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March 30, 2023

Florida Department of Children and Families
 Office of Substance Abuse and Mental Health
 Attn: Michele Staffieri, Procurement Manager
 1317 Winewood Blvd. Bldg 6, Room 231
 Tallahassee, FL 32399

Dear Ms. Staffieri,

Attached please find EPIC Behavioral Healthcare's Criminal Justice, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Planning Grant Application # DCFRFA2223062 for St. Johns County, Florida. On behalf of our partners in St. Johns County and the St. Johns County Public Safety Coordinating Council, we appreciate your consideration for the opportunity to apply for this grant. If awarded, this will greatly impact the County and our citizens.

Please contact me if further information is needed. Thank you again and I look forward to hearing from you.

Best Regards,

Patricia Greenough, MEd, CPP
 Chief Executive Officer
 EPIC Behavioral Healthcare

Please consider EPIC in your will and estate planning.

3910 Lewis Speedway, Ste. 1106, St. Augustine, FL 32084

Ph 904.829.2273 Fax 904.824.0724

www.epicbh.org




TAB ONE

Cover Page & Certified Designation Letter



APPENDIX C – COVER PAGE FOR GRANT APPLICATION

Criminal Justice, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Grant

PROPOSAL INFORMATION		
Type of Grant:	Planning Grant <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Project Title:	Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Grant Program # DCF RFA 2223 062	
County(ies):	St. Johns County, FL	
Preferred Project Start Date:	August 1, 2023	
APPLICANT INFORMATION		
Type of Applicant:	County Government <input type="checkbox"/> Consortium of County Governments <input type="checkbox"/> Managing Entity <input type="checkbox"/> NFP Community Provider <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Law Enforcement Agency <input type="checkbox"/>	
Applicant Organization Name:	EPIC Behavioral Healthcare	
Contact Name & Title:	Patricia Greenough, Chief Executive Officer	
Street Address	3910 Lewis Speedway Ste. 1106	
City, State and Zip:	St. Augustine, FL 32084	
Email:	PGreenough@EPICBH.org	
Phone:	(904) 806-5006	
ADDITIONAL CONTACT		
Participating Organization Name:		
Contact Name & Title:		
Street Address		
City, State and Zip:		
Email:		
Phone:		
FUNDING REQUEST AND MATCHING FUNDS		
	Total Amount of Grant Funds Requested	Total Matching Funds
Program Year 1:	\$100,000.00	\$134,700.87
Total Project Cost:	\$234,700.87	
CERTIFYING OFFICIAL		
Certifying Official's Signature:		
Certifying Official's Name(printed):	Patricia Greenough	
Title:	Chief Executive Officer	
Date:	March 30, 2023	



St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners

Office of the Board of County Commissioners

March 27, 2023

Patti Greenough, CEO
EPIC Behavioral Healthcare
3910 Lewis Speedway, Ste 1106
St. Augustine, FL 32084

Re: Certified Designation Letter, Criminal Justice, Mental Health and Substance Abuse
Reinvestment Grant #DCFRFA2223062

Dear Ms. Greenough,

The St. Johns County Public Safety Coordinating Council (PSCC) certifies that EPIC Community Services, Inc. dba EPIC Behavioral Healthcare has been designated by the PSCC to apply to the Florida Department of Children and Families for a Planning Grant under the Criminal Justice, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Planning Grant Program – Grant #DCFRFA2223062. This action took place at the PSCC meeting on March 24, 2023.

The Public Safety Coordinating Council understands that EPIC's proposal will be to assess our current need for a Mental Health Court in St. Johns County and subsequently to develop a Strategic Plan to increase public safety, avert increased spending on criminal justice services, and improve access to and effectiveness of treatment services for adults with severe mental illness and/or co-occurring substance use disorders. This is an important undertaking and in alignment with the mission of the PSCC.

The members of the Public Safety Coordinating Council will actively participate in the assessment and planning activities coordinated by EPIC and appoint a Planning Committee within the St. Johns County Behavioral Health Consortium for project oversight. We will also review the strategic plan from these activities, recommend any needed additions and modifications, and ultimately recommend approval of the plan by the St. Johns County Commission upon completion of planning activities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Alex Christine", is written over a horizontal line.

The Honorable Alexander R. Christine, Jr., Chair
St. Johns County Public Safety Coordinating Council
St. Johns County Drug Court Judge, Division 65, Circuit 7

TAB TWO

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TAB THREE

Statement of Mandatory Assurances



APPENDIX D – STATEMENT OF MANDATORY ASSURANCES

A.	Infrastructure: The Applicant shall possess equipment and Internet access necessary to participate fully in this solicitation.	PS
B.	Site Visits: The Applicant will cooperate fully with the Department in coordinating site visits, if desired by the Department.	PS
C.	Non-discrimination: The Applicant agrees that no person will, on the basis of race, color, national origin, creed or religion be excluded from participation in, be refused the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination pursuant to the Act governing these funds or any project, program, activity or sub-grant supported by the requirements of, (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin; (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended which prohibits discrimination the basis of sex; (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended which prohibits discrimination in employment or any program or activity that receives or benefits from federal financial assistance on the basis of handicaps; (d) Age Discrimination Act 1975, as amended which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age, (e) Equal Employment Opportunity Program (EEO) must meets the requirements of 28 CFR 42.301.	PS
D.	Lobbying: The Applicant is prohibited by Title 31, USC, Section 1352, entitled "Limitation on use of appropriated funds to influence certain Federal contracting and financial transactions," from using Federal funds for lobbying the Executive or Legislative Branches of the federal government in connection with a specific grant or cooperative agreement. Section 1352 also requires that each person who requests or receives a Federal grant or cooperative agreement must disclose lobbying undertaken with non-Federal funds if grants and/or cooperative agreements exceed \$100,000 in total costs (45 CFR Part 93).	PS
E.	Drug-Free Workplace Requirements: The Applicant agrees that it will, or will continue to, provide a drug-free workplace in accordance with 45 CFR Part 76.	PS
F.	Smoke-Free Workplace Requirements: Public Law 103-227, Part C-Environmental Tobacco Smoke, also known as the Pro-Children Act of 1994 (Act), requires that smoking not be permitted in any portion of any indoor facility owned or leased or contracted for by an entity and used routinely or regularly for the provision of health, day care, education, or library projects to children under the age of 18, if the projects are funded by Federal programs either directly or through State or local governments, by Federal grant, contract, loan, or loan guarantee. The law does not apply to children's projects provided in private residences, facilities funded solely by Medicare or Medicaid funds, and portions of facilities used for Inpatient drug or alcohol treatment. Failure to comply with the provisions of the law may result in the imposition of a civil monetary penalty of up to \$1,000 per day and/or the imposition of an administrative compliance order on the responsible entity.	PS
G.	Certification of Non-Supplanting: The Applicant certifies that funds awarded under this solicitation will not be used for programs currently being paid for by other funds or programs where the funding has been committed.	PS
H.	Submission of Data: The Applicant agrees to provide data and other information requested by the TA Center at FMHI to enable the TA Center to perform the statutory duties established in the authorizing legislation.	PS
I.	Submission of Reports: The Applicant agrees to submit quarterly progress reports and quarterly fiscal reports, signed by the County Administrator, to the Department.	PS

By signing and submitting this agreement, the Applicant certifies that it will comply with all the above requirements.

Patricia Greenough CEO
 Applicant Signature Title

3/29/23
 Date

TAB FOUR

Match Commitment and Summary Forms



**APPENDIX H – COMMITMENT OF MATCH DONATION FORMS
(FOR THE ENTIRE GRANT PERIOD)**

TO: (name of county) St. Johns County

FROM: (donor name) EPIC Behavioral Healthcare

ADDRESS: 3910 Lewis Speedway Ste. 1106, St. Augustine, FL 32084

The following ___ space, ___ equipment, ___ goods or supplies, and ___ services, are donated to the County ___ permanently (title passes to the County) ___ temporarily (title is retained by the donor), for the period _____ to _____.

Description and Basis for Valuation (See next page)

<u>Description</u>	<u>Value</u>
(1) <u>Personnel Salaries</u>	<u>\$ 35,000</u>
(2) <u>Fringe</u>	<u>\$ 10,000</u>
(3) <u>Administration</u>	<u>\$ 5,000</u>
(4) _____	<u>\$ _____</u>

TOTAL VALUE \$ 50,000.00

The above donation is not currently included as a cost (either direct or matching) of any state or federal contract or grant, nor has it been previously purchased from or used as match for any state or federal contract.

