

FY18 Reinvestment Grant Kansas Department of Corrections

Fourth Judicial District Community Corrections Proposal Narrative

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The following information provides a description of necessary components for the Fourth Judicial District Reinvestment Grant proposal.

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The Fourth Judicial District's purpose of the proposal is to provide Cognitive Programming to our district as well as a Risk Reduction Program to address and assist with financial barriers that several juveniles face. This includes substance abuse evaluation/treatment, mental health evaluation/treatment, access to academic and vocation education, transportation and housing assistance, food, clothing, electronic monitoring services, counseling for anger management and social skills development. The programs will provide services to juveniles in four (4) counties located in Anderson, Coffey, Franklin, and Osage. The county seat is situated approximately 30 miles south of the Kansas City metro. There are typically several miles between municipalities, with long distances between the District Courts. The City of Ottawa, KS is the designated county seat. There is currently no statewide contract for these programs.

Description of who would be served by this item or program:

1. Cognitive Program: Juveniles between the ages of 10 and 21, male and female, that have been adjudicated as a juvenile of a misdemeanor and/or felony offense. The cognitive program would include: moderate to high risk juveniles that are in jeopardy of being placed outside their home/community into a residential placement or Juvenile Correctional Facility (JCF), Juveniles returning into the community from JCF placement, Community Corrections Case Management, Community Corrections Intensive Supervised Probation, and Court Services. Community Corrections estimates to serve 29 youth and Court Services estimates to serve 25 youth. This program is needed to address the district's gap in services and programming of juvenile offenders.
2. The Risk Reduction Program: Juveniles between the ages of 10 and 21, male and female, that have been adjudicated as a juvenile of a misdemeanor and/or felony offense. The Risk Reduction Program would include: moderate to high risk juveniles that are in jeopardy of being placed outside their home/community into a residential placement or Juvenile Correctional Facility (JCF), Juveniles returning into the community from JCF placement, Community Corrections Case Management and Community Corrections Intensive Supervised Probation.

Description of why this item/program is needed:

Cognitive Program: This program is needed to address the district's gap in cognitive tools/programming for offender youth. Forward Thinking is a cognitive-behavioral curriculum from The Change Companies that offers an EBP approach that is cost effective. It applies evidence-based strategies with juveniles in the criminal justice setting by using interactive journaling. The series addresses areas of criminogenic needs, attitude and orientation, peer relations, personality/behavior, reentry planning, relationships and communication, family, victim awareness and substance abuse as well as responsivity factors in these areas. The curriculum offers a pre-post test as well for participating youth. Research supports that implementing effective practices such as Forward Thinking with interactive journaling, can address target interventions. Currently, 54 youth in our judicial district present a need for this curriculum. Citations showing the program as evidence-based

1. SAMHSA's National Registry of Evidence-based Programs and Practices
2. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/21362642>
3. <https://www.changecompanies.net/evidence/?filter=academia>
4. <https://nicic.gov/theprinciplesofeffectiveinterventions>

Risk Reduction Program: This program is needed to address the financial barriers related to treatment and lower socio economic status for the offender youth and families in our rural communities. By implementing a voucher assistance program for community services and basic living needs, it will allow our judicial district to identify risk needs and address target interventions. Under the Eight Evidence-Base Principles for Effective Interventions, this program will address the risk, need, and responsivity principle and promote juveniles to engage in ongoing support in their natural communities. It is anticipated that providing increased dosage and access to education, treatment, counseling, basic living needs, and transportation to appointments, it will reduce or lower risk behaviors. By delivering targeted and timely treatment, as well as providing pro-social opportunities and social engagement, this program looks to lower risk of juveniles in the criminal justice system. Currently, 29 youth in our judicial district will be targeted for this program. Citations showing this practice as evidence-based

1. <https://nicic.gov/theprinciplesofeffectiveinterventions>
2. Palmer, 1995; Clear, 1981; Taxman & Byrne, 2001; Currie, 1998; Petersilia, 1997, 2002, Andrews & Bonta, 1998–Treatment Principle

Administration

The implementing agencies for both programs are the same as outlined above. Oversight will be performed by Community Corrections.

Cognitive Program: Oversight by agency supervisors is needed to insure staff members are getting proper training to administer the program and to ensure fidelity is in place. If program is found to not be working as intended, additional training will occur with staff.

The program goal is for targeted juveniles to successfully complete the program of the interactive journaling series within the time frame of their probation period. This will be evaluated by each agency supervisor logging youth that enter the program and those who exit and have successfully or unsuccessfully completed. The time frame is based upon the individual youth's probationary period. As the program has not been utilized in our district, it is estimated that data collection and outcomes can be accumulated bi-annually with results to be evaluated at one years' time. Per grant requirements, a monthly program report will be submitted within 15 days of the end of the reporting month. Implementation is projected to be within 3 months as juvenile staff will need to complete training associated with the tool.

Risk Reduction Program: Oversight by Community Corrections Director is needed to regulate and monitor vouchers are appropriate for targeted juveniles. If program is found to not be working as intended, voucher assistance will cease to allow for evaluation and correction.

The program goal is for targeted juveniles to successfully complete the program interventions within the time frame of their probation period with the exception of academic and vocational education as those areas require additional time for completion. Secondly, to provide juveniles access of natural community interventions and supports in a timely manner. The Community Corrections Director will maintain the database regarding program participant's interventions and collection of outcomes. As the program has not been utilized in our district, it is estimated that data collection and outcomes can be accumulated bi-annually with results to be evaluated at one years' time. Per grant requirements, a monthly program report will be submitted within 15 days of the end of the reporting month. Implementation of the Risk Reduction Program is projected to be within 30 days the grant funds are received and referrals are submitted by staff.

Sustainability

At this time, there are no organizational, structural, or cultural changes needed to sustain positive outcomes. Overtime could potentially be needed for line staff to appropriate time to train and implement. There are no internal or external challenges/barriers foreseen to continuing this proposed program beyond 1 or 2 years.

Outcomes and Evaluation

Data collected will include probation agency that is associated with youth, YLS score, risk reduction intervention utilized, and if Forward Thinking Curriculum is completed within probationary time frame. The Community Corrections Director will maintain the database and collection of outcomes. Information regarding youth utilizing the Cognitive and Risk Reduction Program, will be directed from each participating Agency's Director/Supervisor to Community Corrections Director.

The training plan that is offered by The Change Companies for Forward Thinking that our judicial district is implementing is self-paced, individualized, and on-line. The Fourth Judicial District Community Corrections will implement and maintain quality assurance (QA) procedures that are used to evaluate staff's ability to incorporate the skills, techniques, and principles derived from the training certification process by random in office review by a supervisor to monitor fidelity. These will be completed on a bi-annual basis and feedback/coaching will be given to each staff member regarding their ability to administer the cognitive programming with the juvenile. At that time, the supervisor will evaluate if additional items need to be addressed to maximize the outcomes of the program. The Judicial District's outcome target of change are as follows and measurements will be collected:

1. Percent of youth living at home at completion of program 100%
2. Percent of youth living at home 1 year after completion of program 90%
3. Percent of youth in school and/or working at completion of program 90%
4. Percent of youth in school and/or working 1 year after completion of program 90%
5. Percent of youth with no new arrests at completion of program 80%
6. Percent of youth with no new arrests 1 year after completion of program 80%
7. Percent of youth successfully completing program 80%