

MEETING DATE: June 11, 2020**AGENDA ITEM:** D**TO:** BSCC Chair and Members**FROM:** Kimberly Bushard, Field Representative, kimberly.bushard@bscc.ca.gov**SUBJECT:** Youth Reinvestment Grant Funding Recommendations: **Requesting Approval (*Pending 2020-2021 Budget Act*)**

Summary

This agenda item requests Board approval, contingent upon continued appropriation in the 2020 Budget Act, of the Youth Reinvestment Grant (YRG) Program funding awards as recommended by the Executive Steering Committee (ESC) (Attachment D-1). The ESC held a virtual meeting on April 16, 2020 for rater training and then commenced the process of proposal rating. If the proposed list of grantees is approved, the grant period will begin July 1, 2020. Proposals recommended for funding include 15 Community Based Organizations. A list of all proposals recommended for funding is provided in Attachment D-2. In the alternative, if 2019 YRG funding is not available, it is recommended that 11 Community Based Organizations are funded with unspent and relinquished 2018 YRG funds. (Attachment D-7.)

Background

The Youth Reinvestment Grant Program was established in the 2018 Budget Act and the related trailer bill (Assembly Bill 1812, Chapter 36, Statutes of 2018) with an initial funding level of \$35 million to assist cities and counties in the implementation of youth diversion programs. Funding available for the 2019 YRG program comes from several sources:

1. The 2019 Budget Act provided \$4,850,000;
2. There were unspent 2018 funds in the amount of \$5,959,122 due to a lack of high scoring proposals;
3. At its February 13, 2020 meeting, the Board approved the inclusion of \$999,696 in the current award process based on the City of Pico Rivera's relinquished award; and
4. This item requests Board approval on inclusion of another \$1,734,217, due to the City of Compton (\$1 million) and the City & County of San Francisco (\$734,217) relinquishing their awards from FY 2018. (Attachment D-3)

The above sources combined result in a total of \$13,543,035 being available for 2019 Youth Reinvestment Grant awards. These funds are intended to support community-based diversion programs that serve youth using evidence-based, trauma-informed, culturally relevant, and developmentally appropriate interventions.

Key Components of the Youth Reinvestment Grant

- Eligible applicants for YRG funds are local government entities and community-based organizations in California. Government applicants must pass through 90 percent of any awarded funds to community-based organizations to deliver diversion services.
- Grant funds are split into three categories based on the amount requested. Applicants in each category will compete only against other applicants in that category. Assuming the Board approves the inclusion of the above referenced \$1.7 million in relinquished funds, the currently available funds would be split as follows:
 - \$3,250,329 for applicants requesting less than \$600,000
 - \$5,146,353 for applicants requesting \$600,000 to \$1.2 million
 - \$5,146,353 for applicants requesting more than \$1.2 million
- Applicants were allowed to request between \$50,000 and \$2 million. Multiple applications were not allowed.
- Only applications receiving at least 60 percent of the total available points are eligible for funding. There were no preference points available.
- Applicants were required to include a 25 percent cash or in-kind match; however, those with high need but little-or-no existing diversion infrastructure were allowed to request a 10 percent match.
- The target population to be served are youth who are under the age of 18 (at the time of participant enrollment), located in underserved communities, who would otherwise be facing entry to the juvenile justice system or further involvement in the system.
- Diversion services funded by this grant must be trauma-informed, evidence-based, culturally relevant, and developmentally appropriate.
- Successful applicants will be funded for a term of three years – July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2023.

Executive Steering Committee

On July 11, 2019, Board Member David Steinhart was appointed to chair the Youth Reinvestment Grant ESC.

Key activities that have occurred since Mr. Steinhart's appointment include:

- A 16-member¹ committee was formed and convened on September 18-19 to develop the Request for Proposals for the 2019 YRG Program.

¹ Subsequent to ESC formation, two members resigned, leaving 14 members to rate proposals.

- The Board approved the release of the Youth Reinvestment Grant Request for Proposals on November 14, 2019. The Board approved a set of amendments, including a due date extension, at its February 13, 2020 meeting. The final RFP is included as Attachment D-4.
- By the March 13, 2020 due date, 103 applicants submitted timely, complete proposals requesting \$112,311,023. (Attachment D-5)
- On April 16, 2020 the ESC convened by videoconference to receive training on the rating of proposals.
- By the end of May, all ESC members submitted their proposal scores, which were used by BSCC Research staff to develop the funding recommendation before you today. Project abstracts for those applicants recommended for funding are included as Attachment D-6.

May Revision

On May 14, 2020, the Governor released the May Revision, which included a request to the Legislature to allow \$18 million in unspent funding in the BSCC's budget from the 2019 Budget Act to revert to the General Fund. These funds include \$10 million for the 2019 Tribal Youth Diversion Grant, \$5 million for the 2019 Youth Reinvestment Grant, and \$3 million from the California Violence Intervention and Prevention Program. On May 20, 2020, the Senate Budget and Fiscal Committee, Subcommittee No. 5 rejected these proposed reversions. The conditional awards proposed in this board report are contingent on approval of the final budget action by the Governor and Legislature.

Recommendation/Action Needed

On behalf of the Youth Reinvestment Grant ESC, staff recommends the Board take the following actions to the extent funding is available following final approval of the 2020 Budget Act:

1. Approve the inclusion of \$1,734,217 available due to award relinquishments as part of today's funding recommendation.
2. Fully fund 12 proposals (Attachment D-2) totaling \$10,921,950 for projects providing youth diversion services. This includes:
 - 6 projects with a small request amount;
 - 4 projects with a medium request amount; and
 - 2 projects with a large request amount.

Partially fund the following proposals, which fell at the funding cut-off point for their respective categories on the rank-ordered list.

Voices for Children to receive \$264,361 in the small category;
Community Action Board of Santa Cruz County to receive \$1,133,840 in the medium category; and
Centinela Youth Services, Inc to receive \$1,222,884 in the large category.

3. In the alternative, if 2019 YRG funding is unavailable, fully fund 8 proposals (Attachment D-7) totaling \$6,782,423. This includes:
 - 4 projects with a small request amount;
 - 3 projects with a medium request amount; and
 - 1 projects with a large request amount.

Partially fund the following proposals, which fell at the funding cut-off point for their respective categories on the rank-ordered list.

Asian American Recovery Services to receive \$96,497 in the small category;
Interface Children and Family Services to receive \$434,231 in the medium category; and
Sierra Health Foundation to receive \$1,379,884 in the large category.

4. Authorize staff to continue to make awards from the rank-ordered list if any applicant is unable to accept the award or relinquishes an award, first by offering to any partial awardee and then to the next highest-ranked application(s).
5. Authorize staff to continue to make awards from the rank-ordered list should staff determine during the follow-up award-making process that an applicant recommended for award is ineligible or should a grantee become ineligible during the grant cycle.

Attachments

D-1: ESC Roster

D-2: List of Proposals Recommended for Funding

D-3: Relinquishment Letters from Compton and San Francisco

D-4: Youth Reinvestment Grant Request for Proposals

D-5: List of Applicants

D-6: Project Descriptions for Proposals Recommended for Funding

D-7: Alternative List of Proposals Recommended for Funding without 2019 YRG Funds