Budget Detail Request - Fiscal Year 2016-17

Your request will not be officially submitted unless all questions and applicable sub parts are answered.

1. Title of Project: <u>Circuit 4 SOAR Outreach Program</u>
2. Date of Submission: <u>12/10/2015</u>
3. House Member Sponsor(s): <u>Charles McBurney</u>

4. DETAILS OF AMOUNT REQUESTED:

    a. Has funding been provided in a previous state budget for this activity?   <u>No</u>

        If answer to 4a is ?NO? skip 4b and 4c and proceed to 4d

    b. What is the most recent fiscal year the project was funded?

    c. Were the funds provided in the most recent fiscal year subsequently vetoed? <u>No</u>

    d. Complete the following Project Request Worksheet to develop your request (Note that Column E will be the total of Recurring funds requested and Column F will be the total Nonrecurring funds requested, the sum of which is the Total of the Funds you are requesting in Column G):

FY:	Input Prior Year Appropriation for this project for FY 2015-16 (If appropriated in FY 2015-16 enter the appropriated amount, even if vetoed.)			Develop New Funds Request for FY 2016-17 (If no new Recurring or Nonrecurring funding is requested, enter zeros.)			
Column:	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Funds Description:	Prior Year Recurring Funds	Prior Year Nonrecurring Funds	Total Funds Appropriated (Recurring plus Nonrecurring: Column A + Column B)	Recurring Base Budget (Will equal non-vetoed amounts provided in Column A)	**INCREASED or NEW Recurring Requested**	**TOTAL Nonrecurring Requested** (Nonrecurring is one time funding & must be re-requested every year)	**Total Funds Requested Over Base Funding** (Recurring plus Nonrecurring: Column E + Column F)
Input Amounts:					556,150	11,900	568,050

    e. New Nonrecurring Funding Requested for FY 16-17 will be used for:
    ☐Operating Expenses   ☐Fixed Capital Construction   ☑Other one-time costs

    f. New Recurring Funding Requested for FY 16-17 will be used for:
    ☐Operating Expenses   ☐Fixed Capital Construction   ☑Other one-time costs

5. Requester:

a. Name: <u>Tara Wildes</u>
b. Organization: <u>Jacksonville Sheriff's Office</u>
c. Email: <u>Tara.Wildes@jaxsheriff.org</u>
d. Phone #: <u>(904)630-2189</u>

6. Organization or Name of Entity Receiving Funds:
a. Name: <u>LSF Health Systems</u>
b. County (County where funds are to be expended) <u>Clay, Duval, Nassau</u>
c. Service Area (Counties being served by the service(s) provided with funding) <u>Clay, Duval, Nassau</u>

7. Write a project description that will serve as a stand-alone summary of the project for legislative review. The description should summarize the entire project?s intended purpose, the purpose of the funds requested (if request is a sub-part of the entire project), and most importantly the detail on how the funds requested will be spent - for example how much will be spent on positions and associated salaries, specifics on capital costs, and detail of operational expenses. The summary must list what local, regional or statewide interests or areas are served. It should also document the need for the funds, the community support and expected results when applicable. Be sure to include the type and amount of services as well as the number of the specific target population that will be served (such as number of home health visits to X, # of elderly, # of school aged children to receive mentoring, # of violent crime victims to receive once a week counseling etc.)

In Northeast Florida, 327 men and women have been identified with a disabling health condition and are sleeping on our streets, in shelters, or other places not meant for human habitation for extended periods of time-sometimes years or decades. These persons are experiencing chronic homelessness defined as having a disability and experiencing homelessness for an extended period. These individuals are often utilizing currently available services at a higher rate than average, and are often incarcerated at an even higher cost.

SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR) is a national project that is designed to increase access to SSI/SSDI and Medicaid/Medicare for eligible adults who are homeless or at risk of homelessness and have a mental illness and other co-occurring disorders. SOAR is a Promising Practice recognized by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

Accessing these income and health care benefits are a critical first step to help stabilize a person?s life. Without assistance, few people obtain SSI/SSDI even though they have a serious disability.