[Handwritten Signature] 3/30/23
(Donor Signature) (Date)

[Handwritten Signature] 3/29/23
(County Designee Signature) (Date)

**Appendix H (cont.)
BASIS OF VALUATION**

Building/Space

1. Donor retains title:
 - a. Fair commercial rental value - Substantiated in provider's records by written confirmation(s) of fair commercial rental value by qualified individuals, e.g., Realtors, property managers, etc.
 - b. (1) Established monthly rental of space \$ _____
 (2) Number of months donated during the contract _____
 Value to the project [b. (1) X b. (2)] \$ _____

2. Title passes to the County:

Depreciation

- a. Cost of Fair Market Value (FMV) at acquisition (excluding land) \$ _____
- b. Estimated useful life at date of acquisition _____ yrs.
- c. Annual depreciation (a./b.) \$ _____
- d. Total square footage _____ sq. ft.
- e. Number of square feet to be used on the grant program _____ sq. ft.
- f. Percentage of time during contract period the project will occupy the building or space _____ %
 Value to project (e./d. X f. X c.) \$ _____

Use Allowance

- a. To be used in the absence of depreciation schedule (i.e., when the item is not normally depreciated in the County's accounting records).
- b. May include an allowance for space as well as the normal cost of upkeep, such as repairs and maintenance, insurance, etc.

Equipment

1. Donor retains title: Fair Rental Value
2. Title passes to County:
 - a. FMV at time of donation \$ _____
or
 - b. Annual value to project (not to exceed 6 2/3% X a.) = \$ _____

Goods or Supplies

FMV at time of donation

Personnel Services

1. Staff of another agency or organization: 65%=560 hours
 Annual Salary (\$130,000) Number of hours 2080 X to be provided = \$ 35,000
2. Volunteer Comparable annual salary: \$ _____
 Annual Salary Number of hours 2080 X to be provided = \$ _____

**APPENDIX H - COMMITMENT OF MATCH DONATION FORMS
(FOR THE ENTIRE GRANT PERIOD)**

TO: (name of county) St. Johns County
 FROM: (donor name) St. Johns County Sheriff's Office
 ADDRESS: 4015 Lewis Speedway
 St. Augustine, FL 32084

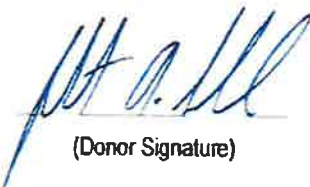
The following ___ space, ___ equipment, ___ goods or supplies, and X services, are donated to the County _____ permanently (title passes to the County) _____ temporarily (title is retained by the donor), for the period _____ to _____.

Description and Basis for Valuation (See next page)

Description	Value
(1) Staff to include booking, classification	\$ <u>19,918.08</u>
(2) <u>and reentry personnel</u>	\$ _____
(3) _____	\$ _____
(4) _____	\$ _____

TOTAL VALUE \$ 19,918.08

The above donation is not currently included as a cost (either direct or matching) of any state or federal contract or grant, nor has it been previously purchased from or used as match for any state or federal contract.


 (Donor Signature)

03/24/2023
 (Date)

 3/29/23
 (County Designee Signature) (Date)

**Appendix H (cont.)
BASIS OF VALUATION**

Building/Space

1. Donor retains title:
 - a. Fair commercial rental value - Substantiated in provider's records by written confirmation(s) of fair commercial rental value by qualified individuals, e.g., Realtors, property managers, etc.
 - b. (1) Established monthly rental of space \$ _____
 (2) Number of months donated during the contract _____
 Value to the project [b. (1) X b. (2)] \$ _____
2. Title passes to the County:

Depreciation

- a. Cost of Fair Market Value (FMV) at acquisition (excluding land) \$ _____
- b. Estimated useful life at date of acquisition _____ yrs.
- c. Annual depreciation (a./b.) \$ _____
- d. Total square footage _____ sq. ft.
- e. Number of square feet to be used on the grant program _____ sq. ft.
- f. Percentage of time during contract period the project will occupy the building or space _____ %
 Value to project (e./d. X f. X c.) \$ _____

Use Allowance

- a. To be used in the absence of depreciation schedule (i.e., when the item is not normally depreciated in the County's accounting records).
- b. May include an allowance for space as well as the normal cost of upkeep, such as repairs and maintenance, insurance, etc.

Equipment

1. Donor retains title: Fair Rental Value
2. Title passes to County:
 - a. FMV at time of donation \$ _____
or
 - b. Annual value to project (not to exceed 6 2/3% X a) = \$ _____

Goods or Supplies

FMV at time of donation

Personnel Services

1. Staff of another agency or organization:

	Positions: Booking, Classification, Reentry	
Hourly Salary \$47.88	Number of hours 416 X to be provided =	<u>\$19,918.08</u>
2. Volunteer

	Comparable annual salary:	
Annual Salary	Number of hours 2080 X to be provided =	\$ _____

**APPENDIX H - COMMITMENT OF MATCH DONATION FORMS
(FOR THE ENTIRE GRANT PERIOD)**


TO: (name of county) St. Johns County
 FROM: (donor name) Patients Not Prisoners
 ADDRESS: 945 Registry Blvd #209
St. Augustine, FL 32092

The following ___ space, ___ equipment, ___ goods or supplies, and ___ services, are donated to the County ___ permanently (title passes to the County) ___ temporarily (title is retained by the donor), for the period ___ to ___.

Description and Basis for Valuation (See next page)

Description	Value
(1) <u>Personnel</u>	\$ <u>20,675</u>
(2) _____	\$ _____
(3) _____	\$ _____
(4) _____	\$ _____
TOTAL VALUE \$ _____	

The above donation is not currently included as a cost (either direct or matching) of any state or federal contract or grant, nor has it been previously purchased from or used as match for any state or federal contract.



 (Donor Signature)

03/28/23

 (Date)



 (County Designee Signature)

3/29/23

 (Date)

BASIS OF VALUATION

Building/Space

1. Donor retains title:

- a. Fair commercial rental value - Substantiated in provider's records by written confirmation(s) of fair commercial rental value by qualified individuals, e.g., Realtors, property managers, etc.
- b. (1) Established monthly rental of space \$ _____
- (2) Number of months donated during the contract _____
- Value to the project [b. (1) X b. (2)] \$ _____

2. Title passes to the County:

Depreciation

- a. Cost of Fair Market Value (FMV) at acquisition (excluding land) \$ _____
- b. Estimated useful life at date of acquisition _____ yrs.
- c. Annual depreciation (a./b.) \$ _____
- d. Total square footage _____ sq. ft.
- e. Number of square feet to be used on the grant program _____ sq. ft.
- f. Percentage of time during contract period the project will occupy the building or space _____ %
- Value to project (e./d. X f. X c.) \$ _____

Use Allowance

- a. To be used in the absence of depreciation schedule (i.e., when the item is not normally depreciated in the County's accounting records).
- b. May include an allowance for space as well as the normal cost of upkeep, such as repairs and maintenance, insurance, etc.

Equipment

1. Donor retains title: Fair Rental Value

2. Title passes to County:

- a. FMV at time of donation \$ _____
- or
- b. Annual value to project (not to exceed 6 2/3% X a.) = \$ _____

Goods or Supplies

FMV at time of donation

Personnel Services

1. Staff of another agency or organization:

Hourly \$95.00 75
Annual Salary _____ Number of hours 2080 X to be provided =

2. Volunteer

Comparable annual salary:

Hourly \$200 75
Annual Salary _____ Number of hours 2080 X to be provided =

\$5,225 Position: Nonprofit President
\$15,000 Position: Defense Attorney

**APPENDIX H – COMMITMENT OF MATCH DONATION FORMS
(FOR THE ENTIRE GRANT PERIOD)**

TO: (name of county) EPIC

FROM: (donor name) Office of R. J. Larizza, State Attorney, 7th Judicial Circuit of Florida


ADDRESS: 4010 Lewis Speedway, St. Augustine, Florida

The following ___ space, ___ equipment, ___ goods or supplies, and x services, are donated to the County
___ permanently (title passes to the County) ___ temporarily (title is retained by the donor), for the period
_____ to _____.

Description and Basis for Valuation (See next page)


Description	Value
(1)Assistant State Attorney	\$3,245.25
	TOTAL VALUE \$3,245.25

The above donation is not currently included as a cost (either direct or matching) of any state or federal contract or grant, nor has it been previously purchased from or used as match for any state or federal contract.



(Donor Signature)

03/21/23
(Date)



(County Designee Signature)

3/29/23
(Date)

**Appendix H (cont.)
BASIS OF VALUATION**

Building/Space

1. Donor retains title:

- a. Fair commercial rental value - Substantiated in provider's records by written confirmation(s) of fair commercial rental value by qualified individuals, e.g., Realtors, property managers, etc.
- b. (1) Established monthly rental of space \$ _____
 (2) Number of months donated during the contract _____
 Value to the project [b. (1) X b. (2)] \$ _____

2. Title passes to the County:

Depreciation

- a. Cost of Fair Market Value (FMV) at acquisition (excluding land) \$ _____
- b. Estimated useful life at date of acquisition _____ yrs.
- c. Annual depreciation (a./b.) \$ _____
- d. Total square footage _____ sq. ft.
- e. Number of square feet to be used on the grant program _____ sq. ft.
- f. Percentage of time during contract period the project will occupy the building or space _____ %
 Value to project (e./d. X f. X c.) \$ _____

Use Allowance

- a. To be used in the absence of depreciation schedule (i.e., when the item is not normally depreciated in the County's accounting records).
- b. May include an allowance for space as well as the normal cost of upkeep, such as repairs and maintenance, insurance, etc.

