

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF TARRANT

**FY 2024 CONTRACT BETWEEN  
TARRANT COUNTY AND MHMR of  
TARRANT COUNTY FOR THE IN-  
CUSTODY BATTERERS  
INTERVENTION AND THE  
YOUTHFUL OFFENDER DIVERSION  
PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS**, the County of Tarrant ("**COUNTY**") recognizes a need to provide countywide mental health services.

**WHEREAS**, through the auspices of the MHMR of TARRANT COUNTY ("**MHMR OF TARRANT COUNTY**"), the **COUNTY** desires to make batterer's intervention education/counseling available to persons incarcerated in the Tarrant County Jail.

**WHEREAS**, the **COUNTY** also desires to make education/counseling available to persons participating in the Youthful Offender Diversion Alternatives (YODA) through the auspices of **MHMR OF TARRANT COUNTY**.

**WHEREAS**, the **COUNTY** has budgeted \$100,000.00 for fiscal year 2024 from the Tarrant County General Fund for the provision of these two (2) programs.

**WHEREAS** the **COUNTY** finds that the consideration is adequate for this Contract with **MHMR OF TARRANT COUNTY** and that this undertaking is necessary for the benefit of the public; and

**WHEREAS**, **MHMR OF TARRANT COUNTY** desires and agrees to provide such services for a fee, and all parties mutually agree, and contract as follows:

1. The term of this contract shall be from October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024.
2. **MHMR OF TARRANT COUNTY** agrees to provide batterer's intervention education/counseling to persons incarcerated in the Tarrant County Jail (Batterer's Intervention Program) as set forth in *Exhibits A ("In-Custody Batterer's Intervention Program)*, *B ("Batterer's Intervention Program Budget Summary")*, *C ("Youthful Offender Diversion Alternative Group Counseling Program Description")*, *D ("Youthful Offender Diversion Alternative Group Counseling Budget Summary")* (attached hereto), to the extent funds are available under this Contract and extent any matching funds are or become available from other sources.
3. The **COUNTY** shall pay to **MHMR OF TARRANT COUNTY** within thirty (30) days of receipt of the monthly invoices and programmatic reporting (see paragraph #6), for the provision of services pursuant to the agreement. The billings and reporting shall be received by the Judge of the County Criminal Court No. 5 by the 15th day of the month for the prior month during the contract term. Monthly invoices shall be for actual expenses only. Under no circumstances shall the **COUNTY** pay more than \$100,000.00 for services performed by **MHMR OF TARRANT COUNTY** related to the Batterer's Intervention Program and the YODA Program during the contract period. **MHMR OF TARRANT COUNTY** will receive payment only for those persons who receive **MHMR OF TARRANT COUNTY** services while incarcerated in the Tarrant County jail system (Batterer's Intervention Program).
4. **MHMR OF TARRANT COUNTY** agrees to provide the **COUNTY**, upon thirty (30) days written  
FY 2024: MHMR of Tarrant County DVDP and YODA Program

notice, access to all records which in any manner relate to the programs detailed in Exhibits A, B, C and D with appropriate measures having been taken if needed to comply with applicable law regarding the confidentiality of medical and/or mental health information. Furthermore, the **COUNTY** reserves the right to audit those programs upon which these funds are expended.