? The SSI/SSDI application process is complicated and difficult to navigate, especially for people who are homeless and have a mental illness or other disorders that impair cognition.

? Nationally, fewer than 15 percent of homeless individuals who apply for SSI/SSDI are approved on the initial application, despite most being eligible for the program.

? When applications are denied, appeals can take an average of one year to complete, and in that time applicants often give up hope.

? All 50 states use some form of SOAR

? In 2012 SSI/SSDI brought over $142 million into state and local economies as a result of approvals through SOAR.

? The SOAR approach helps individuals receive SSI/SSDI faster on their initial application

? In Tennessee, 96% of applicants supported by SOAR successfully obtained benefits in an average of two months compared to months or years without assistance.

An investment of $528,050 would allow the local managing entity to contract with a provider to hire seven full-time SOAR staff and one program manager. One of the full time SOAR staff would be stationed at the Duval County Jail to work with eligible inmates. Two Full Time SOAR Staff would be stationed at the Jacksonville Reentry Center (JREC) working with State of Florida prisoners that will be returning to Duval County. Two SOAR staff would be housed in Clay County and one in Nassau County with one additional processor housed at a Duval County Mental Health Service Provider.

SOAR Outreach Program Proposal

Purpose

? To increase access to SSI/SSDI and Medicaid/Medicare for eligible adults who are homeless or at risk of homelessness and have a mental illness and other co-occurring disorders.

? To better assist people who apply for Interim Disability Assistance (IDA) receive SSI/SSDI benefits and improve their outcomes by the reduction of recidivism.

Target Population

? Individuals who are homeless or at risk of homelessness and have a mental illness and other co-occurring disorders with a specific targeted population of inmates being released from the Florida Department of Corrections as well as the county jails of Duval, Clay and Nassau.

? A minimum of 105 individuals will be targeted for SOAR processing, across the three counties in the circuit. Other jurisdictions have experienced up to an 80% approval rate; in the first year, we believe an approval rate of 50% is achievable.

Program Summary

SOAR has been implemented in various ways across the country. One model that has been proven successful in other jurisdictions, such as Tennessee, is an outreach model. Using this model, a homeless outreach team trained in SOAR meets with individuals who are homeless on the streets, in shelter, and in institutions like jail, providing intensive assistance and support with the SSI or SSDI application process. This assistance ensures that the individual successfully receives Social Security quickly with the initial application.

Ideally outreach workers identify and work with people before they have applied for SSI or SSDI. However, an outreach worker could also get referrals from the Interim Disability Assistance program to provide additional assistance to people who meet the eligibility requirements of SOAR.

Staff

The SOAR Coordinators complete SOAR screenings with individuals who are currently experiencing chronic homelessness. The SOAR staff meets the individuals while incarcerated, obtains the information, records and documentation needed for the SSI/SSDI application.

The request for transitional housing dollars will reduce homelessness upon release from prison and will allow the SOAR staff to have better outcomes since they will know where the client is housed. According to federal guidelines an inmate?s SOAR application can be submitted 45 days prior to their inmate release date.

Evaluation

? The SOAR Outreach Program will use the free SAMHSA SOAR Online Application Tracking tool to track and report program outcomes quarterly.

?   Each dedicated SOAR processor is required to assist with at least fifteen (15) SSI/SSDI applications per calendar year.

?   The dedicated SOAR processor will maintain a minimum approval rating of at least fifty percent (50) during each calendar year.

8. Provide the total cost of the project for FY 2016-17 from all sources of funding:

    Federal: <u>0</u>

    State: <u>0</u> (Excluding the requested Total Amount in #4d, Column G)

    Local: <u>0</u>

    Other: <u>0</u>

9. Is this a multi-year project requiring funding from the state for more than one year?

    <u>Yes</u>