



REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

ITEM NO. 12

DATE OF MEETING: May 11, 2015

REQUESTED BY: Dee Turner, Chairperson of Pender County JCPC

SHORT TITLE: Resolution to Approve the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council's Annual Plan, Board Members and Funding Recommendations for FY 2015-2016

BACKGROUND: The Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (JCPC) is a state mandated county board tasked with administering the distribution of state funds for programs serving youth who are currently in the juvenile justice system or are at-risk of entering it. The amount of funding is based on a youth per capita basis within the county. It is anticipated that Pender County will receive \$113,591 for FY 2015-2016. To receive these funds, the JCPC must complete an Annual Plan of which a major component is doing an assessment summary of the risks, needs and available resources for the youth of Pender County. As a result of the assessment summary, the following needs were determined and prioritized: 1) Psychological Assessments, 2) Individual, Group and/or Family Counseling, 3) Home Based Counseling, 4) Community Service & Restitution, and 5) Teen Court. A request for proposals was advertised for programs that could meet these identified needs. Based on proposals received, the Pender County JCPC recommends that the following programs receive funding:

Psychological Services	\$ 48,500
Juvenile Restitution/Community Service	\$ 26,216
Teen Court	\$ 19,884
Counseling Services & Anger Management	\$ 11,359
JCPC Administration	\$ <u>7,632</u>
Total	\$113,591

SPECIFIC ACTION REQUESTED: To consider a resolution approving the JCPC's Annual Plan, Board Members and Funding Recommendations for FY 2015-2016.

**SUMMARY REPORT OF THE
PENDER COUNTY RISK AND NEEDS ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE**

- I. **Risk Assessment Summary**
- II. **Needs Assessment Summary**
- III. **Resource Assessment Summary**
- IV. **Summary of Gaps and Barriers in the Community Continuum**
- V. **Proposed Priority Services for Funding**

Part I. Risk

The Risk and Needs Assessment Committee reviewed data gleaned from the Juvenile Risk Assessment instrument administered by Juvenile Court Counselors after juveniles are referred with a complaint alleging that a delinquent act has occurred and prior to adjudication of the juvenile. The Juvenile Risk Assessment is an instrument used to predict the likelihood of the juvenile being involved in future delinquent behavior. For some youth, some of the individual item ratings may be heavily dependent upon information reported by the juvenile or the parent(s). For these items (*represented by percentages which with a star next to them*), there is a likelihood of under-reporting the incidence of a particular behavior and the actual incidence may be higher than suggested by these figures. In those cases, the figure should be interpreted as a measure of the minimum level of occurrence.

County Risk Factor Observations: FY 2012-2013

- The majority of youth in Pender County fall in the low to medium risk category with the majority being low risk
- The majority of youth who commit delinquent offenses is age 12 and over. The numbers remain unchanged over the previous fiscal year however, over the course of four years, the number of youth under age 12 committing delinquent offenses has increased. This is alarming because it is significantly higher than the state average and research shows kids who commit criminal offense prior to age 12 have a significantly higher risk of engaging in criminal behavior as an adult.
- 87% of the youth seen at intake have no serious prior adjudications which is below the state rate. There were no A-E felonies.
- The number of youth involved in an affray has continues to increase slightly.
- A fourth of the youth coming to intake have some level of alcohol or substance use. The number of youth needing further assessment and/or treatment doubled. This is alarming, given this number is self reported and often under reported.
- 64% of youth seen at intake have moderate to serious behavior problems at school.
- The number of youth that lack pro-social skills is higher than the state rate.

Part II. Needs

The Risk and Needs Assessment Committee also reviewed data gleaned from the Juvenile Needs Assessment instrument administered by Juvenile Court Counselors prior to court disposition of a juvenile. The Juvenile Needs Assessment is an instrument used to examine a youth's needs in the various domains of his life: The Individual Domain, The School Domain, The Peer Domain, and the Community Domain. This instrument was designed to detect service intervention needs as an aid in service planning. As with the Juvenile Risk Assessment, some of the individual item ratings may be heavily dependent upon information reported by the juvenile or the parent(s). For these items (*represented by percentages which with a star next to them*), there is a likelihood of under-reporting the incidence of a particular behavior and the actual incidence may be higher than suggested by these figures. In those cases, the figure should be interpreted as a measure of the minimum level of occurrence

County Elevated Needs Observations: FY 2012-2013

- 63% of the youth seen by Juvenile Justice have moderate or serious school behaviors. This is an alarming number.
- More than 25% of the youth have had some level of substance abuse assessment or treatment. This is an increase over the previous two years and is trending upward for the current fiscal year based on intakes seen by the Division of Juvenile Justice.
- There was a slight decrease in the number of juveniles abused with and without support. This is lower than the state rate but it is also self reported so the numbers may be underreported.
- 69% of the youth seen by juvenile justice have mental health needs. 25% of those youth need more mental health assessment.
- 15% of the youth report there is some sort of domestic discord or violence in the home.
- Just over half of the youth seen by the court do not have adequate family supervision skills. This is in line with the state rate but still alarming. In home counseling services would be beneficial to these parents.
- The number of youth with family with known alcohol or drug abuse increased over the past 4 years and now matches the state rate.
- 36% of the youth have family members living in the house that have criminal history and/or are actively supervised by the court or have gang involvement.

Part III. Summary of the Existing Community Resources

- Juvenile Psychological Services (JCPC funded)
- Community Service & Restitution program (JCPC funded)
- Counseling Services & Anger Management (JCPC funded)
- Teen Court (JCPC funded)
- Coastal Horizons / In Home Services
- AMI Kids
- Strategic Behavioral Health
- The Matthew 25 Center
- Cooperative Extension 4H services
- Pregnancy Prevention program

- After-school programming in all elementary schools
- PORT inpatient substance abuse facility
- Smart Start
- STAR Academy (Alternative Learning Program within the school system)
- Organized youth athletic organizations (i.e. soccer, baseball, basketball, cheerleading)
- GREAT (Pender County Sheriff's Office)
- PATH (Pender Alliance Teen Health school based health center)
- Pender County Schools – Second Step, Why Try, PBIS
- Pender County Parks & Recreation Department – Summer Camps for elementary and middle school age, Sports Camps

Part IV Summary of Gaps and Barriers in the Continuum of Services

- Transportation
- Employment Opportunities
- Community Center
- Recreation Center/facility (i.e. Bowling center, movie theater, arcade)
- Parenting skills class
- Adequate housing

Part V. Proposed Priority Services for Funding

The committee compared the services needed to address the elevated Juvenile Risk Factors and Juvenile Needs with services currently available in the community. Services which are currently available in the community and sufficient to meet the needs of court involved youth or those youth most at risk for court involvement are not considered as a priority for JCPC funding.

The Committee proposes that the following services in ranked order be approved as the funding priorities for FY 2014-2015

- 1 Psychological Assessments
- 2 Individual, Group and/or Family Counseling
- 3 Home Based Counseling
- 4 Community Service & Restitution
- 5 Teen Court