



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA REQUEST & STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: 11/3/2021

SUBJECT: DOJ Domestic Violence Grant

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

Move approval of accepting the 2021 Department of Justice Improving Criminal Justice Responses to Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Grant Program, and move approval of covering any costs beyond the grant award if the selected FTE candidate's starting Step exceeds available grant funding.

BACKGROUND AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

The District Attorney's Office in partnership with all the local law enforcement offices and Saving Grace have been awarded a grant from the Department of Justice to better respond to and address domestic violence cases in our community. The collaborative group has developed a Domestic Violence High Risk team that identifies high risk offenders and prioritizes responses to hold them accountable and provides resources for victim safety. The team involves a grant funded domestic violence investigator that is housed in the DA's Office.

This is the second grant award that Deschutes County has received from the DOJ to support this work, which is important as strangulation is a crime that consistently goes under-investigated. Victims of these crimes are at the highest risk of lethality and will be assessed using Maryland Model Lethality Assessment Program (LAP) and will be connected with community advocates at Saving grace to receive a range of services and needed resources.

The grant will run for three years - October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2024.

We requested and were awarded the maximum grant amount; however, the amount available for personnel may not fully cover a selected candidate's salary should that candidate be hired at a higher level Step due to a pay equity analysis.

See the attached grant proposal narrative and budget and the Welcome letter from Department of Justice.

BUDGET IMPACTS:

The grant award is for a total of \$488,435 over three years. The majority of the funding is allocated for a contract and personnel. This grant was projected in the DA Office's FY22 Budget.

The contracting funds will be provided to Saving Grace to support their work - \$133,028.

The personnel funds will be used to pay for a domestic violence investigator at a 0.9 FTE - \$310,407. The remaining 0.1 FTE for that position is a shared cost with the five law enforcement agencies.

There is also funding set-aside for interpreter costs and travel to attend mandatory grant training.

ATTENDANCE:

Kathleen Meehan Coop, Management Analyst