

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM

SUBJECT: FY 2025 Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant

DATE OF MEETING: April 23, 2024

Work  
Session/Regular  
Session

BUDGET IMPACT: \$362,426.40 - All expenses will be fully reimbursed through the grant

FUNDING SOURCE:

- CJCC Funding - \$362,426.40
- Capital
- N/A
- SPLOST
- TSPLOST

COUNTY ACTION REQUESTED ON: Authorization to submit FY 2025 Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant Application

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HISTORY, FACTS AND ISSUES: Since 2014, Lowndes County has been awarded funding through the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) to allow the Juvenile Court to implement services for the diversion of youth offenders instead of incarceration. Functional Family Therapy (FFT) has been the primary program implemented in each of these years, and the Juvenile Court has requested that funds again be requested for the continued implementation of the program for FY 2025. If awarded funding, Evidence-Based Associates (EBA) would continue to serve as the service provider and provide program management services to ensure compliance with all reporting and programmatic requirements. A meeting was held involving Juvenile Court Judge James Council, Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) staff, staff from EBA, as well as staff from the clinical service provider. During this meeting, an analysis of past trends as well as current caseloads within the Juvenile Court was conducted to determine the appropriate programs needed and to determine the amount of services needed for Lowndes County. At the conclusion of the meeting, it was decided that Lowndes County would be best served by continuing FFT and maintaining the same levels as the previous year. Based on this, staff is proposing that an application be submitted requesting \$362,426.40 in funding through the Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant Program to allow for the service of 60 youths and their families during FY 2025, which would run from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025. This is a fully reimbursed grant, meaning Lowndes County is required to pay the expenses upfront and receives 100% reimbursement of all grant-related expenses.

OPTIONS: 1. Authorize the Chairman to sign application documents, including a Memorandum of Understanding with Evidence-Based Associates, and for staff to submit the completed application to the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council.

2. Board's Pleasure

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Option 1