

NEWS

for immediate release



MARICOPA COUNTY
Justice System Planning and Information
301 W Jefferson, Suite 3200
Phoenix, AZ 85003
Ph. 602-372-7059
www.maricopa.gov

June 2, 2016

FY 2016 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant

The Department of Justice has partnered with Maricopa County and the Cities of Mesa and Phoenix to receive \$1,064,609 through the FY 2016 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Grant. Partners have agreed to the following distribution of funds: Maricopa County \$254,609; City of Mesa \$135,000; and City of Phoenix \$655,000. Please review the Recommended Projects for details of proposed programs.

Recommended Projects to Receive 2016 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program: Local Solicitation Allocations

Proposed to streamline justice funding and grant administration, the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program allows states, tribes and local governments to support a broad range of activities to prevent and control crime based on their own local needs and conditions. JAG blends the previous Byrne Formula and Local Law Enforcement Block Grant (LLEBG) Programs to provide agencies with the flexibility to prioritize and place justice funds where they are needed most. The stated purpose of the JAG program is to underwrite projects that reduce crime and improve public safety.

Please note that the programs below are proposed and are being presented to governing boards for final approval. If any changes or updates are made, they will be reflected on www.maricopa.gov in as timely a manner as possible.

Maricopa County, \$254,609

Maricopa County intends to utilize a **part-time Grant Administrator (\$54,609)** to oversee and coordinate the reporting requirements for this four-year grant.

Adult Probation, \$40,000 – Thinking For A Change - Thinking for a Change (T4C) is a cognitive-behavioral intervention program for medium-high to high risk offenders that targets the top risk factors for re-offense specifically, antisocial personality, antisocial behavior, antisocial peers and antisocial attitudes. This program teaches offenders cognitive restructuring skills, social skills and problem solving skills. These skills provide probationers new alternatives to criminal behavior and better prepares probationers for employment and other pro-social activities.

County Attorney's Office, \$40,000 – Gun Violence Reduction – Through specialized prosecution efforts in cooperation with law enforcement agencies in Maricopa County, the MCAO Gun Violence Prosecution Program will focus on those violent crimes involving the use of deadly weapons, specifically guns. This program utilizes a specialized prosecutor to review, charge, prosecute and sentence felons committing crimes involving guns.

Juvenile Probation, \$40,000 – iCIS Enhancements – Will support contracted computer programming staff in developing enhancements to the Integrated Court Information System (iCIS) database. The Superior Court developed iCIS as the overall court data management system, incorporating specific modules to meet individual department needs. The Juvenile Probation Department requires enhancements to the database to effectively transition service delivery in compliance with recent Code changes related to Evidence Based Practice.

Office of the Medical Examiner (OME), \$40,000 – Forensic Equipment - The OME mandated by state law to investigate over 9,000 deaths yearly and jurisdiction is accepted in about 5,000 cases. The agency conducts a thorough medicolegal death investigation to determine cause and manner of death, collect evidence, and answer questions about the death in support of the criminal justice system; the public health system; the transportation, occupational, and consumer product safety systems, the health care system, and the public's best interest. During the investigative process, the OME interacts frequently with criminal justice officials who require professional, scientific, accurate, and timely answers to their questions about the cause of death. This information is critical to their analysis of the criminal aspects of the case and for protecting the public. The forensic equipment requested will enhance the ability of the OME and the Forensic Pathologists to answer the myriad of questions that these agencies and individuals may have and do so in a professional and timely fashion.

Sheriff's Office, \$40,000 – MCSO Interdiction Narcotics Enforcement Team (INET) – The disruption and dismantling of low, mid and high-level Mexican Drug Trafficking Operatives (DTO's) who make their way into Arizona and eventually Maricopa County neighborhoods to stash houses. All types of drug transactions low and mid-level occur daily on street corners and neighborhoods throughout Maricopa County. The INET team will target smugglers and their organizations, local dealers, distributors (including buyers and sellers) and their stateside trafficking networks. INET is a multifaceted unit covering parcel/freight, highway/commercial vehicle, bus and financial interdiction. It is one of the most experienced interdiction teams in the State of Arizona with an outstanding reputation.

City of Mesa, \$135,000

ADAMS Crime Scene Photo-Video Solution – The Mesa Police Department's (PD) current Digital Image Management System does not provide mobile and remote system access. Mesa PD will utilize grant funds to acquire the ADAMS Crime Scene Photo-Video Solution which is a tool for storing, securing, locating, and controlling digital evidence gathered at crime scenes. It provides browser-based viewing of cases and digital evidence, along with comparisons of originals and processed copies. It authenticates all originals and only allows processing of copies. Crime Scene Photo/Video displays asset acquisition information (such as camera EXIF data), history of processing, and an audit trail of all access to the digital asset. The system also provides mobile and remote technologies that allows users to access the system while on the road and from remote satellite locations.

City of Phoenix, \$675,000

Parks and Recreation Department, \$165,000 - Project BRAVE – Bringing Reality About Violence Education (BRAVE) is a violence prevention education program that was created with the goal of decreasing violence in our community through awareness, leadership training activities and effective partnerships with other local agencies. Project BRAVE provides no cost comprehensive workshops to youth ages 8-18 where that are taught life skills and

healthy alternatives to violence and other self-destructive behaviors. The project augments workshop sessions with powerful high visibility stage productions (plays, talent revues, and school assemblies) that emphasize prevention education themes.

Police Department, \$510,000 - On-Officer Video Camera Project - The Phoenix Police Department requests these funds to enhance existing body-worn camera (BWC), storage, and policy development project. The goal of the project is to have all uniformed law enforcement officers wearing BWC's. There are currently 150 cameras deployed in the community and 1,742 uniformed law enforcement officers. These funds will provide valuable resources towards enhancing their current project.

- end -