made.”

Then provide the estimated volume for the additional performance measure listed. For example, “500 rides” or “60 rental assistance payments.”

Additional lines may be added.

Performance Measure	Estimated Volume of Services Provided to Clients
<i>Examples:</i> <i>Number of rides to be provided to beneficiaries.</i> <i>Number of rental assistant payments to be made.</i>	<i>Examples:</i> <i>500 rides</i> <i>60 rental assistance payments</i>
Number of veterans assessed for program eligibility annually	25 veterans
Number of new participants accepted to program each year	5 participants
Number of veterans provided with transportation assistance	10 participants

c. Goals and Anticipated Outcomes

- First enter goals that align with and are related to the Proposed Project in the Goals column. For example, if the Proposed Project is to provide free transportation services via a dial-a-ride van service, a goal may be “clients provided with rides were able to regularly attend medical appointments, and health and independence was improved.” Another example, if the Proposed Project is to provide homelessness prevention services through rental assistance, a goal may be “clients provided with rental assistance were able to avoid eviction and homelessness, and obtain housing stability.”

Then provide the anticipated outcome for the goal listed in the “Anticipated Outcomes” column. For example, “85% of clients had improvements in health and independence” or “90% of clients were able to avoid eviction and homelessness.”

Additional lines may be added.

Goals	Anticipated Outcomes
<i>Examples:</i>	<i>Examples:</i>



APPENDIX I - THE APPLICATION

Organization Name: Collin County

Amount Requested: \$100,000

Series 16A – General Assistance

Grant Funding Period: January 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016

<i>Clients provided with rides were able to regularly attend medical appointments and health and independence was improved.</i> <i>Clients provided with rental assistance were able to avoid eviction and homelessness, and obtain housing stability.</i>	<i>85% of clients had improvements in health and independence.</i> <i>90% of clients were able to avoid eviction and homelessness.</i>
Participants graduate / successfully complete the program	80% of participants successfully complete the program
Participants successfully reintegrate into society	90% of participants do not reoffend within the first 3 years
Participants provided transportation were able to attend medical appointments and other program related events resulting in program compliance/completion, and health and independence improvement.	70% of participants had improvements in program compliance/completion, health, and independence
Unemployed participants are able to gain employment	50% participants successful employed

- Next, describe how you will determine if anticipated outcomes are met. Examples may include using a client satisfaction survey, following up with clients 30-90 days after receiving services to determine status, tracking pertinent client data.
Successful completion of the program will be determined by maintaining and analyzing the number of participants who complete the program against the number who begin the program. Additionally, the proposed Project Manager will search county arrest/jailing software and conduct a personal follow up with program graduates at one year post-completion to determine if the veteran has reoffended. Post-program contact will also be collected, maintained, and measured by the Mentor Coordinator through direct contact with program graduates, whose goal is to maintain contact for at least three years post-program completion. Communication with the participants during the program will give data to support improvement in health and independence, as well as employment status; data will be compiled into a spreadsheet and maintained for reporting purposes. All data will be maintained by Veterans' Court staff using spreadsheets and/or participant tracking software.

Project Eligibility

- Eligibility to receive services must be verified and documented. List the **specific forms** your organization staff will use to verify eligibility of clients who can receive services as you have defined it above in **Beneficiaries #1** (Veteran, dependent, surviving spouse related) and **#2** (any other applicable eligibility requirements). If dependents and surviving spouses are listed as eligible beneficiaries, include how their eligibility will be verified. Eligibility will be established through documentation including the program application, DD214, charging instruments of the courts, psychological evaluations, and VA confirmation.
- Describe how the eligibility verification documents will be retained (example: as listed in your organization's retention policy) **and** maintained (example: in locked filing cabinet or electronically on your organization's server). Documents will be maintained in digital (secure organization server) and/or hardcopy in a secured manner and per UGMS and OMB guidelines for state and local governments. Program participant documentation is maintained for 3 years unless an Order of Expunction is signed which requires the destruction of most documentation.

Project Principal Participants



APPENDIX I - THE APPLICATION

Organization Name: Collin County

Amount Requested: \$100,000

Series 16A – General Assistance

Grant Funding Period: January 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016

List the principal participants in the organization. Indicate which principal(s), if any, are Veterans. **Refer to the RFA Section III. Definitions of Key Terms for who is considered a Principal Participant.** Résumés are to be included for each Principal Participant and should describe applicable experience by position.

