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DIRECTOR

The Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (the Council) is pleased to announce that it is seeking applications for competitive funding within the State of Georgia under the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) FY2023 Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Program (COSSUP).

State of Georgia FY2023 COSSUP Project Request for Applications

Eligibility

Applicants are limited to first responders, community service boards, health departments, local court representatives, treatment providers, local child welfare offices, PDMPs, local prosecuting and public defender offices, and community supervision representatives addressing substance use in the communities they serve. Priority will be given to localities identified as having areas of need based on an indicator's analysis. (See section II for more information) All proposals must aim to adopt or expand promising and/or evidence-based programs related to the three key objectives: criminal justice response in diversion and intervention, prevention and harm reduction, and recovery support.

Deadline

Applications are due by
Friday, August 23, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.

Available Funding

\$5,887,244

Diversion & Intervention Subawards: \$3,507,245

Prevention & Harm Reduction Subawards: \$699,999

Recovery Support Subawards: \$1,680,000

The amount to be awarded to each agency will be determined by the Council.

Award Period

October 1, 2024-August 31, 2026

Contact Information

For assistance with the requirements of this solicitation, contact:
Kristen Lee at Kristen.Lee@cjcc.ga.gov or 404-654-1832

Release Date: July 18, 2024

THIS IS A FEDERAL GRANT SUBJECT TO FEDERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

SECTION I: OVERVIEW AND INSTRUCTIONS

Overview of the FY2023 COSSUP Grant Program

The Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Program (COSSUP) was developed as part of the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA) legislation. COSSUP's purpose is to provide financial and technical assistance to states, units of local government, and Indian tribal governments to develop, implement, or expand comprehensive efforts to identify, respond to, treat, and support those impacted by illicit opioids, stimulants, and other drugs of abuse.

The objectives of this initiative are to: reduce the impact of the use and misuse of opioids, stimulants, and other substances on individuals and communities, including a reduction in the number of overdose fatalities, as well as to mitigate the impacts on crime victims by supporting comprehensive, collaborative initiatives.

Criminal Justice Coordinating Council

The Criminal Justice Coordinating Council is designated by the Governor of Georgia as the State Administering Agency for criminal justice and victims' assistance programs. Created by the General Assembly (O.C.G.A. § 35-6A-2), the Council is comprised of twenty-four members representing various components of the criminal justice system.

How to Apply

Interested applicants should review the COSSUP Project Solicitation Packet in its entirety, and submit the completed application, including the requested information and all required attachments, using the link on the website at cjcc.georgia.gov **on or before 5 p.m., Friday, August 23, 2024. This form and provided budget detail are the only acceptable formats for submitting the narratives and budget for the funding year. It is recommended that applicants allow adequate time to complete the application. Applications must be submitted using the required format; scanned or handwritten copies of the application will not be accepted.** Any application that does not adequately answer all applicable questions will be considered incomplete and will not be reviewed for funding.

On Thursday, August 1, 2024, at 11 a.m., the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council will host a virtual webinar for the RFA. Please sign up [here](#).

Risk Assessment

Risk Assessment and Monitoring. [2 CFR 200.332\(b\)](#) states that “all pass-through entities must... evaluate each subrecipient’s risk of noncompliance with Federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the subaward for the purposes of determining the appropriate subrecipient monitoring.”

The COSSUP monitoring schedule will be developed based on the overall subrecipient risk. The risk assessment should be completed using the implementing agency's information. For example, 'X' County Board of Commissioners receives multiple awards from CJCC but then passes it through to other local government agencies, such as a Solicitor General Office. The risk assessment should use the Solicitor General Office level data for the risk assessment. If the fiscal

agent has completed a risk assessment within the last year, then a new risk assessment is not needed. Click [here to complete risk assessment](#). To request access please email Kristen Lee at Kristen.lee@cjcc.ga.gov. See below for instructions on how to complete the risk assessment:

- [Non-Profit Risk Assessment Instructions](#)
- [Government Agency Risk Assessment Instructions](#)
- [University Risk Assessment Instructions](#)

SECTION II: APPLICATION PROCESS

Application Review

Applications will be reviewed and assessed by the Council and its designated representatives who will consider the following:

1. Overall quality and completeness of the application;
2. Demonstration of clear, measurable and appropriate standards;
3. Demonstration of need, including geographic location, local demographics, local statistics, other financial resources, etc.; and
4. Adequate correlation between the cost of the project and the objective(s) to be achieved.

