



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA REQUEST & STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: March 18, 2026

SUBJECT: Approval of Document No. 2026-0188, an agreement accepting a Criminal Justice Commission Restorative Justice Grant

RECOMMENDED MOTIONS:

Move approval of Document No. 2026-0188, an agreement accepting a Criminal Justice Commission for the Restorative Justice Grant.

BACKGROUND AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

The District Attorney's Office seeks Board authorization to accept the Criminal Justice Commission's (CJC) Restorative Justice grant for the purpose of continuing the Emerging Adult Program (EAP). The EAP is a partnership between the District Attorney's Office, Thrive Central Oregon (Thrive), and Restorative Justice & Equity (RJ&E). The initiative redirects young adults out of the criminal justice system into a restorative justice program that ensures accountability by addressing the harm caused. The program aims to reduce the number of cases going into our court system by connecting young adults and their victims to community services to improve life stability and to allow participants the opportunity to amend for their actions while avoiding the unintended consequences of a criminal charge.

The CJC's Restorative Justice Grant program has supported the EAP program since fall 2022, allowing Deschutes County to grow the initiative from serving 13 pilot participants to over 100 individuals. EAP has an 82% graduation rate and a 17.5% arrest-recidivism rate. We anticipate enrolling an additional 40 young adults into the program during this grant cycle.

Grant funds will be used to cover service contracts with Thrive, RJ&E, and Restorative Justice Coalition of Oregon (RJCO). Thrive will provide a 0.5 FTE case manager/support specialist to work directly with the young adults and their victims, connecting them to local services and resources. RJ&E will facilitate the program's restorative circles, employ an RJ specialist and program coordinator, coordinate team training, and provide the location for program activities. RJCO will provide restorative justice technical assistance and training. Funds will also support personnel expenses for two limited-duration 0.5 FTEs at the DA's Office, evaluation, as well as team training and travel.

The grant period is October 1, 2025 to August 31, 2027.

BUDGET IMPACTS:

\$943,436 in total revenue.

Approximately a third of the award will remain with the DA's Office for program expenses, and the remainder will be passed through to our partners/sub-awardees- Thrive, RJ&E and RJCO.

Funds were accounted for in the FY26 Budget.

ATTENDANCE:

Kathleen Meehan Coop, Management Analyst