Equipment

- 1. Donor retains title: Fair Rental Value
- 2. Title passes to County:
 - a. FMV at time of donation \$ _____
or
 - b. Annual value to project (not to exceed 6 2/3% X a.) = \$ _____

Goods or Supplies

FMV at time of donation

Personnel Services

- 1. Staff of another agency or organization:
 - Hourly Salary \$43.27 Number of hours X 75 hours to be provided = \$3,245.25
- 2. Volunteer Comparable annual salary: \$ _____
 Annual Salary Number of hours 2080 X to be provided = \$ _____

**APPENDIX H – COMMITMENT OF MATCH DONATION FORMS
(FOR THE ENTIRE GRANT PERIOD)**

TO: (name of county) St. Johns County
 FROM: (donor name) Office of the Public Defender, 7th Circuit
 ADDRESS: 4010 Lewis Speedway, St. Augustine, FL 32084 Suite 1101

The following space, equipment, goods or supplies, and X services, are donated to the County permanently (title passes to the County) temporarily (title is retained by the donor), for the period to .

Description and Basis for Valuation (See next page)

<u>Description</u>	<u>Value</u>
(1) <u>Personnel</u>	\$ <u>2,841</u>
(2) _____	\$ _____
(3) _____	\$ _____
(4) _____	\$ _____
	TOTAL VALUE \$ _____

The above donation is not currently included as a cost (either direct or matching) of any state or federal contract or grant, nor has it been previously purchased from or used as match for any state or federal contract.

[Signature]
(Donor Signature)

3/27/23
(Date)

[Signature] 3/29/23
(County Designee Signature) (Date)

Appendix H (cont.)
BASIS OF VALUATION

Building/Space

1. Donor retains title:

- a. Fair commercial rental value - Substantiated in provider's records by written confirmation(s) of fair commercial rental value by qualified individuals, e.g., Realtors, property managers, etc.
- b. (1) Established monthly rental of space \$ _____
- (2) Number of months donated during the contract _____
- Value to the project [b. (1) X b. (2)] \$ _____

2. Title passes to the County:

Depreciation

- a. Cost of Fair Market Value (FMV) at acquisition (excluding land) \$ _____
- b. Estimated useful life at date of acquisition _____ yrs.
- c. Annual depreciation (a./b.) \$ _____
- d. Total square footage _____ sq. ft.
- e. Number of square feet to be used on the grant program _____ sq. ft.
- f. Percentage of time during contract period the project will occupy the building or space _____ %
- Value to project (e./d. X f. X c.) \$ _____

Use Allowance

- a. To be used in the absence of depreciation schedule (i.e., when the item is not normally depreciated in the County's accounting records).
- b. May include an allowance for space as well as the normal cost of upkeep, such as repairs and maintenance, insurance, etc.

Equipment

1. Donor retains title: Fair Rental Value

2. Title passes to County:

- a. FMV at time of donation \$ _____
- or
- b. Annual value to project (not to exceed 6 2/3% X a.) = \$ _____

Goods or Supplies

FMV at time of donation

Personnel Services

1. Staff of another agency or organization:

- Annual Salary Number of hours 2080 X to be provided = \$ _____
- 2. Volunteer 47.36 Comparable annual salary: 60 = \$ 2,841.87
- Annual Salary Number of hours 2080 X to be provided = \$ _____

**APPENDIX H – COMMITMENT OF MATCH DONATION FORMS
(FOR THE ENTIRE GRANT PERIOD)**

TO: (name of county) ETIC - ST. Johns County
 FROM: (donor name) ST. Augustine Beach Police Department
 ADDRESS: 2300 A1A South
ST. Augustine Beach, FL 32080

The following ___ space, ___ equipment, ___ goods or supplies, and services, are donated to the County ___ permanently (title passes to the County) ___ temporarily (title is retained by the donor), for the period ___ to ___.

Description and Basis for Valuation (See next page)

<u>Description</u>	<u>Value</u>
(1) <u>Personnel - Harrell</u>	\$ <u>2608.20</u>
(2) _____	\$ _____
(3) _____	\$ _____
(4) _____	\$ _____
TOTAL VALUE \$ _____	

The above donation is not currently included as a cost (either direct or matching) of any state or federal contract or grant, nor has it been previously purchased from or used as match for any state or federal contract.

Janice Canale 3/27/23 Patricia Green 3/29/23
 (Donor Signature) (Date) (County Designee Signature) (Date)

**Appendix H (cont.)
BASIS OF VALUATION**

Building/Space

1. Donor retains title:

- a. Fair commercial rental value - Substantiated in provider's records by written confirmation(s) of fair commercial rental value by qualified individuals, e.g., Realtors, property managers, etc.
- b. (1) Established monthly rental of space \$ _____
 (2) Number of months donated during the contract _____
 Value to the project [b. (1) X b. (2)] \$ _____

2. Title passes to the County:

Depreciation

- a. Cost of Fair Market Value (FMV) at acquisition (excluding land) \$ _____
- b. Estimated useful life at date of acquisition _____ yrs.
- c. Annual depreciation (a./b.) \$ _____
- d. Total square footage _____ sq. ft.
- e. Number of square feet to be used on the grant program _____ sq. ft.
- f. Percentage of time during contract period the project will occupy the building or space _____ %
 Value to project (e./d. X f. X c.) \$ _____

Use Allowance

- a. To be used in the absence of depreciation schedule (i.e., when the item is not normally depreciated in the County's accounting records).
- b. May include an allowance for space as well as the normal cost of upkeep, such as repairs and maintenance, insurance, etc.

Equipment

1. Donor retains title: Fair Rental Value

2. Title passes to County:

- a. FMV at time of donation \$ _____
or
- b. Annual value to project (not to exceed 6 2/3% X a.) = \$ _____

Goods or Supplies

FMV at time of donation

* Personnel Services

- 1. Staff of another agency or organization: 60 hrs
 Hourly Annual Salary 43.47 Number of hours 2080 X to be provided = \$ 2108.20
- 2. Volunteer Comparable annual salary: \$ _____
 Annual Salary Number of hours 2080 X to be provided = \$ _____

APPENDIX H – COMMITMENT OF MATCH DONATION FORMS
(FOR THE ENTIRE GRANT PERIOD)

TO: (name of county) St. Johns County

FROM: (donor name) Holly Ventura Miller, Ph.D.

ADDRESS: 1727 Landward Lane, Middleburg, FL 32068

The following ___ space, ___ equipment, ___ goods or supplies, and x services, are donated to the County ___ permanently (title passes to the County) x temporarily (title is retained by the donor), for the period 10/1/23 to 9/30/24.

Description and Basis for Valuation (See next page)

Description	Value
(1) <u>Personnel</u>	<u>\$15,000</u>
(2) _____	\$ _____
(3) _____	\$ _____
(4) _____	\$ _____

TOTAL VALUE \$ 15,000

The above donation is not currently included as a cost (either direct or matching) of any state or federal contract or grant, nor has it been previously purchased from or used as match for any state or federal contract.

Holly Ventura Miller

3/23/23

Holly Ventura Miller

Patricia G... 3/29/23

(County Designee Signature)

(Date)

DCF RFA 2223 062

Appendix H (cont.)
BASIS OF VALUATION

Building/Space

1. Donor retains title:

- a. Fair commercial rental value - Substantiated in provider's records by written confirmation(s) of fair commercial rental value by qualified individuals, e.g., Realtors, property managers, etc.
- b. (1) Established monthly rental of space \$ _____
(2) Number of months donated during the contract _____
Value to the project [b. (1) X b. (2)] \$ _____

2. Title passes to the County:

Depreciation

- a. Cost of Fair Market Value (FMV) at acquisition (excluding land) \$ _____
- b. Estimated useful life at date of acquisition _____ yrs.
- c. Annual depreciation (a./b.) \$ _____
- d. Total square footage _____ sq. ft.
- e. Number of square feet to be used on the grant program _____ sq. ft.
- f. Percentage of time during contract period the project will occupy the building or space _____ %
Value to project (e./d. X f. X c.) \$ _____

Use Allowance

- a. To be used in the absence of depreciation schedule (i.e., when the item is not normally depreciated in the County's accounting records).
- b. May include an allowance for space as well as the normal cost of upkeep, such as repairs and maintenance, insurance, etc.

