



STATE OF VERMONT
JOINT FISCAL OFFICE

MEMORANDUM

To: Joint Fiscal Committee members
From: Sorsha Anderson, Staff Associate
Date: August 18, 2021
Subject: Grant Request – JFO #3060

Enclosed please find one (1) item, which the Joint Fiscal Office has received from the Administration.

JFO #3060 – \$428,394 to the VT Dept of Corrections from the U.S. Bureau of Justice Administration (sub-awarded through the Council of State Governments Justice Center). Funds used to help implement Act 148 of 2020, Justice Reinvestment II, by awarding contracts that will improve outcomes particularly for those with behavioral health needs and to improve state-wide efficiencies. *[Received August 13, 2021]*

Please review the enclosed materials and notify the Joint Fiscal Office (Sorsha Anderson: sanderson@leg.state.vt.us) if you have questions or would like this item held for legislative review. Unless we hear from you to the contrary by September 2, 2021, we will assume that you agree to consider as final the Governor's acceptance of this request.




State of Vermont
 Department of Finance & Management
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Agency of Administration

**STATE OF VERMONT
 FINANCE & MANAGEMENT GRANT REVIEW FORM**

Grant Summary:		Funding from the U.S. Bureau of Justice Administration (sub-awarded through the Council of State Governments) to support the implementation of Act 148 (Justice Reinvestment II).			
Date:		7/27/2021			
Department:		Department of Corrections			
Legal Title of Grant:		Justice Reinvestment Initiative			
Federal Catalog #:		N/A			
Grant/Donor Name and Address:		Council of State Governments Justice Center, 22 Cortland St., Floor 22, New York, NY 10007			
Grant Period:	From:	7/1/2021	To:	12/31/2021	
Grant/Donation		428394			
	SFY 1	SFY 2	SFY 3	Total	Comments
Grant Amount:	\$428,394	\$	\$	\$	
Position Information:	# Positions	Explanation/Comments			
	0	No positions required.			
Additional Comments:					
Department of Finance & Management					(Initial)
Secretary of Administration			Susanne R. Young <small>Digitally signed by Susanne R. Young Date: 2021.07.30 14:38:08 -0400</small>		(Initial)
Sent To Joint Fiscal Office					Date



STATE OF VERMONT REQUEST FOR GRANT (*) ACCEPTANCE (Form AA-1)

BASIC GRANT INFORMATION				
1. Agency:	Human Services			
2. Department:	Corrections			
3. Program:	Vermont Justice Reinvestment Initiative			
4. Legal Title of Grant:	Justice Reinvestment Initiative			
5. Federal Catalog #:	n/a			
6. Grant/Donor Name and Address: The Council of State Governments Justice Center				
7. Grant Period:	From:	7/1/2021	To:	12/31/2021
8. Purpose of Grant: The purpose of this grant is to support the implementation of Act 148, Vermont's Justice Reinvestment II Act, to ultimately improve outcomes and reduce statewide costs. Through this grant, DOC and AHS will create contracts to address specific challenges that include: reducing implementation barriers related to supervising individuals with behavioral health needs, improving supervision outcomes, and using risk assessment results to better target effective interventions.				
9. Impact on existing program if grant is not Accepted: If this grant is not accepted, there will not be alternative funding to support these initiatives.				
10. BUDGET INFORMATION				
	SFY 1	SFY 2	SFY 3	Comments
Expenditures:	FY 2022	FY	FY	
Personal Services	\$417,176	\$	\$	
Operating Expenses	\$11,218	\$	\$	
Grants	\$	\$	\$	
Total	\$428,394	\$	\$	
Revenues:				
State Funds:	\$	\$	\$	
Cash	\$	\$	\$	
In-Kind	\$	\$	\$	
Federal Funds:	\$	\$	\$	
(Direct Costs)	\$	\$	\$	
(Statewide Indirect)	\$	\$	\$	
(Departmental Indirect)	\$	\$	\$	
Other Funds:	\$	\$	\$	
Grant (source other funds)	\$428,394	\$	\$	
Total	\$428,394	\$	\$	
Appropriation No:	3480004000	Amount:	\$428,394	
			\$	
			\$	
			\$	
			\$	
			\$	

