



## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

# AGENDA REQUEST & STAFF REPORT

**MEETING DATE:** June 11, 2025

**SUBJECT:** Authorization to apply for a Criminal Justice Commission Restorative Justice Grant

**RECOMMENDED MOTIONS:**

Move to authorize the submittal of an application for a Criminal Justice Commission Restorative Justice Grant.

**BACKGROUND AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS:**

The District Attorney's Office seeks Board authorization to apply for a Criminal Justice Commission (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) which redirect 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, connect young adults and their victims to community services to improve life stability, and 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 13 pilot participants to a total of 97 individuals. To date we have an 80% graduation rate and a 12% arrest recidivism rate. We anticipate enrolling another 60 young adults into EAP over the next biennium.

If granted, the funds would be used to cover personnel expenses for three 0.5 FTEs at the DA's Office, program evaluation, and meeting expenses, in addition to the service contracts with Thrive and RJ&E. 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 with two halftime RJ specialists, coordinate team training, and provide the location for program activities.

The grant cycle would be for 24 months starting July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2027.

**BUDGET IMPACTS:**

If approved, the application would result in a grant award for over \$1 million, with about half (\$500,000) going to support EAP staffing at the DA's Office (0.5 FTEs - deputy district attorney, program development technician & FTE victim advocate) for two years. The other half would be divided between Thrive and RJ&E for their services (approximately \$250,000 each) for case management and restorative dialogue management.

There is no matching funds requirement.

**ATTENDANCE:**

Kathleen Meehan Coop, Management Analyst