Equipment

1. Donor retains title: Fair Rental Value

2. Title passes to County:

- a. FMV at time of donation \$ _____
or
- b. Annual value to project (not to exceed 6 2/3% X a.) = \$ _____

Goods or Supplies

FMV at time of donation

Personnel Services

1. Staff of another agency or organization:

Hourly Salary: \$100.00 Number of hours 150 X to be provided = \$ 15,000.00
Position: Program Evaluator & Subject Matter Expert (3 hours per week for 50 weeks)

- 2. Volunteer Comparable annual salary: \$ _____
Annual Salary Number of hours 2080 X to be provided = \$ _____

**APPENDIX H – COMMITMENT OF MATCH DONATION FORMS
(FOR THE ENTIRE GRANT PERIOD)**

TO: (name of county) St. Johns County
 FROM: (donor name) St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners
 ADDRESS: 200 San Sebastian View Suite 2300
St. Augustine, Florida 32084

The following X space, ___ equipment, ___ goods or supplies, and X services, are donated to the County
 ___ permanently (title passes to the County) ___X___ temporarily (title is retained by the donor), for the period July
 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.

Description and Basis for Valuation (See next page)

Description	Value
(1) <u>Personnel Services (staff time on project)</u>	<u>\$1,211</u>
(2) <u>HHS Kingfisher meeting space</u>	<u>\$2,400</u>
(3) _____	\$ _____
(4) _____	\$ _____
TOTAL VALUE \$ <u>3,611</u>	

The above donation is not currently included as a cost (either direct or matching) of any state or federal contract or grant, nor has it been previously purchased from or used as match for any state or federal contract.

Shawna A. Nade 3/22/2023
 (Donor Signature) (Date)
 HHS Director

Peter Green 3/23/23
 (County Designee Signature) (Date)

**Appendix H (cont.)
BASIS OF VALUATION**

Building/Space

1. Donor retains title:
 - a. Fair commercial rental value - Substantiated in provider's records by written confirmation(s) of fair commercial rental value by qualified individuals, e.g., Realtors, property managers, etc.
 - b. (1) Established monthly rental of space \$ _____
 (2) Number of months donated during the contract _____
 Value to the project [b. (1) X b. (2)] \$ _____
2. Title passes to the County:

Depreciation

- a. Cost of Fair Market Value (FMV) at acquisition (excluding land) \$ _____
- b. Estimated useful life at date of acquisition _____ yrs.
- c. Annual depreciation (a./b.) \$ _____
- d. Total square footage _____ sq. ft.
- e. Number of square feet to be used on the grant program _____ sq. ft.
- f. Percentage of time during contract period the project will occupy the building or space _____ %
 Value to project (e./d. X f. X c.) \$ _____

Use Allowance

- a. To be used in the absence of depreciation schedule (i.e., when the item is not normally depreciated in the County's accounting records).
- b. May include an allowance for space as well as the normal cost of upkeep, such as repairs and maintenance, insurance, etc.

Equipment

1. Donor retains title: Fair Rental Value
2. Title passes to County:
 - a. FMV at time of donation \$ _____
or
 - b. Annual value to project (not to exceed 6 2/3% X a.) = \$ _____

Goods or Supplies

FMV at time of donation

Personnel Services

1. Staff of another agency or organization:

Annual Salary ~~_____~~ Hourly rate 33.63 30 Number of hours 30 to be provided = \$ 1,211
2. Volunteer

Comparable annual salary: \$ _____
 Annual Salary _____ Number of hours _____ X to be provided = \$ _____

**APPENDIX H – COMMITMENT OF MATCH DONATION FORMS
(FOR THE ENTIRE GRANT PERIOD)**

TO: (name of county) St Johns County
 FROM: (donor name) Shirley Olson
 ADDRESS: 101 N Alabama Ave Suite B253
Deland, FL 32724

The following ___ space, ___ equipment, ___ goods or supplies, and ___ services, are donated to the County _____ permanently (title passes to the County) _____ temporarily (title is retained by the donor), for the period _____ to _____.

Description and Basis for Valuation (See next page)

Description	Value
(1) <u>Personel</u>	\$ <u>3640.00</u>
(2) _____	\$ _____
(3) _____	\$ _____
(4) _____	\$ _____
TOTAL VALUE \$ _____	

The above donation is not currently included as a cost (either direct or matching) of any state or federal contract or grant, nor has it been previously purchased from or used as match for any state or federal contract.

Shirley Olson 3/28/2023 Patricia Green 3/29/23
 (Donor Signature) (Date) (County Designee Signature) (Date)

**Appendix H (cont.)
BASIS OF VALUATION**

Building/Space

1. Donor retains title:

- a. Fair commercial rental value - Substantiated in provider's records by written confirmation(s) of fair commercial rental value by qualified individuals, e.g., Realtors, property managers, etc.
- b. (1) Established monthly rental of space \$ _____
 (2) Number of months donated during the contract _____
 Value to the project [b. (1) X b. (2)] \$ _____

2. Title passes to the County:

Depreciation

- a. Cost of Fair Market Value (FMV) at acquisition (excluding land) \$ _____
- b. Estimated useful life at date of acquisition _____ yrs.
- c. Annual depreciation (a./b.) \$ _____
- d. Total square footage _____ sq. ft.
- e. Number of square feet to be used on the grant program _____ sq. ft.
- f. Percentage of time during contract period the project will occupy the building or space _____ %
 Value to project (e./d. X f. X c.) \$ _____

Use Allowance

- a. To be used in the absence of depreciation schedule (i.e., when the item is not normally depreciated in the County's accounting records).
- b. May include an allowance for space as well as the normal cost of upkeep, such as repairs and maintenance, insurance, etc.

Equipment

1. Donor retains title: Fair Rental Value

2. Title passes to County:

- a. FMV at time of donation \$ _____
 or
- b. Annual value to project (not to exceed 6 2/3% X a.) = \$ _____

Goods or Supplies

FMV at time of donation

Personnel Services

1. Staff of another agency or organization:

Annual Salary \$52.00 X 70 to be provided = \$ 3640.00

2. Volunteer Comparable annual salary: \$ _____

Annual Salary Number of hours 2080 X to be provided = \$ _____

**APPENDIX H – COMMITMENT OF MATCH DONATION FORMS
(FOR THE ENTIRE GRANT PERIOD)**

TO: (name of county) St. Johns County

FROM: (donor name) Dusty Pye, LSF Health Systems, Inc.


ADDRESS: 9428 Baymeadows Rd. Suite 320
Jacksonville, FL, 32256


The following space, equipment, goods or supplies, and X services, are donated to the County permanently (title passes to the County) X temporarily (title is retained by the donor), for the period to .

Description and Basis for Valuation (See next page)

<u>Description</u>	<u>Time and Effort – 50 hours @ 71.75</u>	<u>Value</u>
(1) _____		\$3,587.50
(2) _____		\$ _____
(3) _____		\$ _____
(4) _____		\$ _____
		TOTAL VALUE \$ <u>3,587.50</u>

The above donation is not currently included as a cost (either direct or matching) of any state or federal contract or grant, nor has it been previously purchased from or used as match for any state or federal contract.


3/27/23
 (Donor Signature) (Date)


3/27/23
 (County Designee Signature) (Date)

**Appendix H (cont.)
BASIS OF VALUATION**

Building/Space

1. Donor retains title:

- a. Fair commercial rental value - Substantiated in provider's records by written confirmation(s) of fair commercial rental value by qualified individuals, e.g., Realtors, property managers, etc.
- b. (1) Established monthly rental of space \$ _____
 (2) Number of months donated during the contract _____
 Value to the project [b. (1) X b. (2)] \$ _____

2. Title passes to the County:

Depreciation

- a. Cost of Fair Market Value (FMV) at acquisition (excluding land) \$ _____
- b. Estimated useful life at date of acquisition _____ yrs.
- c. Annual depreciation (a/b.) \$ _____
- d. Total square footage _____ sq. ft.
- e. Number of square feet to be used on the grant program _____ sq. ft.
- f. Percentage of time during contract period the project will occupy the building or space _____ %
 Value to project (e./d. X f. X c.) \$ _____

Use Allowance

- a. To be used in the absence of depreciation schedule (i.e., when the item is not normally depreciated in the County's accounting records).
- b. May include an allowance for space as well as the normal cost of upkeep, such as repairs and maintenance, insurance, etc.

Equipment

1. Donor retains title: Fair Rental Value

2. Title passes to County:

- a. FMV at time of donation \$ _____
 or
- b. Annual value to project (not to exceed 6 2/3% X a.) = \$ _____

Goods or Supplies

FMV at time of donation

Personnel Services

- 1. Staff of another agency or organization: 50 hours @ 71.75/hour
 Annual Salary Number of hours 2080 X to be provided = \$3,587.50
- 2. Volunteer Comparable annual salary: \$ _____
 Annual Salary Number of hours 2080 X to be provided = \$ _____

APPENDIX H - COMMITMENT OF MATCH DONATION FORMS
(FOR THE ENTIRE GRANT PERIOD)

TO: (name of county) Epic Behavioral Health, St. Johns County
FROM: (donor name) SMA Healthcare
ADDRESS: 150 Magnolia Ave
Daytona Beach, FL 32114

The following ___ space, ___ equipment, ___ goods or supplies, and services, are donated to the County ___ permanently (title passes to the County) ___ temporarily (title is retained by the donor), for the period 1/1/24 to 12/31/24

Description and Basis for Valuation (See next page)

Description	Value
(1) <u>VP of Region @ 6 hrs per mth</u>	<u>\$ 291.48</u>
(2) <u>Regional Director @ 10 hrs per mth</u>	<u>\$ 510.59</u>
(3) _____	\$ _____
(4) _____	\$ _____

TOTAL VALUE \$ 802.07 per month For 12 months

The above donation is not currently included as a cost (either direct or matching) of any state or federal contract or grant, nor has it been previously purchased from or used as match for any state or federal contract.

