



STATE OF GEORGIA
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Nathan Deal
Governor

Katie Jo Ballard
Executive Director

May 13, 2013

Dear Judge,

It was a pleasure speaking with and meeting many of you at the Spring Seminar last week. I was impressed by the knowledge and caring expressed during your training sessions and it is my wish that GOCF supports you in the important work you do each day in your court.

There have been a number of questions about the juvenile grant opportunities being provided in support of the recommendations of the Special Council on Criminal Justice Reform and HB 242.

In the hope of facilitating effective communication, I have compiled a listing of the more popular questions with answers for you-

1. *We want to apply for this grant but need help, what advice does GOCF have?*
 - a. In order to ensure the successful implementation of evidence-based practices, GOCF & CJCC will provide both application Training and Technical Assistance (TTA) as well as post-award TTA. Please check both agency websites for technical assistance opportunities as well as <http://juveniledata.georgia.gov/JuvenileRgp.aspx>
2. *Are we permitted to apply for both grants, even if we are not one of the Top 18?*
 - a. Counties can choose to apply for either or even both grant opportunities. However, successful applicants will receive only one award.
3. *How many awards will be made? How will \$6M serve 159 counties?*
 - a. The number of awards is dependent on number of successful applicants and the dollar amounts requested so it is difficult to state with certainty an exact number.
4. *Is a match required? Should this be captured in the sustainability plan section of the application?*
 - a. While showing a match will enhance the strength of your application, there is NO match required for this grant program. If counties are able to show a reduction in their numbers and demonstrate success of this initiative, plans are in place to continue these funds to counties.

5. *Why two RFPs and what is the source of this funding?*

- a. In order to ensure that state and federal funds were not co-mingled, two RFPs were issued-
 - i. CJCC-\$5M in state funds appropriated by legislature
 - ii. GOCF-\$1M in federal juvenile justice funds.

CJCC state funds were issued in support of the recommendations of the Special Council on Criminal Justice Reform for Georgians, the Georgia state Legislature, and Governor Deal.

GOCF federal funds were issued in support of Georgia's three year plan for juvenile justice and address two priority funding areas for the state- Diversion & Re-entry.

6. *Are we required to utilize Evidence-Based Programming in our proposal?*

- a. This is a requirement for BOTH RFPs. The approved listing of evidence-based programming is contained at crimesolutions.gov. Applicants must ensure that their primary intervention proposed to meet the needs of their target population in their application is listed under the juvenile section of the crimesolutions.gov website. Further, Applicants must ensure that any service providers with whom they sub-contract, provide these evidence-based services with fidelity to the original model. Fidelity is critical to achieving the desired outcomes for Georgia's juvenile system.

7. *We have a local non-profit that will provide services; can they apply for this grant opportunity? Who is eligible to apply?*

- a. The fiscal agent/applicant for the Juvenile Reinvestment Grant Program must be a unit of local government. We anticipate County Boards of Commissioners applying on behalf of local juvenile courts.
 - i. Non-profit agencies may provide services through this opportunity but the applicant agency must be a unit of local government.
 - ii. Additionally, smaller counties are encouraged to combine their effort with neighboring counties in a joint application (made by one county on behalf of group) if they see fit.

8. *What does it mean that a proportion of the payments may be reduced?*

- a. The GOCF grants are performance-based grant awards with payments provided for achieving pre-established outcomes. If a GOCF grantee is unable to meet participant goals or objectives, a portion of the payment may

be withheld. For the initial year of funding, targets have been kept low, a required 5% reduction by 3/31/14, (20% reduction by 7/31/14) in order to ensure that grantees have every opportunity to be successful and corrections made in order to limit possibility of a payment reduction.

9. *Section 2 a. mentions a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between local judicial leadership and the Department of Juvenile Justice, is there a format for this MOA?*

Is this required?

- a. The DJJ MOU is a POST-AWARD requirement. Other MOU's, (i.e. with service providers or partner agencies, partner counties) should be included with the application, as appropriate.

10. *Can a current GOCF grantee apply for the new Juvenile Reinvestment Proposal (RFP)?*

- a. While we do not discourage a current grantee from applying for the new RFP, the grant reviewers will consider the following:
 - i. The same population cannot be served by both grants;
 - ii. The sustainability of two grants will be critically assessed

11. *What is the indirect rate and is there a cap?*

- a. Administrative or indirect costs are not to exceed 10% for this grant.

12. *How does GOCF performance-based contracting work?*

- a. Rather than submit actual expenses quarterly for reimbursement, GOCF will provide allotments of 20% of the grant awarded. The initial allotment is provided as an advance after the grant award agreement is executed with GOCF. Performance allotments are then provided quarterly as grant expectations are met. Actual expenses will still be tracked by the fiscal agent/applicant and reconciled at the end of the grant period. A sample copy of the payment form is included in the RFP in section 2. f. Additionally, in-depth training will be provided for successful applicants in June.

13. *We do not know our felony commitment numbers/STP sentences for FY2012, where can we find this information?*

- a. GOCF has placed this information for all counties on their juvenile data website at JuvenileData.Georgia.Gov

14. How do we calculate our target reduction- Is it 20% of felony commitments or 20 % of STP admissions?

- a. It is a 20% reduction of the applicant's TOTAL number of felony commitments and STP admissions from state fiscal year 2012 total.

NOTE: STP Admissions include youth who are admitted to secure confinement for a STP sentence & youth admitted to secure confinement for a Secure Probation Sanction violation.

If I can be a help to you or your court, please don't hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Katie Jo Ballard".

Katie Jo Ballard
Executive Director