STATE OF VERMONT REQUEST FOR GRANT (*) ACCEPTANCE (Form AA-1)

		Total	\$428,394
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PERSONAL SERVICE INFORMATION

11. Will monies from this grant be used to fund one or more Personal Service Contracts? Yes No
 If "Yes", appointing authority must initial here to indicate intent to follow current competitive bidding process/policy.

Appointing Authority Name: James Baker Agreed by: J.B. (initial)

12. Limited Service Position Information:	# Positions	Title
Total Positions		

12a. Equipment and space for these positions: Is presently available. Can be obtained with available funds.

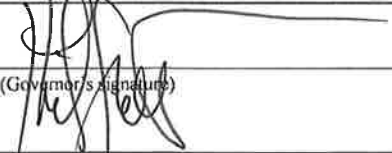
13. AUTHORIZATION AGENCY/DEPARTMENT

I/we certify that no funds beyond basic application preparation and filing costs have been expended or committed in anticipation of Joint Fiscal Committee approval of this grant, unless previous notification was made on Form AA-1PN (if applicable):	Signature: E-SIGNED by James Baker on 2021-07-22 20:31:01 EDT	Date: July 22, 2021
	Title: Commissioner, Vermont Department of Corrections	
	Signature: E-SIGNED by Jenney Samuelson on 2021-07-23 16:04:45 EDT	Date:
	Title: Secretary, Agency of Human Services	

14. SECRETARY OF ADMINISTRATION

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approved:	(Secretary or designee signature) Susanne R. Young <small>Digitally signed by Susanne R. Young Date: 2021.07.30 14:38:02 -0400</small>	Date:
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15. ACTION BY GOVERNOR

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accepted		Date: 8/12/21
<input type="checkbox"/> Rejected		

16. DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED

Required GRANT Documentation

<input type="checkbox"/> Request Memo	<input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Donation (if any)
<input type="checkbox"/> Dept. project approval (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grant (Project) Timeline (if applicable)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of Award	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Extension (if applicable)
<input type="checkbox"/> Grant Agreement	<input type="checkbox"/> Form AA-1PN attached (if applicable)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grant Budget	

End Form AA-1

(*) The term "grant" refers to any grant, gift, loan, or any sum of money or thing of value to be accepted by any agency, department, commission, board, or other part of state government (see 32 V.S.A. §5).

E-SIGNED by Tracy O'Connell
on 2021-07-23 12:35:15 EDT



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Department of Corrections
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Agency of Human Services

E-SIGNED by Diane Irish
 on 2021-06-09 10:03:29 EDT

E-SIGNED by Jenney Samuelson
 on 2021-06-09 16:23:28 EDT

E-SIGNED by Matthew Sutter
 on 2021-06-18 10:57:09 EDT

E-SIGNED by Kristin Clouser
 on 2021-06-18 16:19:02 EDT

E-SIGNED by James Baker
 on 2021-06-04 08:32:48 EDT

Memorandum

To: Susanne Young, Secretary of Administration

From: James Baker, Commissioner, Department of Corrections

Date: June 4, 2021

Re: Sole Source Request

The Agency of Human Services and Department of Corrections request sole source contracts for the services described below in order to meet the goals of the Justice Reinvestment process that started with Governor Scott’s Executive Order 03-09. Since this order was signed, the state has engaged in a thoughtful, data-driven process to assess population trends and programming in the state’s corrections system, as well as enact criminal justice reform strategies (Act 148 of 2020) as part of the Justice Reinvestment II initiative with the overarching goals of promoting safer, healthier communities and reducing costs. Phase 2 of Justice Reinvestment continues the technical assistance support from the Council of State Governments (CSG) and brings the opportunity to infuse funds to the systems that support the state’s adopted strategies. These funds are granted to Vermont through a sub-award through CSG originating from the U.S. Bureau of Justice Administration (BJA).