Andreas Schweizer 3/28/23
(Donor Signature) (Date)

Andreas Schweizer
CFO

Patricia Greening 3/29/23
(County Designee Signature) (Date)

**Appendix H (cont.)
BASIS OF VALUATION**

Building/Space

1. Donor retains title:
 - a. Fair commercial rental value - Substantiated in provider's records by written confirmation(s) of fair commercial rental value by qualified individuals, e.g., Realtors, property managers, etc.
 - b. (1) Established monthly rental of space \$ _____
 (2) Number of months donated during the contract _____
 Value to the project [b. (1) X b. (2)] \$ _____

2. Title passes to the County:

Depreciation

- a. Cost of Fair Market Value (FMV) at acquisition (excluding land) \$ _____
- b. Estimated useful life at date of acquisition _____ yrs.
- c. Annual depreciation (a./b.) \$ _____
- d. Total square footage _____ sq. ft.
- e. Number of square feet to be used on the grant program _____ sq. ft.
- f. Percentage of time during contract period the project will occupy the building or space _____ %
 Value to project (e./d. X f. X c.) \$ _____

Use Allowance

- a. To be used in the absence of depreciation schedule (i.e., when the item is not normally depreciated in the County's accounting records).
- b. May include an allowance for space as well as the normal cost of upkeep, such as repairs and maintenance, insurance, etc.

Equipment

1. Donor retains title: Fair Rental Value
2. Title passes to County:
 - a. FMV at time of donation \$ _____
or
 - b. Annual value to project (not to exceed 6 2/3% X a.) = \$ _____

Goods or Supplies

FMV at time of donation

Personnel Services

1. Staff of another agency or organization:

Annual Salary	Number of hours 2080	X	to be provided	=	\$ 802.07 per month
---------------	----------------------	---	----------------	---	---------------------
2. Volunteer

Annual Salary	Comparable annual salary:	Number of hours 2080	X	to be provided	= \$ _____
---------------	---------------------------	----------------------	---	----------------	------------

YEAR TOTAL
 \$9,624.84

Appendix I - MATCH COLLECTION SUMMARY REPORT
(for the entire grant period)

Date - March 30, 2023

County - St. Johns County

Type of Grant - Planning Grant

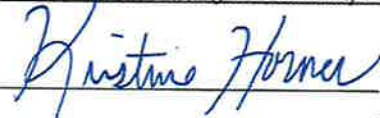
Match Requirement Percentage - 100%

Total Match Required for the Grant \$ \$100,000

Match Committed:

Cash	\$ <u>50,000.00</u>
In-Kind	\$ <u>84,700.87</u>
Total	\$ <u>134,700.87</u>

Comments: Please see attached listing of Community Partners supporting this planning grant.

Prepared By 

Approved By 

EXHIBIT A

St. Johns County Sheriff's Office	\$ 19,918.08 (Personnel)
Patients Not Prisoners	\$ 20,625.00 (Personnel)
Office of R.J. Larizza, State Attorney, 7 th Judicial Circuit of Florida	\$ 3,245.25 (Personnel)
Office of the Public Defender, 7 th Circuit of Florida	\$ 2,841.00 (Personnel)
St. Augustine Beach Police Department	\$ 2,608.20 (Personnel)
Holly Ventura Miller, Ph.D.	\$ 15,000.0 (Project Evaluation)
St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners	\$3,611.00 (Personnel: \$1,211) (Space: \$2,400)
Shirley Olson, State of Florida, Circuit 7	\$ 3,640.00 (Personnel)
LSF	\$ 3,587.50 (Personnel)
SMA Healthcare	\$ 9,624.84 (Personnel)
<hr/>	
Total	\$ 67,300.87 (Personnel) \$ 2,400.00 (Space) \$15,000.00 (Project Evaluation)

TAB FIVE

Statement of Problem



Tab 5: Statement of Problem

5.1 Detailed description of the problem the project will address

In 2017, St. Johns County completed a SIM process that resulted in a Strategic Plan regarding future programming for criminal justice, substance use and mental health integrated services. The design and implementation of a mental health court was prioritized as the number one priority. At that time however, the 7th Judicial Circuit and St. Johns County Court did not believe they had the necessary judicial personnel to take on the mental health court. Subsequently, the second priority was a jail transition program which resulted in St. Johns County via EPIC Behavioral Healthcare (EPIC) submitting a reinvestment grant to implement the jail transition program known as the JET Re-Entry program. Now, in 2023 with the adequate judicial personnel in place to preside over and facilitate another problem solving court, the St. Johns County community seeks a CJMHSR Reinvestment Planning Grant to plan the design and implementation of a Mental Health Court. This decision was first voiced by 4 of our judges, 2 Circuit and 2 County judges. They approached the CEO of EPIC to consider being designated by the PSCC to submit an application to move this priority forward. EPIC is the current treatment provider for the Adult Drug Court and Veterans Treatment Court. The request to submit a CJMHSR Reinvestment Planning Grant by EPIC on behalf of St. Johns County was approved by the Public Safety Coordinating Council at their meeting on March 24, 2023.

This proposal is being submitted through a collaboration between local treatment provider EPIC Behavioral Healthcare, the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office (SJSO), the St. Augustine Police Department, the 7th Judicial Circuit in St. Johns County, Florida, and several other community partners. We request \$100,000 for a one-year planning grant to develop a strategic plan for the implementation of a mental health court to serve adults aged 18 or older who have a mental illness, substance use disorder, and/or co-occurring disorder and who are in, or at risk of entering, the criminal justice system. Community in-kind matching support of this planning initiative has been obtained in the amount of \$134,701. There is currently no Mental Health Court in the 7th Judicial Circuit. The implementation of a specialty problem solving court focused on mental health would improve access to treatment services for justice-involved individuals with mental health (MH), substance use (SUD), and co-occurring (COD) disorders. Specifically, the planning grant will be used to: 1) conduct a needs assessment including a focused Sequential Intercept Mapping (SIM) workshop, 2) establish legally binding agreements with key stakeholders, 3) develop a final Strategic Plan for the implementation of an adult mental health court serving St. Johns County, and 4) develop a design for Recovery Oriented Support for families and supportive partners as an essential safety net system for persons living with mental illness who are involved in the criminal justice system.

Geographic Environment, Target Population, Socioeconomic Factors, and Priority

Geographic Environment

Located in Northeast Florida within the Jacksonville MSA along the I-95 corridor, St. Johns County's 2020 Census population was 273,425, a 43% increase from 2010 with the 2030 population projection over 366,000. The County is approximately 822 square miles and borders metro Jacksonville (population of 1.3 million). The 2020 Census reported population demographics including 78.4% white, 8.3% Hispanic/Latino, 4.7% black, 3.6% Asian, and 5% other with about 77% of the population over the age of 18. Not only has St. Johns County experienced significant population growth in the last decade, it

continues to remain one of the fastest growing counties in Florida. Unfortunately, the County also has one of the highest rates of mental illness in the State with the lowest ratio of treatment providers to residents across Florida. As St. Johns County has experienced increases in the population, the numbers and rates of mental illness, suicide, drug overdoses, and other negative social indicators have also grown significantly.

Target Population

The target population for the proposed initiative includes adults aged 18 or older who have a mental illness (MI), substance use disorder (SUD), and/or co-occurring disorders (COD) and who are in, or at risk of entering, the criminal justice system. In particular, the initiative will target the following individuals:

- **High Utilizers** - Individuals generating a high number of calls for service which may be caused by a mental health diagnosis and other chronic & co-occurring conditions.
- **Threat Assessments** - Individuals of concern identified through intelligence, other agency departments or external law enforcement and community partners.
- **Homeless** - Connecting homeless individuals with resources to include housing, mental health and/or substance use, employment, and reunification of family members.
- **Risk Protection Orders (RPOs)** - Responding to calls for service for RPOs and Baker Act investigations.
- **Non-fatal Overdoses** – Ensuring contact with individuals within 24 hours of near fatal overdose to connect them to substance use and mental health services.