Name of Principal Participant	Title	Veteran (Y/N)	Résumé Attached (Y/N)
1. John Roach, Jr.	Judge, 296 th District Court	Y	Y
2. Andy Nation	Community Supervision Officer (CSO), Collin	N	Y
3. Melissa Stroop	Veterans Justice Outreach Specialist (VJOS)	Y	Y
4. Gary Jackson	Collin County Veterans Service Officer	Y	Y
5. Charles Overstreet	Licensed Therapist / Evaluator	Y	Y
6. James Angelino	Defense Attorney, Collin	Y	Y
7. Wes Wynne	Assistant District Attorney, Collin	N	Y
8. Terry McCraw	Captain, Collin County Sheriff's Office	Y	Y
9. Keith Self	Collin County Judge	Y	Y
10. Jeff May	Collin County Auditor	N	Y
11. Kenda Culpepper	Criminal District Attorney, Rockwall	N	Y
12. Les Cooks	Director Veterans Services, Rockwall	Y	Y
13. Alexander Gray	Captain, Rockwall County Sheriff's Office	Y	Y
14. David Ahl	Probation Officer, Rockwall	Y	Y
15. Damita Jo Sangermano	Assistant Criminal District Attorney, First Assistant, Rockwall	N	Y
16. Felicia Oliphant	Assistant Criminal District Attorney, Felony Chief, Rockwall	N	Y
17. Lauren Ellis	Assistant Criminal District Attorney, Felony Division, Rockwall	N	Y
18. Dan Monte	Assistant Criminal District Attorney, Misdemeanor Division, Rockwall	N	Y
19. Sue White	Victim Advocate, Criminal District Attorney, Rockwall	N	Y
20. Greg Gray	Defense Attorney, Rockwall	N	Y
21. Tim Hartley	Defense Attorney, Rockwall	N	Y

- What are the roles and responsibilities of the Principal Participants listed in the table above as related to the Proposed Project? For example, a CFO may be listed as a principal participant, but the description should reference his/her role and responsibility to the Proposed Project.

Principal Participant #1: Judge Roach leads the interdisciplinary program team, presides over the court proceedings, interacts directly and develops a rapport with participants, administers graduated sanctions and rewards to increase each veteran's accountability and enhance the likelihood of recovery.

Principal Participant #2: Mr. Nation is responsible for intake and interview of each interested or referred veteran. He works with the veteran to determine program eligibility. If accepted, he maintains direct supervision of the veteran's compliance with the program, including treatment attendance and substance abuse screening. Additionally, he provides community linkages and referrals to appropriate agencies/organizations for support services and assists with any emergency needs, such as housing and transportation, which may arise. If awarded, many of these duties will be given to the proposed Program Manager position.



APPENDIX I - THE APPLICATION

Organization Name: Collin County

Amount Requested: \$100,000

Series 16A – General Assistance

Grant Funding Period: January 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016

Principal Participant #3: Ms. Stroop is an employee of the VA and is a direct link between the VA and the program participants and verifies veterans' military status for program eligibility. She coordinates veterans' health care and counseling services through the VA. She also maintains a large network of service providers and refers veterans as needed.

Principal Participant #4: Mr. Jackson provides veterans with a direct link to community services throughout his community organizations network. He also assists veterans with filing benefits and disability claims.

Principal Participant #5: Dr. Overstreet is tasked with conducting evaluations and making the final determination of the veteran's mental condition, including whether the service-related mental condition is causally linked with the alleged criminal activity as required by the Veterans' Court statute. He also makes treatment recommendations, and assists with identification of a continuum of care for the participants.

Principal Participant #6: Mr. Angelino advocates for the veteran, assists with the negotiation of plea agreements, and ensures the legal and constitutional rights of the defendant.

Principal Participant #7: Mr. Wynne represents the elected District Attorney on the Court Team. He reviews new cases and helps determine if the defendant will be approved for the program, monitors participant progress, and makes recommendations regarding sanctions. If the veteran is re-arrested, Mr. Wynne investigates the new case and assesses the appropriateness of continued participation.