Act 148 requires DOC and the Parole Board to develop and implement significant policy and practice changes but did not appropriate funding to increase implementation capacity. CSG worked with the Justice Reinvestment Working Group to prioritize how the Justice Reinvestment funds should be spent and to select the specific contractors, based on their expertise, to deliver the services. The contractor information was needed to submit an application to BJA that would be approved. CSG managed the scoping and quote process in collaboration with the three entities who will receive the services: The Agency of Human Services, the Department of Corrections, and the Parole Board.

The contracts in this request address specific implementation challenges and build a foundation for the effective implementation and tracking of Justice Reinvestment II reforms. Subaward funding will provide training to staff, leadership, and contract providers from the Agency of Human Services (AHS), DOC, and the Parole Board. The trainings specifically target the following implementation challenges:



- Improving cross-department collaboration and reducing implementation barriers related to comprehensively serving people on supervision with behavioral health needs.
- Increasing adherence to evidence based correctional practices to improve supervision outcomes.
- Improving understanding of how to use risk assessment results to better target effective interventions.

Contract 1: Justice System Partners - \$30,550.

Training for parole board members, parole and probation officers, and community providers on the use of risk assessment tools and how to use assessment results to better target effective interventions.

Contract 1 Details: DOC, AHS, and the Parole Board are requesting funding to contract with Dr. Brian Lovins, Principal, Justice System Partners, to provide a series of trainings and train the trainer sessions to increase understanding of the general applicability of Ohio Risk Assessment System (ORAS) results and how they can be used to develop individualized, effective interventions for people on supervision. Tailored trainings will be provided separately to the Parole Board, parole and probation officers, and community mental health and substance use providers that work with people on supervision.

- The Vermont Parole Board is transitioning from using a separate risk assessment tool to relying on DOC's validated risk assessment tool, the Ohio Risk and Assessment System (ORAS). To support this shift, Dr. Lovins will provide two training that generally review the ORAS tool and how assessment results can be used to better target effective interventions. Participants will gain a better understanding of how the composite risk level interacts with domain levels and how to use this information to prioritize services. Additional train the trainer sessions for designated staff and members will build internal capacity for ongoing implementation.
- Four training sessions for parole and probation officers will focus on how risk assessment results can be integrated into their daily work and support the targeting of effective, individualized interventions for people on their caseloads. Additional train the trainer sessions for designated staff will build internal capacity for ongoing implementation.
- Two training session for community mental health and substance use providers that work with people on supervision will focus on improving understanding of Risk-Need-Responsivity principles and how to use risk assessment results in their practice. Additional train the trainer sessions for designated staff will build internal capacity for ongoing implementation.
- One training session for community corrections officers focused on increasing understanding of the officer's role in the behavior change process using a model of moving from a referee approach to a coach approach.

Dr. Lovins is the President-Elect for the American Probation and Parole Association and routinely trains agencies in the principles of effective intervention, risk assessment, and the delivery of cognitive-behavioral interventions. He has developed a state-wide juvenile risk assessment (Ohio Youth Assessment System: OYAS) and adult risk assessment (Ohio Risk Assessment System: ORAS), as well as validation of a series of pretrial risk assessments. His publications include articles on risk assessment, sexual offenders, effective interventions, and cognitive-behavioral interventions.

The parole board is also requesting six monitors for parole board members to support ongoing engagement in remote parole hearings.

Contract 2: Alternative Solutions Associates, Inc. - \$29,250.00

Joint training for community providers and supervision officers on working with people on supervision who have behavioral health needs.