Socioeconomic Factors

As the population in St. Johns County has increased, so too has the numbers and rates of mental illness, suicide, drug overdoses, homelessness, and other negative socioeconomic indicators, such as unemployment, food insecurity, and visits to emergency rooms. While the median income of St. Johns County is relatively high, nearly 1 in 10 residents live in poverty, and many have trouble accessing affordable housing. According to the *2022 Community Health Needs Assessment Report*, in order to afford a two-bedroom apartment without paying more than 30% of income on housing, a person must work 2.4 full-time jobs at minimum wage. This is particularly notable in St. Johns County where many jobs are in health care, the hospitality and tourism industries, and agriculture, most of which pay minimum wage. St. Johns County is characterized by extreme disparities in wealth from the ocean-front homes of Ponte Vedra to the migrant camps in the agricultural areas of Hastings.

In tracking criminal justice and behavioral health populations involved in the three year Reinvestment Re-Entry grant (JET), social determinants of health impacted the ability to maintain stability and successfully engage in treatment. Social determinants of health are social risk factors that have been found to influence the course of mental illness and are associated with overall poor health and well-being. This population had significant disparities in food security (95% needed help to apply for food stamps), housing (41% did not have stable housing) and employment (66% were unemployed).

Priority

Increasing access to mental health services, particularly for those involved in the justice system, remains at the center of the priorities of the community's Behavioral Health Consortium. The Behavioral Health Consortium was created in 2012, and to date, is comprised of over 40 local, nonprofit agencies, health and human services agencies, law enforcement, and others integrated with behavioral health services within Northeast Florida, including the lead applicant of this proposal, EPIC Behavioral Healthcare,

whose CEO serves as its chair. The Consortium conducts an annual review of gaps in services and the service priorities to be addressed. For example, EPIC Behavioral Healthcare was successful in creating the EPIC Recovery Center for adults in South St. Augustine in 2014. Shortly thereafter, it expanded to include a 30-day residential treatment unit, with reserved accommodations and specialized outpatient therapy programs. The Behavioral Health Consortium took a lead role in advocating for these essential services in our County.

EPIC Behavioral Healthcare is recognized locally as the lead agency for substance use and mental health services due to their extensive experience and expertise. EPIC has successfully implemented several behavioral health programs for adults including: Adult Drug Court (est. 2002), Veterans Treatment Court (2017), the In-Jail/SIGHT program (est. 2004), The Matrix Model for intensive substance use treatment (est. 2012), Second Wind Sober Living Recovery Homes (2018), Jail-Based EPIC Transition Program with the St. Johns County Detention Center (2019), Suicide Prevention Education Program (2021), Medication Assisted Recovery Services (MARS) Clinic (2019), Mobile Crisis Response Team (2022), and a same-day Access Support Center (2021). EPIC has an exemplary performance record in meeting and exceeding program outcomes, licensing standards by the State of Florida, accreditation standards, and maintaining the highest industry standards for program service delivery, quality assurance, and client satisfaction.

The successful partnership between EPIC and the local criminal justice system (i.e., St. Johns Sheriff's Office, St. Augustine Police Department, St. Augustine Beach Police Department, and the 7th Judicial Circuit) illustrates the commitment by local agencies and organizations to increasing access to behavioral health care for those within or at-risk of entering the criminal justice system. The implementation of a specialty court focused on mental health would improve access to treatment services for justice-involved individuals with mental health (MH), substance use (SUD), and co-occurring (COD) disorders. Establishing a mental health court has long been a goal for both behavioral health providers and criminal justice system agencies and all partner organizations are prioritizing the expansion of specialty treatment courts in the county to reduce the numbers of mentally ill individuals within the local criminal justice system. Survey data of St. Johns County residents also reveal considerable public concern about behavioral health generally, with most respondents indicating that drug and alcohol use, mental health problems, and difficulty accessing mental health/addiction treatment were among their most pressing concerns¹.

Below we describe the nature and extent of the interrelated issues of mental illness and substance use in St. Johns County.

Trend Analysis

Mental Health Disorders in St. Johns County

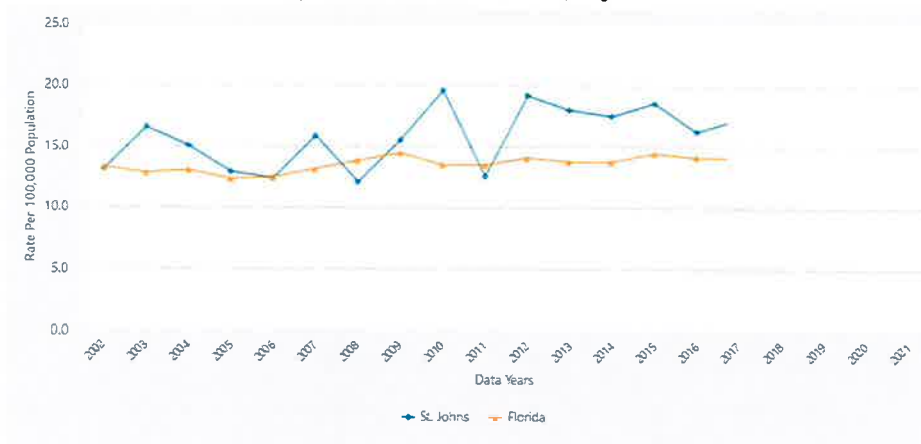
As noted in a recent 2021 NAMI report, over 839,000 Floridians live with serious mental illness (primarily bipolar disorder, severe depression, or schizophrenia) and nearly half the population will struggle with lesser forms at some point in their lives². Yet Florida ranks 49th among the states for mental-health programs, spending \$37.28 per person last year enabling only one provider for every 750 residents. According to the 2019 Behavioral Health Barometer, young Florida adults 18-25 with serious mental

¹ <https://stjohns.floridahealth.gov/programs-and-services/community-health-planning-and-statistics/community-health-assessments/2022-cha.html>

² <https://namigo.org/floridas-mental-health-epidemic-reaches-crisis-point/>

illness increased to 7.3% from 3.5% between 2017 and 2020 and mass shootings increased from 15 to 34 between 2017-2019 with 2020 FL data reporting 34 mass shootings that killed 26 and injured 133³. Unfortunately, mental health data for St. Johns County indicates severity above the state average both for mental health disorders (1 out of every 5 county residents) and especially suicide (see Table 1). Northeast Florida suicide rates are higher than the state average with St. Johns County negatively ranking 55th out of 67 counties in Florida in overall deaths by suicide⁴. The estimated number of seriously mentally ill adults in St. Johns County in 2020 was 8,558, a number that has been steadily increasing since 2012, the earliest data set. St. Johns County also has significantly higher rates of mental health related hospitalizations among young and middle-aged adults, aged 18-44. St. Johns County Sheriff’s Office data indicates a general upward trend for Baker Act filings, from 201 in 2018 to 275 in 2022. The same data also show an overall increase in mental health related calls for service (see Tables 2 and 3 below).

Table 1. Suicide Rate by Year
Age-adjusted Deaths From Suicide, Single Year



Substance Use Disorder and Drug Crime in St. Johns County

Between 2002 and 2019, St. Johns County experienced a 165% increase in DUI arrests and a 240% increase in drug/narcotics offenses. St. Johns County is also adjacent to the city of Jacksonville which has crime rates higher than that of Florida and the U.S. overall⁵. Despite this significant increase in drug-related crime and urban area spillover, a corresponding number of treatment options in St. Johns County have failed to materialize. For example, according to SAMHSA’s countyhealthrankings.org, Florida ranks among the worst in the nation for the ratio of population to mental health providers at 550:1 while St. Johns County is even more problematic at 800:1 (the national average is 350:1). Approximately 61.4% of Floridians suffering from mental illness, including substance use disorder, do not receive treatment compared to a national average of 56.4 percent and the state ranks 43rd compared to other states in terms of providing access to insurance and mental health treatment⁶.

³ https://www.samhsa.gov/data/sites/default/files/reports/rpt32826/Florida-BH-Barometer_Volume6.pdf

⁴ <https://datausa.io/profile/geo/st-johns-county-fl#health>

⁵ <https://fbi.gov/services/cjis/ucr>

⁶ Florida Behavioral Health Association “Mental Health in Florida” (2019) <https://www.floridabha.org>.

Additionally, data indicate that the rate of drug related crime in St. Johns County is higher than the average U.S. county and, compared to surrounding counties, the rate of drug use is also greater⁷. Notably, the death rate from synthetic opioids, including fentanyl, is higher than the national average (10.7 vs. 9.33 per 100,000 population). Drug-related overdose deaths have also increased each year in St. Johns County as have non-fatal overdose emergency department visits⁸.

The local mental health problem is seriously compounded by substance use, generally, and the national opioid epidemic particularly which, in part, was fueled by Florida's "pill mill" culture regarding pharmaceutical diversion (misuse) of pain killers. Data indicate that the rate of drug related crime in St. Johns County is higher than the average U.S. county and, compared to surrounding counties, the rate of drug use is also greater within the region. Drug-related overdose deaths have also increased each year in SJC as have non-fatal overdose emergency department visits⁹. St. Johns County also exceeds the state average for alcohol-confirmed motor vehicle crashes and related injuries¹⁰.

