

Item Title: Accepts and Appropriates \$1,199,747.00 in Federal Grant Dollars from the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) in the Wake County Sheriff's Office Budget of the Grants and Donations Fund and Establish 1.0 FTE.

Specific Action Requested:

That the Board of Commissioners accepts and appropriates \$1,199,747.00 from the Office of Justice Programs in the Wake County Sheriff's Office budget of the Grants and Donations Fund and Establish 1.0 FTE.

Item Summary:

Purpose: The Board approves all grants, revenue, and expenditures. In accordance with the Wake County Personnel Ordinance, the Board of Commissioners must also approve any changes to the full-time equivalent position amounts.

Background: The U.S. Department of Justice's Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Program (COSSAP) was developed as part of the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA) legislation. COSSAP's purpose is to provide financial and technical assistance to states, units of local government, and Indian tribal governments to develop, implement, or expand comprehensive efforts to identify, respond to, treat, and support those impacted by illicit opioids, stimulants, and other drugs of abuse.

The Wake County Sheriff's Office (WCSO) is responsible for protecting and maintaining the safety and well-being of individuals housed in our facilities suffering from substance abuse disorders. WCSO is also responsible for responding to service calls related to opioid overdose and must equip our deputies with the proper training and resources to respond to them. In 2020, WCSO responded to 234 calls for service in response to an active overdose, compared to only 15 in 2019. By implementing the Opioid Abuse Management Program, WCSO intends to reduce the number of opioid overdoses, and hence the number of opioid related fatalities in Wake County. This action appropriates grant funds to support this new program.

Board Goal: This action supports Community Health and Vitality Goal 1: Improve residents' health and well-being by promoting healthy behaviors and lifestyles. This also supports Public Safety Goal 3: Provide sustainable, high-quality public safety services to meet the community's current and future needs.

Fiscal Impact: WCSO has been awarded \$1,199,747.00 over a three (3) year period. This action will appropriate the funds for WCSO to use for

equipment as well as for salary and fringe benefits for one (1) FTE. Prior to the end of the grant, staff will evaluate funding needs and the continuation of the program as part of the budget development process. There is no matching funds requirement.

Additional Information:

The WCSO goals for the grant are to:

1. Issue supplies and equipment to reduce the impact of opioids, stimulants, and other substances.
2. Develop and implement software that will track treatment during incarceration and upon release. This software will connect the WCSO with outside healthcare professionals, to better understand patterns, and to share crucial information.
3. Reduce dependency of opioids and fatalities due to opioid abuse.

The Opioid Abuse Management Program's objectives are supported by development of comprehensive, locally driven responses to opioids, stimulants, and other substances of abuse that expand access to supervision, treatment, and recovery support services across the criminal justice system. WCSO will collaborate with a treatment service provider and a behavioral health clinic to expand our comprehensive efforts to respond to, treat, and support those impacted by illicit opioids, stimulants, and other drugs of abuse once released from our care.

Over the lifespan of the grant, WCSO will use the federal funding to:

- hire a Program Coordinator to manage the project for \$154,080.00, which includes a total salary of \$144,000.00 and \$10,080.00 in fringe benefits, over a three (3) year period.
- procure a customized software program for \$845,000.00. WCSO will collaborate with a software company to integrate existing systems used to collect data, and to develop a customized Substance Abuse Disorder Management Platform that will allow WCSO to connect and share information with outside treatment providers and healthcare professionals.
- purchase sixty (60) tablets with wireless capabilities for \$329.00 each, for a total of \$19,740.00, for use in the detox unit and for assistance upon arrival for calls pertaining to substance abuse. Deputies on scene can access the Alliance Health Access and Information Line and connect with a certified social services professional in real time, who can assist in making an initial assessment of a subject's well-being and emotional state.
- purchase two (2) handheld narcotics analyzers at \$31,818.00 each, for a total of \$63,636.00 and ten (10) solution kits at \$553.00 each, for a total of \$5,530.00. These handheld narcotics analyzers will allow WCSO to reduce the impact of opioids, stimulants, and other substances on individuals and communities by enabling deputies to scan for more than 498 suspected controlled substances in a single, definitive test. Each solution kit contains 100 test strips/vials.
- purchase Naloxone to protect the public against the emerging threat of opioid overdoses. WCSO will purchase enough to replace expiring Naloxone and to fully

supply each division of deputies. Each year, WCSO anticipates spending \$15,000.00 supplying our agency with Naloxone, for a total of \$45,000.00.

- pay for prescription pick service and to provide transportation to individuals with court-ordered treatment and/or community corrections appointments for a total of \$62,454.90.
- cover travel expenses to attend national annual meetings, totaling \$4,306.20.

Attachments:

1. COSSAP Award Letter
2. Program Timeline
3. Budget
4. Budget Memo – Grants and Donations Fund