

ensure consistency and uniformity in decision-making. Please include any needs assessments conducted for participants.

In accordance with the intent of this CJCC funding opportunity, only those youth assessed as medium to high risk on the Pre-Disposition Risk Assessment (PDRA) tool and their families will be eligible for referral to FFT. This evidence-based program will serve male and female youth and families referred to the Lowndes County Juvenile Court scoring 2 or higher on the Pre-Disposition Assessment Instrument.

4. Methods and Procedures

- a. Fully describe the intake and referral process for a youth receiving services. This should go through all decision points (from charge to disposition and when a youth is referred into services).

Lowndes County DJJ will administer the Pre-Disposition Assessment Instrument (PDRA) to all youth referred to the Court for consideration of appropriate disposition. Only youth scoring medium to high risk of this validated risk assessment instrument will be eligible for consideration for referral and enrollment into the FFT program. Intake Officers are required to complete the DJJ Detention Assessment Instrument in accordance with DJJ policy. Training on proper utilization of the assessment tool is provided along with written instructions. Based on the Assessment Score, the recommendation is made to either detain the offender or release with conditions. PDRA is also conducted on each committed, probated, or superior court youth to support decision making and case planning within the Juvenile Court system. This tool is used to assess criminogenic risk factors, which is useful in determining the appropriate course of action based on the identified needs.

Once it is determined that the offending youth meets the criteria for FFT referral and it is deemed appropriate by the judge for their particular case, the Juvenile Probation Officer will complete the referral form and send it to EBA.

For eligible youth and families, a standardized referral form is completed for the identified program and submitted to the provider, Grace Harbour, for review and acceptance. If there are no concerns about case appropriateness, the FFT therapist contacts the probation officer to inform him/her of the assignment and to discuss the needs and goals of probation. The first attempt to contact the family is made within 24 hours of receiving the referral, and the goal is to schedule the first session to occur within 72 hours. Grace Harbour conducts an initial risk assessment within the first 2 visits to the home to determine the need for an immediate safety plan.

If there is a concern with case appropriateness at the time the referral is received, the FFT therapist and/or Supervisor will meet with the family to gather more information and complete the intake paperwork. If there is still a question or concern, a case staffing will occur within 24 hours with the assigned therapist, supervisor, program manager and model expert to determine next steps. The probation officer will be notified of the concern and the team will work together to come to a resolution. Any decision regarding case appropriateness must be made within 7 days of