Contract 2 Details: DOC and AHS are requesting funding to contract with Kevin Warwick, President, Alternative Solutions Associates, Inc. to provide statewide and regional training for supervision officers and community providers on working with people on supervision who have behavior health needs. Two statewide trainings will focus on foundational concepts related to the use of cognitive behavioral interventions and an enhanced responsivity model for engaging people with mental health and substance use issues. This will be followed by three smaller trainings in each of DOC's four regions that focus on improving coordination of mental health and substance use services for people transitioning to parole or probation, as well as the development and implementation of a regionally specific responsivity model. Regional trainings will facilitate interaction between community providers and supervision officers, as well as incorporate a train-the-trainer model to build internal capacity for ongoing implementation.

Kevin Warwick has nearly 40 years of experience working with corrections and reentry services. He has worked with the Urban Institute, the National Institute of Corrections, and the Council of State Governments to develop best practice models and provide technical assistance across the country. He has worked with over 300 jurisdictions in 48 states providing training, program development, evaluation, and implementation services.

Contract 3: Alliance for Community Justice Innovation - \$63,926.00

Organizational-level training for AHS leadership to build implementation acumen and capacity

Contract 3 Details: AHS is requesting funding to contract with the Alliance for Community and Justice Innovation (ACJI) to conduct trainings on organizational development and implementation. Trainings will focus on improving collaboration across AHS departments in support of shared clients and cross-organizational goals. Activities include the following:

- Eight-week Implementation Leadership Academy focused on building the knowledge and skills to support successful implementation and real-world organizational change.
- Four-week C4 Academy focused on identifying, diagnosing, and exploring alternatives to addressing issues with organizational culture that are impeding implementation and innovation efforts.

ACJI's experience in the criminal justice field focuses on implementation of transformational, research-based principles, practices and policies designed to innovate and bring about system change. ACJI services include training and coaching, research and evaluation, implementation support based on the fundamentals of implementation science, policy advisement and organizational change facilitation. ACJI has produced results through comprehensive, tailored services that support innovative goals and objectives.

Contract 4: Advocates for Human Potential - \$92,000.00

Evidence-based training for DOC transitional housing providers.

Contract 4 Details: DOC is requesting funding to contract with Advocates for Human Potential (AHP) to develop a customized training program for transitional housing providers focused on assessing and addressing client needs during the reentry process. The five proposed trainings are as follows:

- HUD Continuum of Care 101 - Homeless System of Care
- Mental Health and SUD 101 for Transitional Housing Providers
- A Trauma-Informed Approach to Re-Entry Housing and Support – How to Assess and Tailor Your Program
- Re-Entry Best Practices for People with opioid use disorders
- Overdose Prevention and Harm Reduction

The program will include a mix of didactic presentations, interactive activities, and reinforcement activities that allow participants to immediately implement content, blending it with current practices. In addition, AHP will conduct a series of Communities of Practice sessions focused on training designated DOC staff and program leadership to build capacity for ongoing implementation.

AHP is a nationally known behavioral health training and technical assistance provider. They are well-respected subject matter experts, trainers, program/project managers, researchers, and instructional design professionals who have spent decades educating, teaching, training, and consulting with providers and peers on topics such as medication-assisted treatment; evidence-based and best-practices in substance use and co-occurring disorder treatment and recovery; gender-specific care; rural health; cultural competency; workforce development; trauma-informed and trauma-specific interventions and services; working with people with disabilities, people experiencing homelessness, and pregnant and parenting women; family-centered treatment; adolescent health and substance use prevention and treatment; care management, shared decision making; recovery-oriented systems of care; client engagement; Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment; outreach; services for people in recovery for opioid use disorder; and dozens of other topics related to mental health issues and substance use disorders.

Contract 5: University of Cincinnati Corrections Institute \$82,500.00

Effective Practices in Community Supervision (EPICS) Train-the-Trainer sessions for supervision officers.

