

**DATE:** June 10, 2015 **AGENDA ITEM:** G

**TO:** BSCC Chair and Members

**FROM:** Helene Zentner, Field Representative, [Helene.zentner@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:Helene.zentner@bscc.ca.gov)

**SUBJECT:** The Mentally Ill Offender Crime Reduction Grant Executive Steering Committee's Funding Recommendations: **Requesting Approval**

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## Summary

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This agenda item provides an update on the status, as of May 29, 2015, of the Mentally Ill Offender Crime Reduction (MIOCR) Grant Executive Steering Committee's (ESC) progress toward funding recommendations. The juvenile subcommittee met on May 26, 2015 and the adult subcommittee will meet on June 8, 2015. Staff will provide an updated report with the recommendations for funding on June 9, 2015.

## Background

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The fiscal year 2014-15 State Budget Act appropriated Recidivism Reduction Funds for MIOCR grants to support appropriate prevention, intervention, supervision, services and strategies aimed at reducing recidivism in California's mentally ill offender population and to improve outcomes for these offenders while continuing to protect public safety. Penal Code Section 6045 (Attachment G-1) requires that the BSCC award grants totaling \$17.1 million to counties on a competitive basis, with half of the funding to be awarded to projects designed for mentally ill adult offenders and half to be awarded to projects that target mentally ill juvenile offenders.

It further requires that grant funds be awarded to implement locally developed, collaborative and multidisciplinary projects that provide a cost-effective continuum of responses designed to reduce jail crowding, provide youthful offenders with alternatives to detention, reduce crime and criminal justice costs as they relate to the mentally ill, and maximize available and/or new local resources for prevention, intervention, detention and aftercare services for adult and juvenile mentally ill offenders. Penal Code Section 6045 also requires the BSCC to provide ongoing technical assistance, monitoring, data collection and evaluation oversight for the local grantees, and to submit an annual Legislative Report beginning October 1, 2015, with a final report due on December 31, 2018.

At its September 11, 2014 meeting, the Board authorized the formation of an ESC to oversee the development and release of the MIOCR Grant Program Request for Proposals (RFPs) for both juvenile and adult grant projects (Attachment G-2). The Board appointed San Bernardino Chief Probation Officer and BSCC Board Member Michelle Brown and Orange County Sheriff Sandra Hutchens as Co-Chairs. Ten additional subject matter experts

from an array of disciplines and community partners working with adult and juvenile offenders with mental health issues were named as members and participated on this ESC.

The ESC (See Member Roster, Attachment G-3) met on November 18, 2014 to develop the MIOCR RFP and establish the criteria that would be used to rate the proposals. At its February 12, 2015 meeting the Board approved the RFPs developed by the ESC (Attachment G-4), but deleted the following draft language from the County Plan/Strategy rating factor – *“Plans include a justice reinvestment strategy, illustrating a data-driven approach to improve public safety, reduce corrections and related criminal and juvenile justice spending, and reinvest savings in strategies that decrease crime and reduce recidivism.”* After the edit was made, the Adult and Juvenile RFPs (identical except for the use of the word “adult” or “juvenile”, depending on the RFP) were released to the public on February 13, 2015 (Attachment G-5 Juvenile RFP), with proposal submissions due back to the BSCC on April 3, 2015. Eligibility for funding was limited to California counties, with a targeted funding cap of \$950,000 for the three-year grant period.

The BSCC received 20 proposals for adult MIOCR projects requesting \$19.2 million and 15 proposals for juvenile MIOCR projects requesting \$13.4 million. Proposals were submitted by 24 counties, with 11 of those counties applying for both adult and juvenile funding.

BSCC staff reviewed the proposals for technical compliance with the RFP, including the required strategy committee membership (Attachment G-5, page 15 and page 41, Section XI). After staff reviewed all the proposals, only five out of 20 proposals appeared to meet this criteria for the adult submissions and only two out of 15 proposals appeared to meet this criteria for the juvenile submissions. BSCC staff sought additional clarity on this point by contacting all applicants to request the resubmittal of Section XI, Subsection A: “Strategy Committee Membership” to further clarify which individuals participated in the local Strategy Committee process.

Although not all of the proposals strictly complied with the Strategy Committee membership requirements, BSCC staff and the Co-Chairs determined that all proposals would go forward to the ESC. The ESC could then determine, using the “MIOCR Grant Proposal Rating Criteria Collaboration” and corresponding scoring range with a maximum 100 points (Attachment G-5, Page 43), whether the applicants sufficiently met the collaboration requirements. All applicants complied with all other necessary technical compliance issues prior to the MIOCR rater training meeting.

On April 22, 2015 the ESC received training by BSCC research staff on how to read and rate the MIOCR proposals based on the rating criteria established in the RFP. ESC members were divided into two groups based on their expertise (adult or juvenile) and received only those proposals relating to that funding category. In addition, raters did not receive proposals in which they had a potential conflict of interest.

On May 26, 2015 ESC subcommittee members rating the juvenile proposals met to discuss scores and determine the ranked list of proposals meeting the scoring threshold (at least half the rating scale or 253 points out of the 505 total possible points). On June 8, 2015 ESC subcommittee members rating the adult proposals will meet to discuss scores and determine

the ranked list of proposals meeting the scoring threshold (at least 253 points or 50% of the total 505 points possible).

### **Recommendation/Action Needed**

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The recommendations of the Mentally Ill Offender Crime Reduction Grant Executive Steering Committee will be provided on June 9, 2015. This report will be updated and posted to the BSCC website at that time.

### **Attachments**

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- G-1: Penal Code Section 6045
- G-2: Board Agenda Report, September 11, 2014
- G-3: Mentally Ill Offender Crime Reduction Grant Executive Steering Committee Roster
- G-4: Board Agenda Report, February 12, 2015
- G-5: Mentally Ill Offender Crime Reduction Grant Program Request for Proposals (Juvenile)