Need-Resource Disparities in St. Johns County

A recent Florida behavioral health report relates a pronounced disparity between need and treatment services: "61.4% of adults with any mental illness didn't receive treatment compared to the national average (56.4%)"; FL ranked 43rd compared to other states marking per capita support for mental health services"; and, specific to justice mental health "6 out of 10 states with the least access to mental health care also have the highest rates of incarceration"¹¹. In St. Johns County, the ratio of population to mental health treatment providers is 800:1 compared to the already disparate state average of 550:1¹². St. Johns County Sheriff Hardwick acknowledges "about 50 percent of the people arrested in St. Johns County have a mental health issue" and supports the proposed specialty court to meet unmet treatment needs at the critical intake juncture of the criminal justice system (i.e., the jail)¹³.

The St. Johns County Sheriff's Office often serves as the first point of contact for mentally ill and/or substance using individuals through citizens' calls for service. St. Johns County Sheriff's Office reports that calls for mental health related incidents and services have increased in recent years, including increases in Baker Act filings, non-fatal overdoses, Safe Trak, and dementia related calls (see Table 2, Count Calls by Type and Table 3, Total Calls involving Mental Health below).

⁷ <https://crimegrade.org/drug-crimes-st-johns-county-fl/>

⁸ <https://flhealthcharts.com/ChartsReports>

⁹ <https://flhealthcharts.com/ChartsReports>

¹⁰ <https://flhealthcharts.com/ChartsReports>

¹¹ <https://crimegrade.org/drug-crimes-st-johns-county-fl/>

¹² <https://www.floridabha.org/wpcontent/uploads/2019/09/2019.pdf>

¹³ <https://www.staugustine.com/news/20190910/hardwick-says-hes-ready-for-challenge-of-sheriff>

Table 2. SJSO Calls for Service

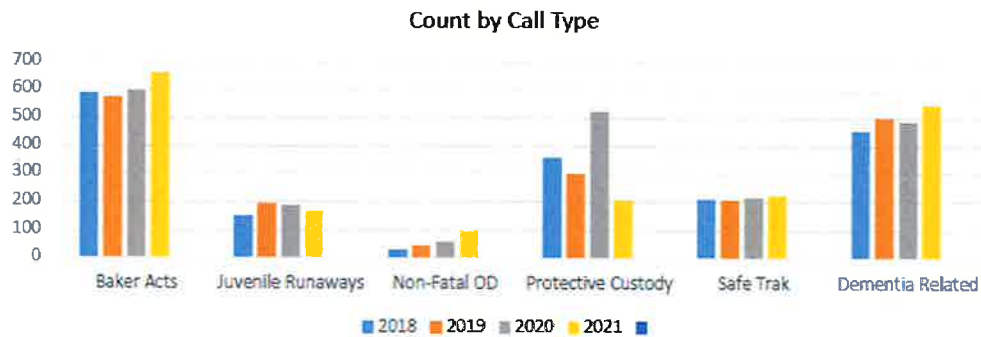
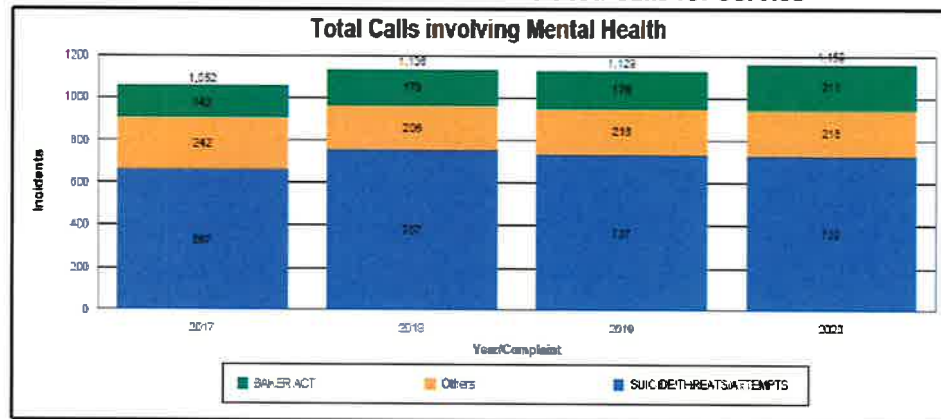


Table 3. SJSO Mental Health Related Calls for Service



5.2 Analysis of Jail Population

The St. Johns County jail has an average daily census of approximately 440 individuals and can hold up to 500 detainees in the facility. The racial/ethnic demographic distribution in the jail includes 69% White, 26% Black, 8% Hispanic/Latino, 3.6% Asian, and 5% Other. The jail population is comprised of 81% male and 19% female.

5.2.1 Screening and Assessment

Screening and assessment instruments utilized within the SJC Jail include the following:
TCU-DDS-5: The Texas Christian University Drug Dependency Scale was first developed more than two decades ago and was based on the DSM-III; subsequent to the publication of the DSM-V in 2013, a revised version was developed by researchers. In comparison with its predecessor, the TCU DDS 5 is designed to provide greater levels of diagnostic refinement when screening for substance use problems. The TCU DDS II classifies individuals into one of two categories corresponding with DSM-III-R diagnosis of “dependent” (3 or more symptoms) versus “not dependent” (0 to 2 symptoms). While this information is helpful in identifying a need for further assessment and possibly treatment, it does not differentiate between varying levels of severity among those who report drug use problems. To this end, the TCU DDS 5 classifies individuals into one of four severity levels within the “disorder” category: none (0–1 symptoms), mild (2–3 symptoms), moderate (4–5 symptoms) or severe (6 or more symptoms)¹⁴.

¹⁴ [American Psychiatric Association, 2013](#)

Prior validation analyses indicated a high level of concordance between the two; however, the TCU Drug Screen 5 detected significantly more cases of SUDs, the majority of which corresponded to a mild SUD. Overall, evidence suggests that the TCU Drug Screen 5 is comparable to the TCU Drug Screen II with the added potential benefit of DSM-5 conformity and severity specifiers¹⁵.

MHSF III: The Mental Health Screening Form-III (MHSF-III) was initially designed as a rough screening device for clients seeking admission to substance use treatment programs. The MHSF-III features a "Total Score" line to reflect the total number of "yes" responses. The maximum score on the MHSF-III is 18 (question 6 has two parts). This feature permits programs to engage in research and program evaluation on the mental health-chemical dependence interface for their clients. The first four questions on the MHSF-III are not unique to any particular diagnosis; however, questions 5 through 17 reflect symptoms associated with the following diagnoses/diagnostic categories: Q5, Schizophrenia; Q6, Depressive Disorders; Q7, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder; Q8, Phobias; Q9, Intermittent Explosive Disorder; Q10, Delusional Disorder; Q11, Sexual and Gender Identity Disorders; 12Q Eating Disorders (Anorexia, Bulimia); Q13 Manic Episode; Q14 Panic Disorder; Q15 Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder; Q16 Pathological Gambling; Q17 Learning Disorder and Mental Retardation. An advantage of the MHSF-III is that it covers a wider range of symptoms than instruments such as the Brief Jail Mental Health Screen (BJMHS). Many of the symptoms identified by the MHSF-III, such as suicidal or aggressive behavior, are critical for managing offenders¹⁶.

PHQ9: The Patient Health Questionnaire-9 is a multipurpose instrument for screening, diagnosing, monitoring, and measuring the severity of depression. The PHQ-9 incorporates DSM-V depression diagnostic criteria with other leading major depressive symptoms into a brief self-report tool. The tool rates the frequency of symptoms which factors into the scoring severity index. A follow-up, non-scored question screens and assigns weight to the degree to which depressive problems have affected the patient's level of function¹⁷.

5.2.2 The percentage of persons admitted to the jail that represent people who have substance use disorder, mental health disorder and/or co-occurring disorders.

The St. Johns County Jail, in partnership with EPIC, offers the JET Re-Entry program to detainees who screen positive for mental illness, SUD, or COD. The JET program is a jail transition program designed to provide behavioral healthcare to offenders who are nearing release from jail. In addition to providing behavioral therapy through an embedded clinician, peer support specialist, and care coordinator, JET also assists participants in the reentry process and offers out-patient treatment following release. Data indicate that among JET participants, 91% have had a SUD, 68% have had a MHD, and 60% have had a COD since the program's inception.

Based on jail intake data, more than half of all inmates screen positive for MI (52%, 33.5% with serious mental illness), SUD (55%), or COD (45%) and are referred to the JET program. However, the JET program is designed for those individuals with multiple prior incarcerations and whose sentence is long enough to provide adequate treatment services in terms of required dosage. Preliminary analysis of jail

¹⁵ Knight, D. K., Blue, T. R., Flynn, P. M., & Knight, K. (2018). The TCU drug screen 5: Identifying justice-involved individuals with substance use disorders. *Journal of Offender Rehabilitation*, 57(8), 525-537.

