

FY18 JUVENILE JUSTICE Addendum

Submission Instructions: Email completed addendum file to cjapplications@nctcog.org no later than
5:00 pm CST on February 20, 2017
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Agency Name: Collin County / Collin County Teen Court
Application title: Teen Court – Substance Abuse and Mental Health Evaluation and Treatment
Application #: 3261401
Location of Agency Headquarters: 2300 Bloomdale Road, Suite 4192, McKinney, Texas 75071
CJD amount requested for this project: \$31,800

- 1. PROJECT SUMMARY:** Briefly summarize the entire application. Descriptors may include but are not limited to describing problem to be addressed, activities, goal and objectives, and how budget items will be used in carrying out the project.

While teenagers frequently engage in acts (e.g., petty theft, criminal mischief, fighting) that may result in justice system contact, teens with substance abuse and/or mental (SAM) disorders are far more likely to have increased contact with law enforcement resulting in detention. Research shows that 8-10% of US teens meet the criteria for a serious emotional disturbance, but fewer than half receive treatment. Early identification and treatment of juveniles has been shown to help teens successfully navigate SAM disorder challenges and prevent further justice system involvement. However, when left untreated, juveniles with SAM disorders have an increased risk of engaging in delinquent behaviors leading to escalating criminal activity and progression into the adult justice system. Unfortunately, early identification can be difficult and treatment is frequently cost prohibitive.

Collin County Teen Court provides a distinctive opportunity to identify and treat potential substance abuse and/or mental health disorders earlier than other, formal juvenile justice programs. Many times youth are first charged with minor (theft, disorderly conduct, assault) or status (truancy, alcohol possession, curfew violations) offenses prior to progression to more serious offenses; however, these charges usually result in payment of fines/fees to the appropriate jurisdiction and/or community service without any additional interaction with the judicial system. Unfortunately, any of these teens, whose offenses may be attributed to SAM disorders, miss being screened and evaluated until they escalate further into the formal criminal justice system.

Collin County Teen Court is a 90-day program that provides alternative sentencing to first-time adolescent (ages 12 to 18) offenders charged with Class C misdemeanors. Sentences are meant to be constructive, enable offenders to understand the harm caused by their behavior, make amends to the person(s) affected by their actions, and improve relationships with victims and the community. Since participants are generally first-time offenders, Teen Court is an ideal way to identify early SAM disorder indicators before comprehensive criminal justice involvement occurs. The program incorporates the early detection of mental health and substance abuse needs through screening of all participants using the Massachusetts Youth Screening Instrument-Second Version (MAYSI-2) screening tool. Utilizing grant funds, 20 participants identified by the screening tool as potentially having additional needs will be referred for professional evaluation and mental health or substance abuse treatment as part of the program requirements. Participants will receive up to twelve 1-hour individualized treatment sessions by licensed professionals and will be connected with community-based programs to maximize successful service linkages and improve rehabilitation. The early identification, diagnosis, and treatment of teens with substance abuse and mental health disorders can improve behavioral outcomes and prevent further involvement with the justice system.

1. SUPPORTING DATA: Provide at least three (3) years of locally relevant and verifiable statistical data. Describe how the data supports the problem to be addressed. NOTE: All data must be cited, verifiable and describe local conditions. Include state and/or national data only when comparing/contrasting with local data.

Collin County’s population increased 86% since 2000, from 491,772 to 914,127 persons; likewise, over the same time period, the juvenile (under age 18) population has increased by over 100,000 juveniles (1, 2, 3). Correspondingly, law enforcement interactions with juveniles has increased as has the need for juvenile services. Research has shown that one in every 4 to 5 juveniles meets the criteria for a lifetime SAM disorder associated with severe role impairment and/or distress; over 40% of those are diagnosed with multiple classes of disorders, and approximately 8-10% of US teens meet the current criteria for having a serious emotional disturbance (4). Fewer than half of youth with current disorders receive treatment (5).

Common indicators for potential SAM disorders in adolescents include, but are not limited to, excessive fear, anger, anxiety, or feelings of worthlessness; severe mood swings; extreme difficulties concentrating and impulsive behavior; exercising unusually poor judgment; and/or little to no care or concern for others (6). Teen Court offenses that may be indicative of potential SAM disorders include drug/alcohol related offenses, disorderly conduct, and/or assault. Since FY 2009, 16.9% of all offenses referred to Teen Court have been related to these 3 categories. Each month, an average of 2 to 3 teens are referred to Teen Court after pleading guilty or no contest to aggressive, disruptive, or substance abuse charges (7).

