

Office of Justice Programs, MN Department of Public Safety
Report to the Legislature: Community Justice Reinvestment Account
Dec. 31, 2017

MN Laws, Chapter 160, Section 14 & 19:

“By January 15 of 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 account.” Listed below is summary information for 2017 and 2018.

The legislation specifies 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 who are on probation or supervised release or are participating in drug courts, or to fund local participation in drug court initiatives approved by the Judicial Council.

The initial legislative appropriation appeared in SFY 17 with a subsequent biennial appropriation in SFY 18-19. For each appropriation, we conducted 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 and the MN Police Chiefs and MN Sheriffs associations. Proposals were reviewed initially by teams of volunteers from varied backgrounds (experience with offender reentry, treatment courts, etc.) with a second-level review by OJP staff. The second-level review took into consideration the reviewer recommendations, geographic distribution, type of program and previous grantee experience.

2017 RFP:

- 28 proposals received
- \$2.3 million in requests
- \$475,800 available
- Five awards: one-year awards ranging from \$79,824 to \$100,000

One-year awards for the following projects:

- Hennepin County Community Corrections: Develop and implement gender-responsive programming for female probationers.
- Second Judicial District: Add pretrial screener, case management and increased supervision for pre-treatment court offenders.
- Waseca County: Develop and implement a DWI track for existing treatment court.
- White Earth Reservation Tribal Council: Add a behavioral health case manager for returning offenders from corrections and jail.
- Hennepin County Human Services: Expand mental/chemical health screening, assessments, discharge planning and case management for people in the jail.

Program activity from Jan. 1-Sept. 30, 2017:

- New program participants: 288
- Screenings administered: 659
- Risk assessments administered: 245

- Case plans developed: 211

Promising initial outcomes from current grantees:

- Hennepin County Human Services: Additional screening and assessments for individuals needing chemical dependency or mental illness services in the jail led to an increase in individuals receiving these services and reducing their average bookings from four in 12 months to less than one in 12 months after receiving the case management services.
- Second Judicial District: The quantity and quality of referrals to treatment courts has increased each quarter because of the dedicated screeners and pre-court case management services with a total of 44 people served.
- Waseca County: In the first three months of adding the DWI track, 14 high-risk, high-needs felony DWI offenders have received treatment services.
- White Earth Reservation Tribal Council: To date, 75 percent of the chemically dependent clients receiving reentry case management have maintained their sobriety. A total of 29 clients were served in three months.

2018 RFP:

- 31 proposals received
- \$5.8 million in requests
- \$898,950 awarded for two years
- Five awards: two-year awards ranging from \$149,368 to \$194,650

Two-year awards for the following projects:

- 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 pre-treatment court offenders.
- Waseca County: Continue implementation of DWI track for treatment court.
- White Earth Reservation Tribal Council: Continue behavioral health case management for returning offenders.
- Duluth Police Department: Add investigator trained in mental health issues to respond to mental health-related calls.