

DATE: June 9, 2016 **AGENDA ITEM:** E

TO: BSCC Chair and Members

FROM: Colleen Stoner, Field Representative, colleen.stoner@bscc.ca.gov

SUBJECT: Juvenile Accountability Block Grant: Evidence-based Practices Training Project: Funding Extension: **Requesting Approval**

Summary

This agenda item requests approval to extend additional funding to the current grantees of the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG) Evidence-based Practices (EBP) Training Project. If approved, this would extend the project through March 1, 2017 and use approximately \$190,000 in unspent Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG) funds that would otherwise revert to the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention on March 1, 2017.

Background

The Board of State and Community Corrections is the Designated State Administrative agency for the following two federal juvenile justice funding sources: Title II Formula Block Grant Program and the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant Program. The State Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (SACJJDP) aligned these programs to support California's Title II Three-Year plan to promote effective juvenile justice policies and programming. This plan outlined three priority areas, one of which is evidence-based practices. Funding for the EBP Training Project is intended to provide training for probation staff and their juvenile justice partners and/or community stakeholders to increase skills, competency and proficiency in implementing effective correctional practices known to reduce recidivism. Federal funding for JABG was discontinued in 2013, but unspent funding continues to be administered by the BSCC. The remaining unspent funding is due to expire on March 1, 2017.

On April 22, 2014 the SACJJDP approved approximately \$250,000 in discretionary JABG funds to further develop the EBP priority area. On May 8, 2014 the BSCC Board approved the recommendation of the SACJJDP and authorized staff to assemble an ESC for this project. On November 13, 2014 the Board approved and released the proposed RFA for the EBP Training Project, as recommended by the SACJJDP at its October 15, 2014 meeting. The ESC for this project included subject matter experts and was co-chaired by SACJJDP Committee Chair Sandra Mc Brayer and BSCC Board Member Michelle Brown.

Probation departments were allowed to request up to a maximum of:

- \$5,000 for a small-sized county;
- \$10,000 for a medium-sized county; and

- \$20,000 for a large-sized county.

In January 2015 the BSCC staff received nine applications in response to the RFA. The nine applications received represented four large, five medium, and 13 small counties for a total of 22 counties. Sufficient funding was available to fund all applicants and projects began on May 1, 2015 and are due to end on June 30, 2016 (Attachment E-1). The remaining balance of approximately \$190,000 is the result of 2012 and 2013 unallocated project funding, reversions from local grants, and interest earned during these funding periods. Not enough time remains to develop a competitive-bid process for a new solicitation before these funds expire. Offering a second round of funding to the existing EBP Training Program grantees is a viable option that would use some or all of the remaining balance, benefit the California local juvenile justice system, and avoid reversion of the funds to the federal level.

On March 16, 2016 the SACJJDP recommended the Board approve a second round of funding for the current grantees of the EBP Project. Should this recommendation be approved, the current EBP Training Project grantees would be expected to apply for additional funding by meeting the requirements and expectations as identified in the original RFA issued in November 2014. Applicants would be eligible to apply for funds based on funding thresholds identified in the RFA up to the amount of their original award.

Recommendation/Action Needed

Staff is requesting the Board approve using unspent JABG funds to extend funding to the current grantees of the EBP Training Project as recommended by the SACJJDP.

Attachments

E-1: Evidence-Based Practices Training Project Recommended Grant Awards