5. **MHMR OF TARRANT COUNTY** shall maintain accurate programmatic and fiscal records regarding the services provided and funds expended and shall render to the **COUNTY** and the Judge of County Criminal Court No. 5, a detailed monthly report within fifteen (15) days after the expiration of each calendar month, detailing the manner of services provided and funds expended. All funds must be expended as prescribed by *Exhibits B and D* (Budget Summaries).
6. In the event **MHMR OF TARRANT COUNTY** employs any subcontractor to provide a service hereunder, it must require the subcontractor to comply with the requirements of paragraphs #5 and #6 above.
7. Either party may terminate this contract without cause by:
  - i. Providing written notice to the other party at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of termination; and
  - ii. Providing in the written notice the date of termination; and
  - iii. Sending the written notice by certified mail return receipt requested to the party at its address.
8. **MHMR OF TARRANT COUNTY** agrees that no member of the Board of Trustees of **MHMR OF TARRANT COUNTY**, no officer of **MHMR OF TARRANT COUNTY** and no staff member of **MHMR OF TARRANT COUNTY** may directly or indirectly receive any pecuniary interest from a contract entered into by **MHMR OF TARRANT COUNTY**. This paragraph shall not be construed to prevent the payments of salary for those persons who are employees of **MHMR OF TARRANT COUNTY**.
9. If there are any funds remaining unexpended and unencumbered at the conclusion of this contract, such funds may be re-appropriated at the **COUNTY'S** discretion.
10. This contract will be governed by the laws of the State of Texas without giving effect to conflict of law provisions or principles. Venue for any litigation related to or arising from this contract will be in the state or federal courts located in Fort Worth, Texas.
11. This contract shall not be interpreted to inure to the benefit of a third party not a party to this contract. This contract may not be interpreted to waive any statutory or common law defense, immunity, including governmental and sovereign immunity, or any limitation of liability, responsibility, or damage of any party to this contract, party's agent, or party's employee, otherwise provided by law.
12. NO FORM 1295 REQUIRED: **MHMR OF TARRANT COUNTY** acknowledges that it is a "governmental entity" and not a "business entity" as those terms are defined in Tex. Gov't Code § 2252.908, and therefore, no disclosure of interested parties pursuant to Tex. Gov't Code Section 2252.908 is required.
13. **MHMR OF TARRANT COUNTY** verifies that it does not boycott Israel and will not boycott Israel during the term of this contract. The term "boycott Israel" is defined by Texas Government Code Section 808.001, effective September 1, 2017. **VENDOR** further verifies that it is not engaged in business with Iran, Sudan, or any foreign terrorist organization. The term "foreign terrorist organization" means an organization designated as a foreign terrorist organization by the United States Secretary of State as authorized by

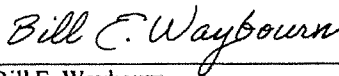
FY 2024: MHMR of Tarrant County DVDP and YODA Program

8U.S.C. Section 1189.


SIGNED AND EXECUTED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tim O'Hare  
County Judge

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Bradley Clark  
Judge, County Criminal Court No. 5

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Bill E. Waybourn  
Sheriff

DocuSigned by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
204616F5EA4F461...  
Susan Garnett  
CEO

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kimberly Collier Wesley  
Criminal District Attorney's Office

\*By law, the Criminal District Attorney's Office may only approve contracts for its clients. We reviewed this document as to form from our client's legal perspective. Other parties may not rely on this approval, instead those parties should seek contract review from independent counsel.

CERTIFICATION OF FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR THE AMOUNT OF: \$100,000.00

\_\_\_\_\_  
Auditor's Office

\*\*Funds available for the contracts approved pursuant to this communication are \$100,000.00 for this provider for education and counseling through 10000-2024-566021/4220500000. The total as a whole will not exceed this amount.

*"Exhibit A"*

IN-CUSTODY BATTERER'S INTERVENTION

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

**Problem Statement**

Domestic violence offenders who complete their sentence through time in jail currently leave without any intervention regarding their offense other than the deterrent effect of jail. The court has no further leverage to promote insight and behavior change in the offender regarding domestic violence or how to avoid future episodes of violence.

**Project Summary**

Several stakeholders in issues of domestic violence are involved in developing an "In Custody" Batterer's Intervention Program (Tarrant County Collaborative) to be provided to inmates in the Tarrant County Jail in Fort Worth, Texas. The principal stakeholder organizations include Tarrant County Criminal Court #5, MHMR of Tarrant County Forensic Services (Specialized Services Division) and the Tarrant County Sheriff's Department. The purpose of such psychoeducation/counseling is to prevent future violence against family members or other intimate partners and reduce recidivism. The program will be offered to offenders who are currently in custody for assault/bodily injury to a family member. Full time inmates and those on work release may be included in the target population. Offenders who volunteer and complete the program while in custody will have their time in jail reduced according to a "formula".

