



Florida Substance Abuse and Mental Health Corporation:

- The Florida Substance Abuse and Mental Health Corporation is a non-profit corporation created by the Legislature to oversee the state's publicly funded substance abuse and mental health services. The Governor, President of the Senate and Speaker of the House appoint its 12 directors.
- The corporation is charged with making recommendations annually to the Governor and the Legislature on policies designed to improve coordination and effectiveness of the state's publicly funded mental health and substance abuse systems.

Criminal Justice, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Grant Program:

- Is the result of the passage of HB 1477 by the 2007 Legislature and provides \$3.8 million in grants to Florida counties to reduce the number of individuals with substance abuse disorders and mental illness in local jails and state prisons.
- It was created to provide funding to counties so they can plan, implement or expand initiatives. These initiatives must increase public safety, avert increased spending on criminal justice, and improve the accessibility and effectiveness of treatment services for adults and juveniles who have a mental illness, substance abuse disorder, or co-occurring mental health and substance abuse disorders and who are in, or at risk of entering, the criminal or juvenile justice systems.

Results of the creation of the program:

- Requires the Florida Substance Abuse and Mental Health Corporation to establish a statewide grant review committee;
- Authorizes counties to apply for a planning grant or an implementation or expansion grant;
- Creates the Criminal Justice, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Technical Assistance Center at the Florida Mental Health Institute, University of South Florida and;
- Creates the Criminal Justice, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Policy Council within the Florida Substance Abuse and Mental Health Corporation.

Grants available:

There are two types of grants that will be available:

- 1) One-year **planning** grants with a maximum grant award of \$100,000.
- 2) Three-year **implementation and expansion** grants with a maximum grant award of \$1,000,000.

Purpose of the grants:

The purpose of the grants is to demonstrate that investment in treatment efforts related to mental illness, substance abuse disorders, or co-occurring mental health and substance abuse disorders results in a reduced demand on the resources of the judicial, corrections, juvenile detention, and health and social services systems.

County matching requirements:

Matching requirements vary between the two grants and are:

- (a) A one-year planning grant may not be awarded unless the applicant county makes available resources in an amount equal to the total amount of the grant. A planning grant may not be used to supplant funding for existing programs. For fiscally constrained counties¹, the available resources may be at 50 percent of the total amount of the grant.
- (b) A three-year implementation or expansion grant may not be awarded unless the applicant county or consortium of counties makes available resources equal to the total amount of the grant. For fiscally constrained counties, the available resources may be at 50 percent of the total amount of the grant. This match shall be used for expansion of services and may not supplant existing funds for services.
- (c) An implementation or expansion grant must support the implementation of new services or the expansion of services and may not be used to supplant existing services.

The term, "available resources" includes in-kind contributions from participating counties.

Help available for applying:

The Criminal Justice, Mental Health & Substance Abuse Technical Assistance Center at the Florida Mental Health Institute, University of South Florida was created as a result of this legislation and is mandated to:

- 1) Provide technical assistance to counties for the preparation and implementation of grants;
- 2) Assist an applicant county in projecting the effect of the proposed intervention on the population of the county detention facility;
- 3) Assist an applicant county in monitoring the effect of a grant award on the criminal justice system in the county;
- 4) Disseminate and share evidence-based practices and best practices among grantees;
- 5) Act as a clearinghouse for information and resources related to criminal justice, juvenile justice, mental health and substance abuse; and
- 6) Coordinate and organize the process of the state interagency justice, mental health and substance abuse work with the outcomes of the local grant projects for state and local policy and budget developments and system planning.

More information regarding eligibility, application requirements, grant review committee members and the various Councils created, can be found at <http://www.samhcorp.org>.

¹ The term, "fiscally constrained counties" is not defined in CS/SC/HB 1477