Only complete applications received by the deadline will be reviewed. **When an application is received by the Council, there is no commitment on the part of the Council to fund an application or to fund it at the amount requested.** Decisions related to these budget areas are based on both eligibility and reasonableness. The Council has full discretion to determine the reasonableness of budget items based on both objective and subjective decision-making tools. See "Restrictions on Use of Funds" subsection below to determine whether budget items requested are allowable prior to submitting your budget.

Applications for funding will undergo several reviews. At any point during these reviews, a decision not to fund a project or any part thereof may be made. These decisions are within the complete discretion of the Council.

Competitive Funding Decisions

All funding decisions related to the program application received in response to this solicitation are made by the Council and based on the availability of funding. The Council will inform the applicant of funding decisions through a grant award. Applicants should not make assumptions regarding funding decisions until they have received official written notification of award or denial signed by the Council Director. Applicants can appeal the initial funding decision but must do so within fifteen (15) business days of the date on the denial notice.

Once an award is made, it is within the discretion of the Council to determine that a subgrantee is not compliant with applicable policies. Upon such a determination, the Council may terminate further funding and require reimbursement of grant funds.

Priority will be given to Bacon, Banks, Charlton, Clarke, Crisp, Fulton, Glynn, Jeff Davis, Polk, and Ware counties based upon the completed indicator analysis. This indicator analysis is made up of combining data sources, and then categorizing the individual measures into one of 5 indicators pertaining to risk of opioid use in Georgia: Confirmed Substance Use, Drug Related Emergencies, Drug Treatment Referrals, Other Indicators, and Physical Presence of Drugs.

Use of Funds

For this grant project, grant funds can be used by local, and regional agencies to address substance use within the communities they serve related to criminal justice response in diversion and intervention, prevention and harm reduction, and recovery support.

Restriction of Funds

Grant funds cannot be used for: office space, utilities, food, furniture, gift cards, the purchase of vehicles, weapons, for overall agency supplies, and construction projects. Please note, this is not an exhaustive list. Please contact the assigned CJCC contact if you have any questions.

Supplantation

Awards must be used to supplement existing funds for program activities where they exist, not replace or supplant nonfederal funds that have been appropriated for the same purpose.

Match Requirement

No match is required under this program.

Award Notification

Notification of award funding will be made no later than September 26, 2024 via electronic correspondence

SECTION III: POST-AWARD REQUIREMENTS

Grant Acceptance

Subgrantees must accept or reject the grant award with original signatures and required forms within forty-five (45) days of the award date. The subgrantee will be unable to request funds until the award documents are submitted to the Council.

Special Conditions

At the time of the subgrant award, the Council will assign special conditions as deemed appropriate for the program. The special conditions will outline the subgrantee's responsibilities, as well as federal and state regulations that must be adhered to, as a condition of accepting the grant award for the approved program. The special conditions will be included in the award packet and must be reviewed, signed, and returned to the Council within **forty-five (45) days** of the award date.

Per DOJ requirements, awardees will be required to have background checks on all personnel who will be directly interacting with the youth through this grant.

This is a federal reimbursement grant. Potential subgrantees are expected to abide by federal rules and regulations.

Fiscal Accountability

Commingling of funds on either a program-by-program or project-by-project basis is prohibited. The subgrantee's accounting system must maintain a clear audit trail for each source of funding for each fiscal budget period and include the following:

- Separate accountability of receipts, expenditures, disbursements, and balances. CJCC recommends creating an account in your accounting system for each grant using the grant number provided by CJCC.
- Itemized records supporting all grant expenditures in sufficient detail to show exact nature of activity.
- Data and information for each expenditure with proper reference to a supporting voucher or bill properly approved.
- Maintenance of billing records for project related expenses (i.e. provider invoices with accompanying timesheets)
- Provisions for payment by check (as applicable).

Subgrantees will select whether they would prefer to be reimbursed for grant expenses on monthly or a quarterly basis once awarded.

Performance Measures and Reporting Requirements

Performance measurement can be defined as the process of routinely measuring the outputs and outcomes produced by a program, thereby allowing one to assess the effectiveness of program investments and activities. It has been found that measuring performance builds consensus and commitment within the justice community, assists with the goal of obtaining and allocating resources, demonstrates success, and improves accountability.