Some of the domestic violence offenders in custody have been on probation and are in jail as a result of revocation. While a variety of issues may have led to an offender's probation being revoked, a common issue is that the offender failed to complete a required community-based Batterer's Intervention Program. These individuals who have been revoked may find being in custody an inducement to complete the needed program (BIP/CP). This target population of offenders in custody in Tarrant County Jail is approximately 17 persons per month and 204 annually.

Batterers must be made accountable for the full emotional, social, and economic cost of their behavior. Simply serving time in jail will not provide the skills needed to prevent future violent behavior. The following are highlights from national and local data related to domestic violence statistics and findings.

- In 2006, a statewide poll conducted by the Texas Council on Family Violence, 74% of all Texans have either themselves, a family member and/or a friend have experienced some form of family violence. Further, nearly one-third (31%) of all households in Tarrant County reported that family violence was a problem in their neighborhood- 38% of households in Fort Worth, 26% in Arlington and 28% in the Northeast region. -- *Data derived from United Way of Tarrant County, "100 Things to Know about Life in Tarrant County": 2005 Assessment of Health and Human Service Needs.*
- Tarrant County Criminal Court #5, a court specifically for Family Violence cases, reported that approximately 3,454 family violence cases were filed during the year 2008. -- *Data derived from Tarrant County Court #5 records.*
- Studies show that child abuse occurs in 30-60% of family violence cases that involve families with children. -- *"The overlap between child maltreatment and woman battering." J L. Edleson, Violence Against Women, February 1999.*
- According to the National Domestic Violence Hotline, the state of Texas has the second

highest call volume in the country. -- *Data derived from National Domestic Violence Hotline, 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Newsletter, Spring 2006.*

The primary goal of this program is to ensure that domestic violence offenders in custody are held accountable for their behavior and provided programming designed to help them prevent future violence against family members and other intimate partners. Associated goals include reducing jail costs and providing additional sentencing options.

### **Target Group**

The target population will be defendants in custody on charges related to domestic violence and who are housed at the Tarrant County Jail. Persons may be deemed ineligible for the program by the assistant criminal district attorney assigned to a defendant's case. In the case of labor detail/probation violations, persons will still be eligible for the program when sent to jail, unless otherwise specified by the assistant criminal district attorney.

### **Activities**

The program will be provided to domestic violence offenders in custody in the Tarrant County Jail who are willing to participate voluntarily. The program focus is to provide group psychoeducation/counseling to prevent future domestic violence. The program will follow closely the recommended program standards and curriculum topics described in the TDCJ-CJAD and Texas Council on Family Violence Battering Intervention and Prevention Project Guidelines. These topics include the nature of domestic violence; non-violence planning; attitude and belief changes; maintaining non-abusive behavior; role of substance abuse/mental illness in domestic violence and the effects of domestic violence on children. Program services to offenders will also include separate processes for intake, assessment, referral/linkages to community support, and orientation.

The curriculum will be taught in ten (10) modules running consecutively and repeating continuously. The continuous repetition will allow inmates to start at any point in the program and complete all modules prior to release. The program will be offered in English and Spanish. It is currently proposed that inmates who successfully complete the program will receive three (3) days credit for one (1) day served.

Appropriate administrative functions will be carried out including administrative, financial and clinical supervision, internal program assessment and evaluation, quality assurance and output/outcome monitoring.

