



October 14, 2019

Dear Texas Juvenile Justice Department:

This letter is submitted in support of the Collin County Juvenile Probation Department of Collin County and their proposal for Discretionary State-Aid funding (DSA Grant). The Texas Juvenile Justice Department's work toward comprehensive, state-wide juvenile justice reform is commendable. By supporting community-based projects which will provide infrastructure support for the youth experiencing mental illness is a critical need for our community, the positive outcomes will produce a ripple effect across all systems. We strongly support the juvenile probation department, the Collin County Juvenile Court, District Attorney's office, school districts, and all collateral stakeholders in our collective effort to ensure juveniles who suffer from mental illness are appropriately identified and more importantly, have both access and the support to acquire mental health services in the community by increasing support for these families by way of evidence-based intervention.

As Collin County's established LBHA, we know and understand the specific and critical role we fulfill in this partnership. Should this proposal be approved for funding, we would expect our role in the project to include:

- Designating a liaison or contact to work directly with the case managers of the juvenile probation department to ensure service appointments are scheduled and executed with youth and families as needed;
- Ensure on-going community-based mental health service delivery for participating youth post stabilization and successful discharge from the criminal justice system;

We are confident that our collective efforts will promote successful outcomes in minimizing youth becoming further entrenched in the criminal justice system directly related to mental health driven juvenile delinquency.

We look forward to working with you in serving the youth and families of Collin County in this collaborative partnership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "dsneed", written in a cursive style.

Danielle Sneed, LPC  
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