The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), Office of Justice Programs, the federal entity that administers the COSSUP Grant Program, has developed performance measures for all funded program types. As such, the Council requires that all funded subgrantees complete a quarterly statistical report using BJA's Performance Measurement Tool (PMT). The PMT will ultimately help states produce evidence-based guidance on monitoring and evaluating all programs.

PMT reporting is completed based on grant-funded activities and due on the following dates:

Reporting Period	Due Date
July 1 – September 30	October 15
October 1 – December 31	January 15
January 1 – March 31	April 15
April 1 – June 30	July 15

Submission of performance measures data is not required for the application.

SECTION IV: PROGRAM DESIGN

This project will facilitate a comprehensive, multi-system collaboration among local entities statewide, including law enforcement, the courts, community supervision, reentry programs, PDMPs, emergency and first responding agencies, and healthcare providers that offer substance use disorder treatment and recovery support services. Using a data-driven approach, the project will target areas with the most critical need for services while building a framework to enhance public safety beyond the grant's scope. Grant funding will focus on three main objectives to achieve the overarching goal of combating substance use and enhancing public safety:

1. Criminal Justice System Response in Diversion and Intervention

Definition: Criminal Justice System Response in Diversion and Intervention refers to strategies and programs within the criminal justice system designed to redirect individuals with substance use disorders away from traditional punitive measures (such as incarceration) and towards rehabilitative and supportive services. These strategies aim to address the underlying issues of substance use and reduce recidivism by providing alternatives to prosecution and promoting interventions that support recovery and reintegration into society. *Here are some examples, though this list is not comprehensive.*

Examples:

1. Pre-Trial Diversion Programs:

- **Definition:** A pre-trial diversion program is a program offered to individuals charged with a criminal offense that allows them to avoid traditional prosecution by completing specific requirements set by the court. These programs are designed to rehabilitate offenders and prevent future criminal behavior, often through education, treatment, community service, or restitution, thereby addressing the root causes of the offense
- **Example:** A deferred prosecution program lets first-time offenders charged with minor crimes like drug possession or petty theft avoid a criminal record by meeting conditions like counseling, community service, or restitution. Completing the program successfully can lead to charges being dismissed, offering a second chance, promoting rehabilitation, and easing the load on the justice system.

2. Pre-Arrest Diversion Programs:

- **Definition:** Initiatives that allow law enforcement officers to redirect individuals with substance use issues to treatment and support services instead of arresting them.
- **Example:** The Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) program where police officers refer low-level drug offenders to community-based treatment and support services instead of making an arrest.

3. Community-Based Supervision:

- **Definition:** Programs that provide supervision and support to individuals with substance use disorders within the community, aiming to prevent reoffending and promote recovery.
- **Example:** A probation program that includes mandatory participation in substance use treatment, regular drug testing, and check-ins with a probation officer trained in substance abuse counseling.

4. Crisis Intervention Teams (CIT):

- **Definition:** Specialized law enforcement units trained to respond to individuals experiencing a mental health or substance use crisis.
 - **Example:** A police department's CIT team that works with mental health professionals to de-escalate situations involving individuals with substance use disorders and connect them to appropriate treatment services.
5. **Treatment Alternatives for Safer Communities (TASC):**
- **Definition:** Programs that provide case management and connect individuals with substance use disorders to treatment and other supportive services as an alternative to incarceration.
 - **Example:** A TASC program that works with the courts to identify eligible participants and provides them with comprehensive case management, linking them to substance use treatment, housing, and employment services.

2. Prevention and Harm Reduction

Definition: Prevention and Harm Reduction refer to strategies and programs aimed at reducing the initiation of substance use and minimizing the negative health, social, and legal impacts associated with substance use and addiction. Prevention focuses on stopping substance use before it starts, while harm reduction aims to mitigate the adverse consequences for those already using substances. *Here are some examples, though this list is not comprehensive.*

Examples:

1. **Educational Campaigns:**
 - **Definition:** Initiatives designed to increase awareness and knowledge about the risks of substance use and promote healthy behaviors.
 - **Example:** School-based programs that educate students about the dangers of drug use and teach skills for resisting peer pressure.
2. **Naloxone Distribution:**
 - **Definition:** Programs that provide naloxone, a medication that can rapidly reverse an opioid overdose, to people at risk of overdose and those who might witness an overdose.
 - **Example:** A community organization distributing free naloxone kits and providing training on how to recognize and respond to an opioid overdose.
3. **Public Awareness Campaigns:**
 - **Definition:** Efforts to inform the public about the dangers of substance use and the importance of harm reduction practices.
 - **Example:** A statewide media campaign using TV, radio, and social media to raise awareness about the risks of opioid use and the availability of naloxone.
4. **Overdose Prevention Education:**
 - **Definition:** Programs that educate individuals on how to prevent and respond to overdoses.
 - **Example:** Training sessions for community members on how to recognize the signs of an overdose, perform rescue breathing, and administer naloxone.
5. **Fentanyl Testing Strips:**