### **Objectives/Strategies**

1. *Objective:* All eligible offenders will be contacted and encouraged to participate in the program *Strategy:* Program supervisor will function as liaison to the court and assign work/follow-up to BIP counselor as required.
2. *Objective:* Assess all offenders referred for domestic violence related issues and screen for mental health/substance abuse problems  
*Strategy:* A process for conducting assessments, appropriate instruments and a supporting schedule will be assigned to the BIP staff by the program supervisor.
3. *Objective:* Make referrals related to offender identified needs and ongoing support  
*Strategy:* The BIP counselor will maintain a list of community resources and make referrals based on the offender's unique needs.
4. *Objective:* Provide batterer's intervention services within a framework of standards designed to hold offenders accountable for their behavior and stimulate behavior change *Strategy:* The "Battering Intervention and Prevention Project Guidelines" (TDCJ- TCFV) will be used as an implementation fidelity instrument and program implementation will be monitored every 180

days.

5. *Objective:* Provide follow-up on recidivism at 90-day, 180-day, and 1-year intervals  
*Strategy:* Demographic data collected on intake will be used to compare with criminal justice data at various points in time in order to determine recidivism rates. Reduced recidivism rates will be judged to be indicative of behavior change in the offender. Other data collected on intake will be used to investigate correlations with offender characteristics and used to guide revisions in program service delivery strategies.
6. *Objective:* Provide linkages/collaboration with internal and community stakeholder organizations  
*Strategy:* A "Steering Committee" of key stakeholders, who will be appointed by Tarrant County Criminal Court #5 Judge will meet quarterly to insure BIP operations are meeting expectations and are integrated into the network of domestic violence stakeholders. A monthly coordination meeting between Tarrant County Criminal Court #5 and the BIP staff will be held. Program administrative staff and BIP counselor will establish and maintain identified linkages to needed referral resources.
7. *Objective:* Provide training/information to internal and community stakeholders/organizations  
*Strategy:* Program administrative staff and BIP counselor will provide information/technical assistance/training to all interested stakeholders. At least one community based or internal networking/training event per month is required. Documentation of the event will be maintained.

#### Inputs

1. Financial: Tarrant County will provide funding for the program through a contract identifying the annual budget.
2. Direct Services: MHMR OF TARRANT COUNTY will provide a BIP program in the Tarrant County Jail based on the "Barterer's Intervention and Prevention Project Guidelines" (TDCJ-TCFV). One full time counselor and associated administrative/program supports will be added to current MHMR OF TARRANT COUNTY Forensic Services unit staff.
3. Tarrant County Criminal Court #5 will provide referrals of offenders suitable for the BIP program and assistance with monitoring data related to recidivism.
4. Tarrant County Sheriff's Department will provide opportunity, inmate movement, space and security sufficient to conduct BIP group meetings
5. Domestic violence stakeholders will provide advice and support for the BIP program through a Steering Committee" of key stakeholders.

#### Outputs

<u>Output Description</u>	Monthly	Annually
Number of Intakes:	17	204
Number of Assessments	17	204
Number of classes	30	360
Number of inmate class hours	510	6120
Number of unduplicated offenders served	17	204
Number of Steering Committee meetings held	0	4
Number of Networking/training events held	1	12

**Projected Outcomes \***

1. 85% of offenders accepted into the BIP will complete the training regimen.
2. 80% of offenders completing the BIP training regimen will not recidivate within 90 days of release from custody.
3. 75% of offenders completing the BIP training regimen will not recidivate within 180 days of release from custody.
4. 70% of offenders completing the BIP training regimen will not recidivate within 180 days of release from custody.
5. 95% of offenders completing the BIP training regimen will receive referrals for services based on their individual assessment of needs.

\* Projected outcomes are estimated percentages due to the program being new and innovative for Tarrant County and Texas.

*"Exhibit B"*

THE BATTERERS INTERVENTION PROGRAM

Budget Summary

Expenses:

Salaries	\$53,542	1 full-time employee; merit increase
Benefits	\$13,386	Employee benefits at 25% of salary
Social Worker Contract	\$8,088	Bilingual Social Worker
Staff/Client Support Cost	\$112	Education, travel, fees and parking
Program Support Costs	\$1,732	Supplies, computer services copying etc.
Administrative Indirect Costs	\$8,540	MHMR Administrative Support

**Total Expenses ..... \$85,400.00**



*"Exhibit C"*

YOUTHFUL OFFENDERS DIVERSION ALTERNATIVE GROUP COUNSELING

Program Description

**Program Statement**

Group Counseling and Skills training will help defendants get an opportunity to stabilize their lives and gain access to resources that can encourage further development. This program is Strengths-Based on the efforts made by defendants to change and promote better trajectories in their lives, a charge dismissal may be earned.

