



COMMISSIONERS COURT
COMMUNICATION

REFERENCE NUMBER _____

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DATE: 09/05/2023

SUBJECT: **APPROVAL OF FISCAL YEAR 2024 INTERIM FUNDING FOR THE
FAMILY DRUG COURT PROGRAM FUNDED THROUGH THE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR, CRIMINAL JUSTICE DIVISION**

***** CONSENT AGENDA *****

COMMISSIONERS COURT ACTION REQUESTED

It is requested that the Commissioners Court approve FY 2024 interim funding in the amount of \$15,000.00 for the Family Drug Court Program which currently operates in the 360th Family District Court and is funded through the Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division (CJD), for period not to exceed ninety (90) days.

BACKGROUND

The CJD's mission is to create and support programs that protect people from crime, reduce the number of crimes committed, and promote accountability, efficiency, and effectiveness within the criminal justice system. CJD focuses on the enhancement of Texas' capacity to prevent crime, provide service and treatment options, enforce laws, train staff and volunteers, and restore crime victims to full physical, emotional, and mental health.

On October 25, 2022, the Commissioners Court, through Court Order #139514, accepted the FY 2023 grant award in the amount of \$45,000.00 from the Office of the Governor to fund the Family Drug Court Program operated by the 360th Family District Court.

The Family Drug Court Program targets families who are involved with Child Protective Services and whose children (at birth) show positive toxicity for drugs. This program capitalizes on community collaborations to address the recurring issue of substance abuse in cases that previously resulted in termination of parental rights. The program is a continuation of a Drug Court Planning Grant awarded to Tarrant County Challenge, Inc. in which representatives from the 360th Family District Court, Lena Pope Home, Inc., Tarrant County Challenge, Inc., the Tarrant County Criminal District Attorney's Office, the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, and the Tarrant County Defense Bar worked together to design the Family Drug Court for Tarrant County.

The existing grant expired on August 31, 2023, and the Office of the Governor has not yet announced the awards for the FY 2024 grant period. The program is expected to receive funding.

If approved, interim funding will be utilized to continue the Family Drug Court Program.

This request has been reviewed by the Budget Office and Auditor's Office.

FISCAL IMPACT

If County funds are utilized, the grant will reimburse Tarrant County for use of interim funding upon the Commissioners Court approval of the grant contract renewal. If interim funding is required for ninety (90) days, the estimated cost will be as follows:

Family Recovery Court Program (G0094-2024/4131500000) - \$15,000.00

SUBMITTED BY:	Budget and Risk Mgmt	PREPARED BY: APPROVED BY:	Claudia J. Del Toro Helen Giese
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