Principal Participant #8: Captain McCraw helps identify veterans that have been arrested or jailed. He provides insight into the veteran's progress in detention, assists in monitoring the veteran if confined as a result of a sanction, and provides access for team members while in the veteran is in custody.

Principal Participant #9: Mr. Self serves as the executive officer and signing authority for the county.

Principal Participant #10: Mr. May ensures that all federal, state, local, and funding agency fiscal policies are followed and maintains all financial documentation.

Principal Participant #11: Ms. Culpepper sets the Rockwall County DA guidelines for criminal cases eligible for admission into Veterans' Court and provides final approval for the DA's Office of individuals for participation.

Principal Participant #12: Mr. Cooks monitors inmates booked into Rockwall County jail with veteran status, screens eligible defendants / cases for admission into Veterans' Court, assists veterans with eligible financial benefits, and mentors veterans. Additionally, he provides information regarding the military background and disability status to the program.

Principal Participant #13: Captain Gray screens incoming Rockwall County inmates for veteran status, coordinates list of incarcerated veterans for the Rockwall County Veteran Service Officer, and screens eligible defendants / cases for admission into Veterans' Court.

Principal Participant #14: Mr. Ahl serves as the supervising Probation Officer for Rockwall County veterans placed on community supervision to ensure compliance of probation conditions. If awarded, many of these duties will be given to the proposed Program Manager position.

Principal Participant #15: Ms. Sangermano screens eligible defendants / cases for admission into Veterans' Court and participates in the approval process for the DA's Office, as well as in the Veterans' Court staffing and docket.

Principal Participant #16: Ms. Oliphant screens eligible defendants / cases for admission into Veterans' Court and participates in the approval process for the DA's Office, as well as in the Veterans' Court staffing and docket.

Principal Participant #17: Ms. Ellis screens eligible defendants / cases for admission into Veterans' Court and participates in the approval process for the DA's Office, as well as in the Veterans' Court staffing and docket.

Principal Participant #18: Mr. Monte screens eligible defendants / cases for admission into Veterans' Court and participates in the approval process for the DA's Office, as well as in the Veterans' Court staffing and docket.

Principal Participant #19: Ms. White serves as the primary contact with the victim / complainant on veteran's criminal case and obtain his/her approval for the defendant's participation in the Veterans' Court program. In addition to updating the victim(s) on the process, as needed, Ms. White also creates expunction paperwork for veterans upon successful completion of the program.

Principal Participant #20: Mr. Gray participates in the applicant's approval process into Veterans' Court and provides the committee with legal opinions for purposes of ensuring the veteran's legal rights are protected.



APPENDIX I - THE APPLICATION

Organization Name: Collin County

Amount Requested: \$100,000

Series 16A – General Assistance

Grant Funding Period: January 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016

Principal Participant #21: Mr. Hartley participates in the applicant's approval process into Veterans' Court and provides the committee with legal opinions for purposes of ensuring the veteran's legal rights are protected.

Partnerships

List agencies and/or organizations that your organization partners with to assist in serving Beneficiaries as part of the Proposed Project. Use additional page(s) if needed.

Name of Partner Organization	Address	Telephone	Website
US Department of Veterans Affairs – Sam Rayburn Memorial Veterans Center	1201 E. 9 th Street Bonham, TX 75418	(903) 583-6226	VA.gov
US Department of Veterans Affairs – Denton Comm. Based Outpatient Clinic	2223 Colorado Blvd Denton, TX 76205	(903) 891-6350	VA.gov
US Department of Veterans Affairs – Dallas VA Medical Center	4500 S. Lancaster Road Dallas, TX 75216	(214) 857-2252	VA.gov
Collin County Veterans Service Office	900 E. Park Blvd, Ste 150 Plano, TX 75074	(972) 881-3062	CollinCountyTX.org
Community Lifeline Center	1601 N. Waddill Street Suite 102 McKinney, TX 75069	(972) 542-0020	CommunityLife-line.org
Veterans Coalition of North Texas	PO Box 2275 Dallas, TX 75201	(214)871-2420	VCNCT.org
Mental Health America – Operation Healthy Reunions	624 N. Good Latimer Suite 200 Dallas, TX 75204	(214) 871.2420	MHADallas.org
Heroes on the Water	101-C N. Greenville Ave Suite 55 Allen, TX 75002	(214) 295-4541	heroesonthewater.org
Equest Therapeutic Horsemanship	3800 Troy Road Wylie, TX 75098	(972) 412-1099	Equest.org
Urban League of Greater Dallas & North Central Texas	3911 S. Lancaster Rd Dallas, TX 75216	(214) 375-6280	uldgnctx.com
Habitat for Humanity	1400 Summit Ave, Ste C3 Plano, TX 75074	(972) 398-0634	Habitat-SCC.org
Center for Brain Health	2200 W. Mockingbird Ln Dallas, TX 75235	(214) 905-3007	brainhealth.ut-dallas.edu
Red Bird Education Services	105 W. 1 st Street Rockwall, TX 75087	(214) 287-3501	redbirdeducation.com
Recovery Healthcare Corporation	2520 Electronic Ln Suite 810 Dallas, TX 75220	(214) 566-3388	recovery-healthcare.com