**Project Summary**

Youthful Offenders Diversion Alternative (YODA) is an alternative to standard pre-trial diversion programs for family assaults. This program provides counseling and case management to youthful offenders aged 17-25, who have been arrested for assault against a non-intimate family member (defined as blood relative, related by marriage or intimate relationship with another family member). The program is managed, and the services are provided by a Licensed Master's Degree Level Therapist who has specialty training in trauma and abuse.

The primary goal of this program is to ensure that domestic violence offender participating in YODA are held accountable for their behavior and provided programming designed to prevent future violence against family members and other intimate partners in the future. Through counseling and case management, the goal is to create solutions and skills development will address the contributing factors and circumstances that led to the arresting incident. Associated goal includes reducing jail cost, offering a Diversion route for Offenders, and reducing violence in the community.

**Target Group**

Youthful Offenders Diversion Alternative (YODA) serves people who have been charged with a crime of Domestic Violence of a non-intimate partner. The age range for this program is 17-25.

**Activities**

Youthful Offenders Diversion Alternative (YODA) will refer individuals who meet criteria for group established by the program. The proposed group member will get an intake before group, a midterm session and an ending session. The group member will attend 16-20 groups. Each week MHMR of Tarrant County will provide the YODA Clinical Case Manager with case consultations.

**Objectives/Strategies**

1. Objective: Provide Counseling and skills training within a framework of standards designed to hold offenders accountable and stimulate behavior change.  
Strategy: strengths-based and solutions-oriented program; whereby, defendants will establish goals to help them move their lives away from future criminality and violence.
2. Objective: Make referrals related to identified offender needs and ongoing support  
Strategy: The Counselor will maintain a list of Community resources and make referrals based upon the offender's unique needs.
3. Objective: Provide follow-up on recidivism at 90-day, 180-day, and 1-year intervals  
Strategy: Reduced recidivism rates will be judged to be indicative of behavior change in the offender. Other data collected on the intake will be used to investigate correlations with offender characteristics and used to guide revisions in program service delivery strategies.

**Inputs**

1. Financial Services: Tarrant County will provide funding for the program through a contract identifying the annual budget.
2. Direct Services: MHMR of Tarrant County will provide counseling for the Programs participants.
3. Referral Services: The Clinical Case Manager of the YODA Program will provide referrals of offenders suitable for counseling and skills training.
4. Program Services: Tarrant County will provide opportunity, space, and security sufficient to conduct group and individual meetings.

**Outputs**

Output Description	Monthly	Annually
Number of Intakes	2	24
Number of Individual Sessions	6	72
Number of Class Hours	4	48
Unduplicated number of offenders served	2	24

**Projected Outcomes:**

1. 90% of offenders that enter group will complete the program.
2. 80% of offenders completing the program will not recidivate within 90 days of completing the program.
3. 75% of offenders completing the program will not recidivate within 180 days of completing the program.
4. 70% of offenders completing the program will not recidivate within 365 days of completing the program.
5. 95% of offenders completing the program will receive referrals for services based upon their individual assessment of needs.

\*Completion=all curriculum modules completed

*"Exhibit D"*

YOUTHFUL OFFENDERS DIVERSION ALTERNATIVE GROUP COUNSELING

Budget Summary

Expenses:

Contractual Services	\$13,140	Licensed Master's Degree Level Therapist Trainer with proven teaching skills
Administrative Indirect Costs	\$1,460	MHMR administrative support

**Total Expenses .....\$14,600**