



WASHOE COUNTY

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: September 12, 2023

DATE: Thursday, September 07, 2023

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Andrew Sherbondy, Sergeant, Department of Alternative Sentencing
(775) 399-0265; asherbondy@washoecounty.gov

THROUGH: Justin Roper, Chief

SUBJECT: Recommendation to retroactively accept an extension and additional funding related to the Bureau of Behavioral Health Wellness and Prevention Sub-Award from the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public and Behavioral Health in the amount of [\$174,084.00; \$4,420.00 indirect; no County match required] to be used to pay for the remainder of FFY23 grant period extended to September 30, 2023, for the Department of Alternative Sentencing Support in Treatment, Accountability and Recovery (STAR) program for the retroactive grant period of April 1, 2022 – September 30, 2023, and if approved authorize Chief Roper to execute grant award documents. (All Commission Districts)

SUMMARY

The Washoe County Board of County Commissioners must accept grants and approve amendments to the adopted fiscal year budget and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments.

This additional funding is received from the State of Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public and Behavioral Health to support the Department of Alternative Sentencing Support in Treatment, Accountability, and Recovery (STAR) program for the remainder of Federal Fiscal Year 2023 in the amount of \$178,504.00 (\$174,084.00 direct and \$4,420.00 indirect) additional funding. Total funding for this project is \$617,991.00, of which \$439,487.00 was approved by the Board on 7/19/22.

Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item: Vulnerable Populations.

PREVIOUS ACTION

On July 19, 2022, the Board accepted Item #8, a sub-award from the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public and Behavioral Health for the amount not to exceed \$439,487.00 to be used to pay for the establishment of the Department of Alternative Sentencing Support in Treatment, Accountability and Recovery (STAR) program for the retroactive grant period of April 1, 2022 – February 28, 2023.

BACKGROUND

AGENDA ITEM # _____

The Support in Treatment, Accountability, and Recovery program initiative was implemented in October last year in an effort to provide probationers and pretrial releasees supervised by the Department of Alternative Sentencing (DAS) with the wrap-around support necessary to successfully address foundational causes of opioid use disorder, as well as underlying criminogenic behaviors.

Since its inception, the STAR program team has made 66 referrals to Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) services, conducted 147 counseling sessions, 121 journaling sessions, more than 235 home visits, and over 1,600 peer contacts. The STAR program received 96 referrals in its first seven months and had a full caseload of 25 participants within six months of launching the program. Data for drug testing results in the first six months of programming shows a 27% increase in participants' compliance rate for taking ordered drug tests, and a 77% decrease in positive drug test results with STAR participants. STAR utilizes the *Courage to Change* interactive journaling series by The Change Companies, an evidence-based, cognitive-behavioral therapy curriculum aimed at addressing participants' addiction and criminogenic thinking. Preliminary pre-test/post-test data for interactive journaling with STAR participants shows a 28% increase in understanding journal content.

The State extended the end date of the original grant from February 28, 2023 to September 30, 2023 under Amendment #1, this funding is to cover STAR program expenses for the extended months that the original grant award was not sufficient for. The original award was approved by the Board on July 19, 2022 in the amount of \$439,487.00. This additional funding award of \$174,084.00 direct and \$4,420.00 indirect will bring the total award for Year 1 of this project to \$617,991.00.

Reason for retroactive submittal: Item was submitted to the first available BCC meeting once the extended award funding document was received and processed.

GRANT AWARD SUMMARY

Project/Program Name: *Support in Treatment, Accountability, and Recovery (STAR)*

Scope of the Project: *Wrap-around programming and treatment services for opioid use disorder and criminogenic behaviors within the population served by DAS.*

Benefit to Washoe County Residents: *Takes an active role in addressing root-causes related to opioid use disorder and underlying criminal behaviors as they relate to individuals residing in Washoe County. The STAR program addresses recidivism in a meaningful way, and is a significant component in mending the damage done by the opioid epidemic as it relates to the residents of Washoe County.*

On-Going Program Support: *18-month grant period, with 5-year potential*

Award Amount: \$178,504.00 (\$174,084.00 direct/\$4,420.00 indirect)

Total Award Amount: \$617,991.00 (\$581,086.00 direct/\$36,975.00 indirect)

Grant Period: 04/1/2022-09/30/2023

Funding Source: *Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant (SABG) American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) CAT 44*

Pass through From: *Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public and Behavioral Health*

CFDA Number: 93.959

Grant ID Number: SG 25659

Match Amount and Type: *None*

Sub-Awards and Contracts:

Northern Nevada HOPES: *HOPES provides a full-time Peer Support Specialist for the STAR team. HOPES also serves as one of the primary clinics STAR uses for MAT services.*

The Empowerment Center: *The Empowerment Center is a sober living and transitional housing entity for women that provides housing and additional resources to STAR program participants. The Empowerment Center provides a sober living environment for up to four (4) STAR Program participants at a time to include programming such as individual and group sessions, workforce development, transition planning, pro-social activities, and other associated services.*

CrossRoads: *CrossRoads is a Washoe County entity that works closely with DAS as a sober living and transitional housing entity. CrossRoads also has established pathways to Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) services through Well Care. The close working relationship already in place between DAS and CrossRoads allows for the successful implementation of housing and treatment resources for STAR program participants. As a contracted entity for the STAR Program, CrossRoads reserves up to ten (10) beds at a time for the grant period.*

FISCAL IMPACT

Budget authority of has been accounted for in the FY 24 budget within Internal Order 12015.

Cost Object & Description	G/L Account & Description	Amount
12015 – Federal Grants	431100 - FY23 STAR - Federal Grants	\$174,084.00
12015 – FY23-STAR	701412 - Salary Adjustment	\$93,215.00
12015 – FY23-STAR	705360 - Benefit Adjustment	\$39,682.00

12015 – FY23-STAR	710100 - Professional Services	\$40,775.00
12015 – FY23-STAR	710519 - Cellular Phone	\$412.00

- *No match required*
- *Funds will be drawn as a reimbursement*
 - *General funds are source of the upfront cash*
- *Indirect cost reimbursement in the amount of an additional \$4,420.00 is included at a rate of 8%.*
- *As this award funds personnel, if grant funding is reduced or eliminated, the position hours will be reduced and/or the positions abolished accordingly, unless additional funding is secured.*

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners retroactively accept an extension and additional funding related to the Bureau of Behavioral Health Wellness and Prevention Sub-Award from the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public and Behavioral Health in the amount of [\$174,084.00; \$4,420.00 indirect; no County match required] to be used to pay for the remainder of FFY23 grant period extended to September 30, 2023, for the Department of Alternative Sentencing Support in Treatment, Accountability and Recovery (STAR) program for the retroactive grant period of April 1, 2022 – September 30, 2023, and if approved authorize Chief Roper to execute grant award documents.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff’s recommendation, a possible motion would be: “Move to retroactively accept an extension and additional funding related to the Bureau of Behavioral Health Wellness and Prevention Sub-Award from the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public and Behavioral Health in the amount of [\$174,084.00; \$4,420.00 indirect; no County match required] to be used to pay for the remainder of FFY23 grant period extended to September 30, 2023, for the Department of Alternative Sentencing Support in Treatment, Accountability and Recovery (STAR) program for the retroactive grant period of April 1, 2022 – September 30, 2023, and if approved authorize Chief Roper to execute grant award documents.”