- **Definition:** Tools that allow first responders to test drugs for the presence of fentanyl, a potent opioid that increases the risk of overdose.
- **Example:** First responding agencies use fentanyl testing strips to test unknown substances, ensuring proper handling and safety.

3. Recovery Support

Definition: Recovery Support refers to services and programs designed to assist individuals in maintaining long-term recovery from substance use disorders. These supports aim to provide the necessary resources, community, and stability to help individuals achieve and sustain sobriety, rebuild their lives, and reintegrate into society. *Here are some examples, though this list is not comprehensive.*

Examples:

1. Peer Support Services:

- **Definition:** Support provided by individuals with lived experience of recovery who offer guidance, encouragement, and mentorship to others on their recovery journey.
- **Example:** A recovery community organization offering peer support groups where individuals in recovery can share their experiences, receive support, and build connections with others who understand their challenges.

2. Employment and Vocational Training Programs:

- **Definition:** Programs that help individuals in recovery gain job skills, find employment, and achieve financial independence.
- **Example:** A community-based organization providing job training workshops, resume writing assistance, and job placement services specifically for individuals in recovery.

3. Recovery Coaching:

- **Definition:** One-on-one support provided by trained recovery coaches who help individuals set and achieve recovery goals, navigate challenges, and access resources.
- **Example:** A recovery center offering personalized coaching sessions to help individuals create and follow a recovery plan, connect with community resources, and build coping strategies.

4. Support Groups:

- **Definition:** Regular meetings where individuals in recovery come together to share experiences, offer mutual support, and maintain accountability.
- **Example:** 12-step programs like Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) or Narcotics Anonymous (NA) that provide structured support and a sense of community for individuals working towards recovery.

5. Family Support Services:

- **Definition:** Programs that provide education, counseling, and support to the families of individuals in recovery, helping them understand addiction and support their loved one's recovery process.
- **Example:** A family counseling center offering workshops and therapy sessions for family members affected by a loved one's substance use, teaching them how to provide effective support and care.

SECTION V: APPLICATION FORM

Program Narrative

All applicants must complete a project narrative describing the proposed project being requested. The following elements are required in the project narrative. The application must be submitted online via Formstack on or before 5 p.m., August 23, 2024. Please click [here](#) apply.

- **Project Description:** This section of the application should contain a general description of activities that justifies and describes the project to be implemented. The project description should include specific services that will be provided and explain what the project will accomplish.
 - * If an applicant is requesting to expand an ongoing project, the application must include a detailed description of the current project, the implementation status to date, and how the funding will be used to supplement existing funding to achieve project objectives.
- **Needs Statement:** Provide a statement that clearly defines the problem or gaps that the initiative will address. To support your request, offer a detailed description of the target demographic, the geographic area covered, statistics, and scope of the problem that needs to be addressed. Describe any previous efforts taken to solve this issue as well.
- **Project Goals:** State the goals of the proposed project. Explain how the project goals will meet the needs of the project's target population and/or impact the proposed service area.
- **Project activities and services:** Describe the project's service delivery plan, detailing how the agency will achieve its goals. Explain how services will be implemented or enhanced, including a timeline for implementation. Additionally, provide an explanation of how the planned activities will address the needs of the target population as outlined in the needs statement.

SECTION VI: Attachments

- [Budget Detail Worksheet](#)
- [Designated Grant Official's form](#)
- MOU/Contracts *if applicable*
- *Timeline if not included in narrative*

Budget

All applicants must attach a budget using the provided Detailed Budget Worksheet. All line items within the budget are subject to review and approval. Decisions related to these budget line items are based on allowance of line item costs per federal program guidelines, justification of costs in relation to project activities, and reasonableness of costs based on current market rates.

How to Apply

Submit the completed application, including the requested information and all required attachments, online at [FY23 COSSUP Application](#). To be eligible for funding consideration, a complete application must be submitted by **5 p.m. on Friday, August 23, 2024**.