

# MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY



## Office of the Commissioner

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### Minnesota Department of Public Safety Office of Justice Programs (OJP) Report to the Legislature - Community Justice Reinvestment Account January 2020

#### Community Justice Investment Account

By January 15, in each even-numbered year, the commissioner shall report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the senate and House of Representatives committees and divisions having jurisdiction over criminal justice funding on grants made in the preceding two years from the Community Justice Investment Account. Listed below is summary information for 2018-2019 (Laws of Minnesota 2016, chapter 160, sections 14 and 19).

The legislation includes that local units of government and nonprofit organizations are eligible for grants to establish or operate chemical dependency and mental health treatment programs, programs that improve supervision, including pretrial and pre-charge supervision, and programs to reduce recidivism of controlled substances offenders on probation or supervised release or participating in drug courts or to fund local participation in drug court initiatives approved by the Judicial Council.

#### Request for proposals

The funds for the fiscal year 2018-2019 appropriation were awarded through a competitive request for proposal (RFP) process. The RFP was posted on our website, published in the State Register, sent to our electronic mailing list, and sent for further distribution to the State Court Administrators Office, the Minnesota Police Chiefs Association, and the Minnesota Sheriffs Association. Proposals were reviewed initially by teams of volunteers from varied backgrounds, including experience with offender reentry and treatment courts. OJP staff conducted a second-level review to include reviewer recommendations, geographic distribution, type of program, and previous grantee experience in the decision process.

Thirty-one proposals were received during this time period. The total amount requested from the 31 proposals was \$5,886,818. The amount available for this grant program was \$898,950.

#### Award

OJP awarded grants to the following entities:

- Hennepin County Human Services: continue expansion of mental/chemical health screening, assessments, discharge planning, and case management in the jail.
- Second Judicial District: continue pretrial screening, case management and supervision for pretreatment court offenders.
- Waseca County: continue implementation of DWI track for treatment court.

Alcohol and Gambling Enforcement  
Bureau of Criminal Apprehension  
Driver and Vehicle Services  
Emergency Communication Networks  
Homeland Security and Emergency Management  
Minnesota State Patrol  
Office of Communications  
Office of Justice Programs  
Office of Pipeline Safety  
Office of Traffic Safety  
State Fire Marshal

- White Earth Reservation Tribal Council: continue behavioral health case management for returning offenders.
- Duluth Police Department: addition of mental health-trained investigator to respond to mental health-related calls.

Each grant is a two-year grant, and grant awards ranged from \$149,368 to \$194,650.

**Reported program activity from Jan. 1, 2018 to Sept. 30, 2019**

New program participants: 1,017

Screenings administered: 1,842

Risk assessments administered: 1,015

Case plans developed: 485

Referrals to other services: 1,537

**Promising outcomes from current grantees**

- Duluth Police Department: To address the gap in service for non-chronic/non-homeless individuals, a referral system and training was created by the newly developed mental health unit for the patrol officers to identify and refer chronic users of the 911 system. As a result of this collaborative response, there has been a 30 percent decrease in calls for services amongst the highest utilizers of 911 for fiscal year 2018.
- Hennepin County Human Services: The addition of the social worker who is also a licensed alcohol and drug counselor not only allowed for additional assessments and referrals for treatment for the jail population, but also allowed for this person to provide recommendations to the corrections and justice partners for alternatives to jail sentences.
- Second Judicial District: All four treatment courts require a treatment need assessment and a treatment plan in place for eligibility. The dedicated intake aide and stabilization specialists have been successful in speeding up the pre-acceptance process by obtaining a chemical health and/or mental health assessment, obtaining the results and recommendations, and coordinating treatment openings for prospective clients.
- Waseca County: Evaluation of the first two years of the grant showed a preliminary reduction in criminal behavior. A sample of 39 participants served 905.8 jail days in the year prior to entering the program and just 70 days during their participation.
- White Earth Reservation Tribal Council: 81 percent of new clients are participating/completing substance abuse treatment, have their own housing, are employed, and have 30+ days of sobriety. To date, the case worker has worked with 75 offenders returning to the White Earth Reservation.