

Byrne JAG Background

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs (OJP) Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) provides funding to assist with efforts to prevent or reduce crime and violence under the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program. Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) is responsible for the distribution of state-allocated Byrne JAG funds through a designated application process. FDLE awards funds to a unit of government, defined as a political subdivision such as a municipality or county. Broward County Community Partnerships Division is responsible for the development, coordination, and monitoring of JAG-Countywide funds through the County's formal solicitation award and review process as authorized under the Administrative Code. Broward County is the designated sub-grantee implementing Byrne JAG funding.

I. COUNTY FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017: FDLE approval of re-purposed funds

October 25, 2016, (Item No. 14), the Board of County Commissioners of Broward County, Florida (Board) approved the authorization and disbursement of Byrne JAG funds in the amount of \$438,068 to provide behavioral health counseling to youth at-risk of initial or subsequent involvement with the Juvenile Justice system. In October 1, 2017, Broward County had unexpended Byrne JAG funds in the amount of \$195,797. On April 13, 2018, FDLE proposed to re-allocate the unexpended funds back into the Broward County community for integrated substance use and mental health treatment services in response to the Marjory Stoneman Douglas tragic event. The Human Services Department Community Partnership Division advertised these services under Fiscal Year 2019 General Fund Request for Proposals (RFP). On May 3, 2018, the County proposed to add these funds to the agreement with the top-ranked applicant agency (South Broward Hospital District d/b/a Memorial Healthcare System) recommended for funding under the fair, open and competitive procurement process. On May 10, 2018, FDLE approved the re-purposing of Byrne JAG funds in the amount of \$195,797 for County Fiscal Year 2018-2019 (Exhibit 3). On August 30, 2018, the County completed all requirements to draw down the funds.

II. COUNTY FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018: FDLE approval of new funds

On May 1, 2017, Broward County announced a Request for Proposals (RFP) in preparation of Byrne JAG funding to solicit proposals for employability skills training and job coaching services for high-risk youth with behavioral health problems. The review and rating process included participation from community representatives of not-for-profit organizations, government entities, and County staff. Two agencies applied for funding. The County recommended the highest-ranked agency for inclusion with the County's Byrne JAG application to FDLE. The County's billing agreement period with the recommended agency was intended to commence January 1, 2018

On September 29, 2017, FDLE notified the County that the State of Florida's Byrne JAG application was pending approval at the federal level. The FDLE notice indicated the County could anticipate an award of \$416,692 (Exhibit 4). On October 3, 2017, the Mayor signed the FDLE's Certificate of Participation to serve as the coordinating local unit of government for the Byrne JAG grant (Exhibit 5). Due to delays at the federal level, the Byrne JAG funding was not released.

On July 19, 2018, FDLE advised the County of the receipt of the federal award (Exhibit 6). This Byrne JAG notice includes funds for the service provider in the amount of \$383,266 and PETI funds retained by the County in the amount of \$33,426 (Exhibit 1, Attachment A). PETI funds, in addition to the \$53,582 from the Fiscal Year 2019 approved budget will be used to manage all aspects of the grant, ensure compliance with all requirements, data entry and oversight of the project as well as planning and evaluation activities. For Byrne-funded projects, FDLE requires the County provide letters of support for the proposed projects from 51% of the Mayors representing 51% of the County's population ("51% Letters"). The notice also authorized the County to proceed with the acquisition of the "51% letters."

On September 7, 2018 FDLE notified the County of the Governor's acceptance of the federal funds (Exhibit 7). Due to delays in receipt of the 51% Letters from the cities supporting the funding allocations, both projects are anticipated to begin on November 1, 2018.