Marketing and Outreach

- Does your organization have an outreach and/or marketing plan to ensure your organization is able to reach and provide services to the Estimated Number of Clients to be Served as listed in the table for **Beneficiaries #3**?
☒ Yes ☐ No



APPENDIX I - THE APPLICATION

Organization Name: Collin County

Amount Requested: \$100,000

Series 16A – General Assistance

Grant Funding Period: January 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016

2. If yes, sufficiently describe the outreach and/or marketing plan and how it will ensure that your organization is able to reach and provide services to the Estimated Number of Clients to be Served as listed in the table for **Beneficiaries #3**.

Clients are referred to the Veterans' Court from various sources including defense attorneys, prosecutors, supervision officers, detention facilities, or even family and friends of the accused. Outreach activities include continued information dissemination in participating counties to veteran-specific organizations, community service organizations, legal defense representatives, and the Collin County Mental Health Managed Counsel program. Using these methods, the program has had 63 applicants in Collin County since its inception. Outreach for the North Texas Veterans' Court will continue as previous with an increased marketing area.

Sustainability after the Grant

1. If your organization were to receive a one-year FVA grant, will the Proposed Project continue after the one-year grant period if you did not receive additional FVA funding?

☒ Yes ☐ No

2. If Yes, please describe how the Proposed Project will continue. Be specific. Include in your answer what other funding will be available to your organization and what other organizations with whom you may be partnering or working to carry on the work of the Proposed Project after December 31, 2016:

FVA funding will allow veterans to obtain services, such as evaluation, treatment/counseling, alcohol monitoring, and emergency support, which may otherwise be unable to be funded by the participant preventing some veterans from participating in the program. Without FVA funding, emergency support and needed treatments outside of the VA system will be limited. However, Collin County will continue to operate the Veterans' Court program through staff salaries, participant fees, and retained fees collected in accordance with Chapter 102.0178, Code of Criminal Procedure, for offenses found in Chapter 49, Penal Code (DWI) and Chapter 481, Health and Safety Code (controlled substances). Additionally, the program will continue to coordinate with all existing partners.

Without grant funding, the Program Manager position will either be terminated or Collin County will consider adding an employee position, depending on the successful implementation of the program.

3. If your organization has received FVA funding in the past for the Proposed Project, describe why you are applying for a grant again.

The proposed project expands previous requests by adding a Program Manager position to provide a coordinator between the many offices involved in the Veterans' Court and the justice-involved veteran. The Program Manager will also help coordinate the Veterans' Court program between multiple counties, thus increasing the number of veterans to which the program can provide assistance. Having a single point of contact for each County is essential for the success of the program. The Program Manager will create standard operating procedures for all Counties to use, they will coordinate all schedules, and ensure each County has the support they need.

In addition to the new request, the program is requesting \$28,750 to provide client services for veterans participating in the program. The Veterans' Court program is a continual program with new participants, who have new financial challenges, being added annually. It is our goal to provide assistance, treatment, and healing to as many qualified justice-involved veterans as possible; however, the costs associated with the program may be cost prohibitive for some. Additionally, veterans who are focused on meeting immediate basic needs (shelter, transportation, etc.) frequently cannot give the attention needed to their treatment and healing. Annual grant funds allow us to support these veterans so that we can offer to program to all qualified candidates, not just those who can financially afford to participate.