Contract 5 Details: DOC is requesting funding to engage the University of Cincinnati Corrections (UCCI) Institute in providing a series of training EPICS training sessions for current and new trainers, senior probation officers, and supervisors. EPICS is a training and coaching model that is targeted toward assisting community supervision officers in implementing core correctional practices. DOC currently utilizes EPICS and these additional sessions would support ongoing program implementation and sustainability. Activities include:

- One virtual planning session
- Two Train-the-Trainer sessions
- Four Coder training sessions
- An online coding refresher module
- Technical assistance for supervisors

UCCI works with federal, state, local, international and non-profit agencies to adopt and incorporate evidence-based, effective interventions for adults and juveniles involved in the justice system. Their services include staff training, program design and technical assistance consultation, and research and evaluation services with a focus on training agency trainers and continuous quality improvement support for program fidelity. They are the creator of EPICS training.



Justice Center

THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS

July 1, 2021

Monica Weeber
Administrative Services Director
Vermont Department of Corrections
103 South Main Street
Waterbury, VT 05671

Dear Ms. Weeber,

I am pleased to inform you that the Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) has approved the Vermont subaward request, submitted April 18, 2021. This subaward, which is passed through the Council of State Governments Justice Center is awarded in the amount of \$428,394.64 to support the implementation of Act 148, Vermont's Justice Reinvestment II Act.

This subaward was officially awarded by BJA on June 15, 2021. The Council of State Governments will be able to reimburse you for any allowable spending, starting from that date, even as our legal team works to get your contract drafted and signed. If you have any questions about the grant, please contact Jan De la Cruz at jdelacruz@cs.org. Congratulations on your successful subaward application and the release of funding to Vermont. We look forward to the successful implementation of justice reinvestment strategies.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Margaret Schramm Horn'.

Margaret Schramm Horn
Deputy Director, Finance & Administration
The Council of State Government Justice Center

Attachment C: Budget Detail Worksheet

NOTE: Information in this worksheet is for internal use only. Please do not disseminate this information to the public.

A. Personnel

Position, position title and grade, and salary rate	Rate	Days	Written Certification	Total
Director	\$100,000	175		\$17,500,000

A. Personnel Subtotal

			Written Certification	Total
				\$17,500,000

B. Fringe Benefits

Details	Rate	Days	Written Certification	Total
Health Insurance	\$100	175		\$17,500
Life Insurance	\$100	175		\$17,500
Retirement	\$100	175		\$17,500
Other	\$100	175		\$17,500

B. Fringe Benefits Subtotal

			Written Certification	Total
				\$67,500

C. Travel

Category of Travel	Location	Days/Hours/Rate/Overseas/Other	Number of Days	Overseas	Time Period or Number of Trips	Written Certification	Total
							\$0.00

C. Travel Subtotal

			Written Certification	Total
				\$0.00

D. Equipment

Item	Description	Amount	Written Certification	Total
				\$0.00

D. Equipment Subtotal

			Written Certification	Total
				\$0.00

E. Supplies

Item	Description	Amount	Written Certification	Total
				\$0.00

E. Supplies Subtotal

			Written Certification	Total
				\$0.00

F. Construction

			Written Certification	Total
				\$0.00

G. Consultants/Contracts

Contractor	Contract Period	Contract Amount	Written Certification	Total
				\$0.00

G. Consultants/Contracts Subtotal

			Written Certification	Total
				\$0.00

H. Other Costs

Category	Description	Amount	Written Certification	Total
				\$0.00

H. Other Costs Subtotal

			Written Certification	Total
				\$0.00

I. Indirect Costs

			Written Certification	Total
				\$0.00

I. Indirect Costs Subtotal

			Written Certification	Total
				\$0.00

Budget Detail Worksheet Summary

Category	Amount
A. Personnel	\$17,500,000
B. Fringe Benefits	\$67,500
C. Travel	\$0.00
D. Equipment	\$0.00
E. Supplies	\$0.00
F. Construction	\$0.00
G. Consultants/Contracts	\$0.00
H. Other Costs	\$0.00
I. Indirect Costs	\$0.00
TOTAL PROJECT COSTS:	\$17,567,500