| Fiscal Year | Total Offenses | Assault / Physical Contact | Alcohol / Drug Related | Disorderly Conduct | Total Potential SAM Disorder Cases per FY |
|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| 2009 | 252 | 10 | 15 | 22 | 47 (18.7%) |
| 2010 | 380 | 16 | 22 | 20 | 58 (15.3%) |
| 2011 | 378 | 12 | 17 | 26 | 55 (14.6%) |
| 2012 | 308 | 12 | 31 | 23 | 66 (21.4%) |
| 2013 | 272 | 8 | 46 | 19 | 76 (26.8%) |
| 2014 | 286 | 6 | 26 | 13 | 45 (15.7%) |
| 2015 | 198 | 3 | 6 | 2 | 11 (5.6%) |
| 2016 | 208 | 1 | 20 | 10 | 31 (14.9%) |
| Total | 2,282 | 68 | 183 | 135 | 386 (16.9%) |

Since July 2015, Teen Court has collected parental responses to surveys. Of the 204 responses received, 44 indicated the teen would benefit from both drug testing and counseling, while another 46 responded the teen would benefit from counseling, and 5 expressed the teen would benefit from drug testing but not counseling. Altogether, of the 204 responses, 95 (46.6%) of the respondents indicated the juvenile Teen Court participant would benefit from the services proposed in this project (7).

| Household Income | Believe Teen Would Benefit from Counseling and Drug Testing | Believe Teen Would Benefit from Counseling Only | Believe Teen Would Benefit from Drug Testing Only | Total |
|-------------------------|--|--|--|--------------|
| \$0 - \$10,000 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 10 |
| \$10,001 - \$20,000 | 7 | 1 | | 8 |
| \$20,001 - \$40,000 | 13 | 9 | 1 | 23 |
| \$40,001 - \$80,000 | 11 | 11 | 2 | 24 |
| \$80,001 - \$120,000 | 2 | 8 | | 10 |
| \$120,000 or more | 5 | 14 | 1 | 20 |
| Total | 44 | 46 | 5 | 95 |

In 2012, the Collin County Teen Court Coordinator referred one particular participant charged with assault to be professionally evaluated; the participant was diagnosed as bipolar and schizophrenic. The teen’s parents paid for the \$600 evaluation, but in many cases the teens and their families cannot afford testing, much less treatment. Of the 95 survey respondents who indicated a need for counseling and/or drug testing, 43.2% (n = 41) had an income level under \$40,000 to provide for an average of 3 children in the household (7).

Unfortunately, participants who are identified as potentially needing intervention commonly drop out of the voluntary Teen Court program and pay their misdemeanor fines to the originating Justice of the Peace or Municipal Court, which is less expensive than evaluation and treatment.

Using CJD grant funding between FY 2014 through FY 2016, 548 juveniles were screened through this project. Of those, 50 (9.1%) qualified and were provided with counseling.

| Fiscal Year | Screened / Assessed | Counseling Provided |
|--------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 2014 | 137 | 17 |
| 2015 | 210 | 22 |
| 2016 | 201 | 11 |
| Total | 548 | 50 |

1. "Collin County QuickFacts." State and County QuickFacts. US Census Bureau, 02 Dec 2015. [Accessed Jan 07, 2016]. <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/48/48085.html>.
2. Texas Association of Counties. Basic county data: Collin County profile." Austin, TX: The County Information Program. [Accessed Jan 07, 2016]. www.txcip.org/tac/census/profile.php?FIPS=48085.
3. "Intercensal Estimates of the Resident Population by Five-Year Age Groups and Sex for Counties: April 1, 2000 to July 1, 2010," US Census Bureau, Population Division, Oct 2012. [Accessed Jan 07, 2016]. <http://www.census.gov/popest/data/intercensal/county/county2010.html>.
4. Merikangas KR, He JP, Burstein M, et. al. Lifetime prevalence of mental disorders in US adolescents: Results from the National Comorbidity Study-Adolescent Supplement (NCS-A). J Am Acad Child Adolesc Psychiatry. 2010 Oct; 49(10): 980-989.
5. Department of Health and Human Services. Identifying mental health and substance use problems of children and adolescents: A guide for child-serving organizations (HHS Publication No. SMA 12-4670). Rockville, MD: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. 2011.
6. The REACH Institute. The Action Signs Project: A Toolkit to Help Parents, Educators and Health Professionals Identify Children at Behavioral and Emotional Risk. 2011. [Accessed Jan 17, 2014]. www.thereachinstitute.org/files/documents/action-signs-toolkit-final.pdf. Collin County. Teen Court reports. 2007 – 2015.

2. CAPACITY & CAPABILITIES – AGENCY COLLABORATION: This information will be assessed with the Capacity & Capabilities section in eGrants. In the table below, list no more than five (5) of the most important collaborations that your agency has with other entities in order to carry out this project. If no collaborations are needed, please put N/A.

| AGENCY NAME | DESCRIBE HOW AGENCY ASSISTS WITH <u>THIS</u> PROJECT | CONTACT PERSON NAME |
|--------------------|---|----------------------------|
| N/A | | |
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