

July xx, 2023

RE: Award Number #2020-MO-BX-0021

Nikisha L. Love
State Policy Advisor for Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program
Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs
US Department of Justice
810 7th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20531

Dear Nikisha Love:

The Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program (JMHCP #2020-MO-BX-0021) grant award was awarded to the Alachua County Board of County Commissioners on 9/21/2017 and we expected the grant to run from 10/1/2020 through 9/30/2023. The project budget is \$1,135,114 (Federal \$729,639/ Alachua County match \$405,475). The budget was approved and we were authorized to spend on April, 8 2021 resulting in a 7 month delayed start (began draw down on May 10, 2021). The Program Manager noted in previous grant reports that we would be requesting a no cost extension in efforts to change the grant lifespan from 10/1/2020 through 9/30/2023 to end on 9/30/2024 in efforts to complete the intended 3-year lifecycle and achieve our project deliverables. No changes are expected to be made to the budget at this time or project timeline aside from designating a new end date in efforts to finalize the Researcher's final report and present it to stakeholders, develop recommendations, and complete trainings. Upon exhausting the remaining budget, the project will sunset and be closed out.

Activities to date have been substantial. Some key progress noted include; Alachua County was recognized by the Stepping Up Initiative in April 2022 as an Innovator County (#38), furthered the concept of a Central Receiving System with a Criminal Justice interruption component in partnership with the local hospitals and the community behavioral health provider, we have expanded the study design, expanded the core planning team, developed the Public Safety Coordinating Council (PSCC) – JMHCP Oversight Sub-Committee, created a data sub-committee, meet quarterly with all members/ teams, have developed data sharing protocols, we continue to receive data, have completed the informal process analysis, have received Institutional Review Board 2 continued approval for formal process analysis and data collection/ analysis, have completed the required Planning and Implementation Guide, and all members/ consultants are highly engaged.

We report performance measures, grant narratives, and grant financial reports quarterly and on time. There are no known performance or compliance issues. We reported to the Alachua County Criminal Justice and Mental Health Substance Abuse Grant (CJMHSAG) committee until its end on March 31, 2023 and Public Safety Coordinating Council twice per year. We meet via

teleconference monthly with the Council of State Governments technical assistance team (CSG). We have entertained a varied cross-section of local and national representatives. We have connected with the University of Florida Police (UFPD) a BJA Law Enforcement – Mental Health learning site which recently developed a Behavioral Health Division. UFPD has worked closely with the JMHCP partners to develop a unique Co-Responder model. We received the BJA's Request for Application for the following JMHCP grant cycle and have applied for a Connect & Protect RFA to continue funding the Co-Responder team and continue this study to the next grant cycle.

JMHCP continues to perform at a high level while continuing to expand the grant's core purpose. The Program Manager was invited to BJA's National Policing Institute's annual conference "LE Knowledge Lab" in June 2023 as a result of being identified as a high performing grantee. The Program Manager has also been requested by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement to serve as a subject matter expert on an upcoming Corrections Curriculum complete rewrite. We have one Co-Responder Law Enforcement Officer and 2 Clinicians presenting at the Florida Behavioral Health Association's annual behavioral health conference "BHCon". The Florida Fusion Center has recently been referred to JMHCP for assistance deescalating, delineating, and routing Intelligence calls from Behavioral Health calls. JMHCP has been asked to lead the developing of a Request for Application: Scope of Services for a recently approved Reentry Hub for individuals returning from incarceration in efforts to address the recidivism aspect of the continuum.

Project Extension Outline:

- The date of request to extend grant # **2020-MO-BX-0021** is **August 8, 2023**
- We request to change the project end date from **9/30/23** to **9/30/24**.
- Detailed justification as to why extension is needed (**noted above**).
 - o 7-month delay in authorization to spend and first draw down
 - o Research delays associated with delayed authorization to spend
 - o Continue grant funded Co-Responder team
 - o Unmet training needs
- **Federal funds remaining as of 6/30/2023 FFR: approximately \$334,619.00**
 - o Key expenditures include:
 - Program Manager salary and benefits
 - Consultant services
 - Co-Responder Clinician
 - Co-Responder Officer
 - Training
- Revised timeline including projects to be completed during the extended period:
 - o Twice per year: Reporting to the Public Safety Coordinating Council.
 - o **Quarterly** team meetings with the Coordination Team and the Public Safety Coordinating Council – JMHCP Oversight Sub- Committee.
 - o **Monthly** Technical Assistance meetings will continue.
 - o **Monthly** meetings with the consultants will continue.
 - o Training for stakeholders is being explored and will be implemented once negotiated.
 - o Formal data and literary analysis will continue via the Research Team
 - Conducted by the consultant and assistants

- **Ongoing** based on identifying and retaining key persons and receiving data reports
- We are in the data evaluation phase and the Research Team is beginning the early report drafts which will continue through **September 2023**
 - We have received nearly 4 years' worth of data from the Police and Mental Health Co-responder teams under Gainesville Police Department and over a year of validated screening tool implemented at Jail booking data.
 - Working with the partners to collect and report data concerning the persons living with mental illness as it applies to:
 - Meridian Behavioral, Alachua County Jail, Alachua County Sheriff, Gainesville Police Department, University of Florida Police Department, 911 dispatch, Alachua County Court Services, Alachua County Judicial (Specialty Courts/ Diversion Programs)
 - Seeking to deepen relationships with UF Shands research hospital, Veterans Administration, and North Florida Hospital through the implementation of the forthcoming Central Receiving System developed to provide another Jail diversion option while assessing and routing individuals to appropriate individualized treatment.
- Working with a Research Consultant and Research Assistants from University of Florida College of Criminology, Sociology, & Law for data analysis **2017 - 2023**.
- Upon receiving the final draft of the consultant's paper, this Program Manager will develop recommendations for an updated Strategic Plan to report to the Alachua County Board of County Commissioners and the Public Safety Coordinating Council beginning in **September 2023**. Recommendations will derive from presentations by the Researcher to varied stakeholder groups and identified needs expressed by the stakeholders.

Please let us know if you have any questions regarding our request. Thank you for your time and attention in this matter.

Sincerely,

Anna Prizzia
Chair
Alachua County Commission
ChrXXX.XX

XX/DRJ/drj

Attachments

CC: Board of County Commissioners
Michele L. Lieberman, County Manager
Sylvia Torres, County Attorney
Department File

■