

**County of Contra Costa**  
**OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**  
**MEMORANDUM**

DATE: May 7, 2015

TO: PUBLIC PROTECTION COMMITTEE

FROM: LARA DeLANEY, Senior Deputy County Administrator

SUBJECT: **Results of RFP Process for the Community Recidivism Reduction Grants**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

1. ACCEPT the recommendations of the Review Panels with regard to contract awards from the Requests for Proposals (RFP) issued for the Community Recidivism Reduction Grants.
2. RECOMMEND contract authorization by the Board of Supervisors for the following contractors, in the amount of \$50,000 each, for the period July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016:

<b>Adult</b>	<b>Region</b>	<b>Contractor</b>	<b>Partners</b>
	West	Reach Fellowship International	
	Central	John F. Kennedy University School of Law	
	East	Rubicon Programs	Alma House, Destiny House
<b>Juveniles</b>		Bay Area Community Resources (BACR)	
		RYSE Center	

**BACKGROUND:**

In August 2014, the CAO's office was notified by the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) that the Budget Act of 2014 had allocated \$8 million to the BSCC for the Community Recidivism Reduction Grant, as described in Penal Code section 1233.10. Counties are eligible to receive funds if the Board of Supervisors, in collaboration with the CCP, agrees to develop a competitive grant program intended to fund community recidivism and crime reduction services. On September 16, 2014, the Board of Supervisors passed item C. 51, confirming to the BSCC the County's interest in receiving the funding, of which \$250,000 was allocated to Contra Costa County.

Other requirements of the statute include:

“The board of supervisors, in collaboration with the county's Community Corrections Partnership, shall establish minimum requirements, funding criteria, and procedures for the counties to award grants consistent with the criteria established in this section.

A community recidivism and crime reduction service provider that receives a grant under this section shall report to the county board of supervisors or the Community Corrections Partnership on the number of individuals served and the types of services provided. The board of supervisors or the Community Corrections Partnership shall report to the Board of State and Community Corrections any information received under this subdivision from grant recipients.”

The Public Protection Committee directed the CAO's office to develop a competitive process for distribution of the funding set at \$50,000 per region for adult reentry services and \$100,000 for juvenile programs. The County Administrator's Office, in collaboration with the Reentry Coordinator, the Probation Department, the East-Central Reentry Network Manager, and the then-director of the West County Reentry Resource Center, developed the RFP and the process timeline.

#### RFP PROCESS

The RFP for the Community Recidivism Reduction Grant made available up to \$250,000 (\$50,000 per grant) to provide Community Recidivism Reduction Grants to nongovernmental entities or a consortium or coalition of nongovernmental entities to provide community recidivism, crime reduction and other reentry-related services to persons who have been released from state prison, a county jail, or a juvenile detention facility, who are under the supervision of a parole or probation department, or any other person at risk of becoming involved in criminal activities, in Contra Costa County, for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016.

The RFP was posted on BidSync, the website the County utilizes for contracting opportunities, and distributed directly via email to contacts developed by the County's Reentry Coordinator and staff of the CAO's office. A Press Release was issued as well.

Review Panels were assembled by the CAO's office, comprised of the following members:

Facilitator	Donte Blue	County Reentry Coordinator
1	Todd Billeci	Assistant Chief of Probation
2	Lara DeLaney	CAO, Sr. Deputy
3	Kathy Narasaki	East-Central Reentry Network Manager
4	Rebecca Brown	CEO, Further The Work; WCRRC Steering Committee Chair
5	DeVonn Powers	Goodwill Director of Contract Services; CAB member; WCRRC Steering Committee;
Substitute for ADULT-WEST	Michele Wells	CEO, Run On Productions LLC; CAB Member;
Substitute for ADULT-WEST	Angelene Musawwir	Social Work Supervisor II, Public Defender; CAB Member

The substitutes for the review of the Adult-West proposals were required because two of the Panel members, Rebecca Brown and DeVonn Powers, were members of the West County Reentry Resource Center Steering Committee. This Committee membership may have posed a conflict of interest, given that one of the proposals was intending to provide service at the WCRRC. In the interest of avoiding even the appearance of a conflict of interest, the substitutes were recruited and provided excellent service. All Review Panel members were required to provide an Impartiality Statement, the Reentry Coordinator acted as Facilitator (no participation in development of scores), and a Consensus Scoring Method was utilized throughout the process.

Proposals were received from the following organizations:

<b>Adult</b>	<i>Region</i>	<u><b>Responder</b></u>
	West	1 Bay Area Legal Aid
	West	2 Contra Costa Crisis Center
	West	3 Reach Fellowship International
	West	4 San Pablo Economic Development Corporation
	Central	1 John F. Kennedy University School of Law
	East	1 Rubicon Programs
	Central/East	1 Counseling Options and Parent Education Support Center, Inc.
<b>Juveniles</b>		1 Bay Area Community Resources (BACR)
		2 Contra Costa County Service Integration Team
		3 Monument Crisis Center
		4 Renaissance Entrepreneurship Center
		5 RYSE Center
		6 The Congress of Neutrals
		7 The Youth Intervention Network

### Review Panels' Recommendations

Review Panels convened April 14, 15, and 16, 2015 to review and score all proposals and to conduct interviews. For the Juvenile-related proposals, four of the seven proposers were invited to an interview. For the Adult-related proposals, three of the four West proposers were invited to an interview. Each proposer for the Central/East and East region were interviewed. Scores for all of the proposals are included on Attachment B.

The Committee will note that there was only a 0.5 point difference in the top two proposals for West-Adult services between Reach Fellowship and Bay Area Legal Aid. The Panel had the most difficulty in scoring the proposals for West County, as they were all of very high quality. Ultimately the decision reflected consideration of the need for housing resources in West County, particularly for women with children.

The Review Panel recommendations for contract award were issued on April 17, 2015 and included:

#### Adult Services

*Central County, \$50,000:*

**John F. Kennedy University  
College of Law**—*Establishment of a Probation Assistance Clinic in conjunction with the Contra Costa County Homeless Court, centered on driver's license restoration.*

*West County, \$50,000:*

**Reach Fellowship International**—*Residential and Job Training Program for women of West County.*

*East County, \$50,000:*

**Rubicon Programs**—*Rental assistance in a Sober Living Environment (SLE) with career and financial coaching.*

#### Juvenile Services

**Bay Area Community Resources (BACR)**—\$50,000: *A program to engage juveniles in east Contra Costa County in a comprehensive program utilizing employment training and leadership development.*

**RYSE Center**—\$50,000: *Pre-release transition planning, technical skills training, and the creation of a social media application focused on youth reentry for justice-involved youth at the RYSE Center.*

The Review Panels made the following additional recommendations.

1. With respect to RYSE Center, the contractor should be encouraged to collaborate with Bay Area Community Resources and the Youth Justice Initiative (YJI). In addition, the institution access issues should be addressed with Probation prior to contract authorization and development, so that pre-release services may be considered.
2. With respect to the proposal from BACR, the Review Panel recommended that services be focused on East County juveniles. (The proposal included services in both East and

West County; however, the need was identified by the Panel for East County services.) Collaboration with the YJI was also encouraged.

3. Regarding Adult services, the Panel recommended that JFKU College of Law develop an MOU with Bay Area Legal Aid regarding the referral of cases dealing with driver's licenses and DMV related issues and that program design be further refined during contract development, with input from Panel members.

Attachments

Attachment A – RFP for Community Recidivism Reduction Grant

Attachment B – CRRG Scoring Sheet