

**COUNTY OF SONOMA
AGENDA ITEM
SUMMARY REPORT**

Clerk of the Board Use Only
Meeting Date: _____ Held Until: _____
Agenda Item No: _____ Agenda Item No: _____

Department: Probation

() 4/5 Vote Required

Contact:
Robert Ochs

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Board Date:
6/16/2008

Deadline for Board Action:

AGENDA SHORT TITLE:
Juvenile Accountability Block Grant 2009

REQUESTED BOARD ACTION:

- (1) Resolution authorizing the Chief Probation Officer to submit the 2009 Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG) application;
- (2) Authorize the Chief Probation Officer to sign the Standard Agreement with the State to receive JABG funding.

CURRENT FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT

<u>EXPENDITURES</u>		<u>ADD'L FUNDS REQUIRING BOARD APPROVAL</u>	
Estimated Cost	\$0	Contingencies	\$0
		(Fund Name:)	
Amount Budgeted	\$0	Unanticipated Revenue	\$0
		(Source:)	
Other Avail Approp	\$0	Other Transfer(s)	\$0
(Explain below)		(Source:)	
Additional Requested:	\$0	Add'l Funds Requested:	\$0

Explanation (if required):
Revenue will be budgeted in the next fiscal year.

Prior Board Action(s):

08/05/08	08-0666	Juvenile Accountability Block Grant 2008
04/10/07	07-0243	Request to Submit Application for 2007-2008 JABG Grant
05/09/06	06-0429	Juvenile Accountability Block Grant
05/10/05	05-0409	Request to Submit Application for 2005-2006 JABG Grant

Alternatives – Results of Non-Approval:
Sonoma County Probation Department will not accept Juvenile Accountability Block Grant Funding for the purpose of offering local family treatment services targeted to juveniles in need of family treatment services.

BACKGROUND:

The Juvenile Accountability Block Grants (JABG) Program, administered at the federal level by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, supports state and local efforts to reduce juvenile crime through programs that focus on offender accountability (Public Law 107-273). The JABG program was initiated in 2000 upon the Office of Criminal Justice Planning’s elimination of the Juvenile Accountability and Incentive Block Grant (JAIBG). As part of the JABG requirements, Probation collaborates with the Juvenile Court, the District Attorney’s Office, the Sheriff, and local community based organizations to oversee funding efforts. Sonoma County has participated in the JABG program since 2000.

As California’s administering agency for this federally funded program, the Corrections Standards Authority (CSA) will distribute annual allocations to those localities meeting the federal funding threshold to receive direct allocations. These JABG funds are awarded non-competitively, based on a formula allocation by the CSA. The grant year will cover July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010.

JABG discretionary funds have been identified by the CSA to support the priority area of Evidence-Based Practices (i.e., research-based and proven programs to deal with the issues of juvenile offending and correction) to produce positive criminal justice and juvenile rehabilitative and developmental outcomes. Toward that end, CSA has developed a “Best Practices Approach Initiative” to support programs rated Exemplary, Effective and Promising as defined in the OJJDP Model Programs Guide. The goal of this initiative is to assist probation departments and other JABG eligible recipients in developing and increasing their knowledge and use of best practices in the field of juvenile justice.

In previous years, JABG revenue has been used to support after-school services, Parent Project training, and teen sexual assault prevention services. In Fiscal Year 2008, JABG funding helped to support the implementation of the validated risk assessment tool throughout the Juvenile Probation Services and Juvenile Institutions systems.

This year, Probation intends to apply the 2009 JABG allocation toward providing family treatment services in the Functional Family Therapy (FFT) format, which has demonstrated effectiveness in Sonoma County and also described as an exemplary rated model program of the OJJDP Model Programs Guide.

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Attachments: 1) Resolution; and 2) 2009/10 Direct Allocation Application for Juvenile Accountability Block Grant Funding

On File With Clerk:

CLERK OF THE BOARD USE ONLY

Board Action (if other than "Requested")

Vote:

Project Funding. The Probation Department and the Sonoma County Juvenile Court has identified the need for additional family treatment capacity for its moderate high and high risk juveniles. Sonoma County has recently completed a full-scale implementation to utilize a fourth generation validated risk assessment tool on all minors involved in the Juvenile Probation system. A May 2009 analysis reveals that:

- Current Relationships/ Negative Peer Relationships is the most common criminogenic need to be addressed (69.10% of all moderate-high and high risk offenders);
- Current Living Arrangements/ Dysfunctional Family is the third most common criminogenic need to be addressed (27.53% of all moderate-high and high risk offenders);

The Functional Family Therapy format targets adolescent youth and their families whose problems range from acting out to conduct disorder to alcohol/substance abuse; the juveniles whose criminogenic risks are assessed in the Current Relationships/ Negative Peer Relationships and Current Living Arrangements/ Dysfunctional Family domains fit the service model well. Often these families tend to have limited resources, histories of failure, and a range of diagnoses and exposure to multiple systems (Juvenile Justice, Health, and Human Services).

Referral to family treatment programs is one of the more highly used options by the Sonoma County Juvenile Court. A functional family therapy program does exist in Sonoma County now. The model appears to be successful in engaging families, in having relatively high program completion rates, and in showing relatively low 6-month new arrest rates. The program, however, is focused on the Santa Rosa area, and has developed a waiting list of 7 families; few family treatment resources are easily accessible to outer lying regions of the County.

FFT will be delivered in weekly two-hour sessions, over the course of 14 consecutive weeks. Probation will contract with a Community-Based Organization to deliver these Functional Family Therapy services. Treatment teams will be mobile, and can be deployed to home-based therapy or to family meetings in neutral sites for those treatment situations where safety is an issue. The ability to take FFT to the regions will make the program available to a wider regional population, directed to those families that do not have ready access to Santa Rosa based services.

Project Goals. The target population will be Sonoma County juvenile probationers, assessed by a validated risk instrument to be at moderate high to high risk of committing new offenses, and identified by the risk assessment as needing to address Dysfunctional Family as one of the top three criminogenic needs. The goals will be to:

- Implement mobile FFT services that will make family treatment locally available to a wider region of Sonoma County.
- Up to ten families will be enrolled in this Functional Family treatment services expansion.

Local Match. Applicants must assure that they will contribute a cash match of 10% of the total project costs. Matching funds may be either state or local dollars. Federal funds are not an allowable match source. The allocation for the County of Sonoma for FY 09-10 is \$36,668 and therefore requires a \$4,074 match. Probation will meet this match requirement with administrative overhead expenses. No additional monies from the General Fund will be required.

Summary: Resolution to submit the Direct Allocation Application for JABG funds for the 2009-10 Fiscal Year and authorization for the Chief Probation Officer to sign the Standard Agreement with the State to receive 2009-2010 JABG direct allocation funding.

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