¹⁶ Ruiz, M. A., Peters, R. H., Sanchez, G. M., & Bates, J. P. (2009). Psychometric properties of the Mental Health Screening Form III within a metropolitan jail. *Criminal Justice and Behavior*, 36(6), 607-619.

¹⁷ <https://aims.uw.edu/resource-library/phq-9-depression-scale>

intake data indicates a gap in the provision of treatment for those individuals who do screen positive for MI, SUD, and COD but do not meet the specific program requirements of the JET Re-Entry program. The implementation of a mental health specialty treatment court in St. Johns County would help to address these gaps.

5.2.3 Analysis of observed contributing factors that affect population trends in the county jail.

Civil involuntary commitments for mental illness in St. Johns County have increased dramatically over the last decade. Adjusting for population growth, there has been a nearly 70% increase in law enforcement-initiated Baker Act exams and a 50% increase in Baker Act exams from all initiator types – mental health professionals, law enforcement, and the judiciary. Unfortunately, during this period of rapid population growth (including a 7% increase between April 2020 and July 2022¹⁸), incarceration, and civil commitment for mental illness, there has been inadequate growth in the resources available locally for the treatment of mental illness. Mental health funding on a per capita basis has continued to decline over the past decade both in Florida and in St. Johns County.

Drug use and related behavior are also a significant issue impacting local criminal justice agencies. Data indicate that the rate of drug related crime in St. Johns County is higher than the average U.S. county and, compared to surrounding counties, the rate of drug use is also greater¹⁹. As noted previously, the death rate from synthetic opioids, including fentanyl, is higher than the national average (10.7 vs. 9.33 per 100,000 population). Drug-related overdose deaths have also increased each year in St. Johns County as have non-fatal overdose emergency department visits²⁰.

5.2.4 Data and descriptive narrative delineating the specific factors that put the Target Population at risk of entering or re-entering the criminal justice system.

Risk factors are those social, health, and behavioral variables which impact the likelihood of recidivism (i.e., reoffending) at both the individual and community levels. These include a history of antisocial behavior, cognition or personality pattern, antisocial or criminal associates, unemployment, mental illness, and substance use. Generally, the greater the number of risk factors, the greater the likelihood of returning to prison or jail. Unfortunately, the St. Johns County jail has a high number of returns with about two-thirds recidivating within two years, consistent with national level data. Two of the main driving factors influencing this high level of recidivism are severe mental illness and substance use among those released.

Currently, there is no specialty court option in St. Johns County that provides an option for those on probation to receive structured mental health treatment. While the JET Re-Entry program serves those incarcerated preparing to reenter society and the adult drug court serves those with substance use and/or co-occurring mental health disorders, there is no ideal option for those individuals that receive a sentence of probation following their arrest and who are dealing with serious mental illness. The implementation of an adult mental health specialty court would be an ideal option for addressing this underserved population.

¹⁸ <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/stjohnscountyflorida,US#>

¹⁹ <https://crimegrade.org/drug-crimes-st-johns-county-fl/>

²⁰ <https://flhealthcharts.com/ChartsReports>

The following section presents a detailed multi-faceted treatment court initiative by which to close the above-described services gaps to address the current treatment shortage problem among St. Johns County justice-involved individuals with mental health, substance use, and co-occurring disorders.

TAB SIX

Project Design and Implementation



TAB 6: Project Design and Implementation

6.1 Planning Council or Committee

6.1.1 Description of the composition of the Planning Council.

The St. Johns County Public Safety Coordinating Council (PSCC) has been designated by the St. Johns Board of County Commissioners to serve in the role of the CJMHSA oversight Planning Council. In compliance with s.394.657, the Council is representative of the 20 statutory-required criminal justice, behavioral health providers, consumers, family members and community stakeholders. The membership is listed below. All members are designated by their respective organizations and appointed by the St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners. Four (4) positions are currently “under recruitment”. Unintended consequences of the COVID pandemic that include individual and family relocations and a compressed workforce caused individuals to leave their appointment to the PSCC. In addition, the Chair of the Consortium died unexpectedly causing a delay in the selection process. Now that a new Chair has been appointed, the recruitment process has again resumed to rectify the deficiency. The topic to nominate members to the Council is on the agenda for the April 28, 2023 PSCC meeting.

St. Johns County Public Safety Coordinating Council Membership

Council Position	Member Name
State Attorney or Designee	Ben Rich
Public Defender or Designee	Matthew Metz
County Court Judge	Alexander Christine
Circuit Court Judge	Howard Maltz
Court Administrator or Designee	Mark Weinberg
State Probation Circuit Administrator or Designee	John Richards
County Director of Probation	Darlene Schnittker
County Commission Chair or Designee	Sarah Arnold
Sheriff or Designee	Robert Hardwick
Police Chief or Designee	Jennifer Michaux
Area Homeless or Supportive Housing Program Representative	Under Recruitment
Chief Correctional Officer	Jason Caban
DJJ Director of Detention Facility or Designee	Daniel Merrithew
DJJ Chief of Probation Officer or Designee	John Thompson
DCF Substance Abuse and Mental Health Program Office Representative	Paul Kellam
Local Substance Abuse Treatment Director or Designee	Patti Greenough
Local Mental Health Agency Director or Designee	Sandi Jackson
Primary Consumer of Mental Health Services	Under Recruitment
Primary Consumer of Substance Abuse Services	Under Recruitment
Primary Consumer of Community-Based Treatment Family Member	Under Recruitment

The PSCC will serve as the designated official entity for oversight of the proposed assessment and planning project for a Mental Health Court and will:

- Meet quarterly (more frequently when necessary) during the project timeframe and ensure that meeting agendas include standing items related to the assessment and planning project.
- Appoint the Behavioral Health Consortium’s Adult Sub-Committee as the Planning Committee.
- Participate in the targeted Sequential Intercept Mapping workshop.
- Participate in the Strategic Planning session.
- Review and approve the final Strategic Plan for presentation to the St. Johns County Board of County Commission.

The Public Safety Coordinating Council will appoint the St. Johns County Behavioral Health Consortium’s Adult Subcommittee to serve as the Mental Health Court Collaborative Planning Committee (MHCC Planning Committee) of the PSCC associated with this Grant. The PSCC has appointed this subcommittee of the Consortium in the past with other integrated criminal justice/behavioral health planning and implementation projects. Consortium membership includes all of the non-profit and governmental organizations in the county that provide behavioral health services, related health and human services, and/or those entities that integrate with behavioral health service systems for children and adults. The Consortium meets monthly to ensure that behavioral health services are provided in a collaborative and efficient manner. The Consortium also identifies and advocates for new services to address gaps in the County’s continuum of behavioral health services. The members conduct an annual review of service needs and publishes its list of priorities to community stakeholders including an annual report to their legislative delegation. In the past 11 years since its inception, the Consortium has been instrumental in the development of a Recovery Center (detoxification services, inpatient residential treatment and medication assisted treatment), Florida Assertive Community Treatment team (FACT), Mobile Crisis Teams for children and for adults, a Community Action Team (CAT), a Family Intensive Treatment Team (FITT), and a Jail-Bridge Transition program (JET Re-Entry Program).

The MHCC Planning Committee will provide oversight of the grant objectives, milestones, and deliverables. The Committee will ensure a community agency collaboration of stakeholders participating in the planning process to design and develop a Mental Health Court in St. Johns County. Stakeholders will include members of the PSCC, the Behavioral Health Consortium, peer recovery network, judicial representatives (Circuit and County Judges, Court Administration, Drug Court and Veterans Court coordinators), healthcare, and law enforcement. Under the leadership of the Planning Grant Project Manager, members will conduct a needs assessment of the target population, an analysis of court practices and experiences from existing mental health courts, participate in a focused Sequential Intercept Mapping (SIM) workshop to determine the process of how individuals will be processed through the criminal justice system into a mental health court program, and activities leading up to the finalization and implementation of the Strategic Plan. Additional Planning Committee duties may be determined upon funding according to community priorities and a Mental Health Court design/implementation needs. They will meet monthly and provide quarterly updates to the PSCC.

Mental Health Court Collaborative Planning Committee Membership

Member Name	Organization
Nangela Pulsfus	CAO, EPIC Behavioral Healthcare, Project Manager
Sandra Jackson	Regional Director Clinical Operations, SMA Healthcare
Sara Rutan	CCO, EPIC Behavioral Healthcare
Rebecca Sinclair	Manager, Criminal Justice Integration Programs, EPIC
Director Tara Wildes	St. Johns Sheriff’s Office (SJSO), General Services Division
LT. Toby Erwin	SJCO, Investigations/Special Victims

Cpl. Brian Armenta	SJSO, Corrections
LT. Tommy Marmo, SGT. Jacob Manning, Cpl. Stacci Sastre	SJSO, Patrol
Steve Fischer	St. Augustine Code Enforcement, St. Augustine Police Department
Michelle Paulo	Administrator of Emergency and Specialty Care Services, Flagler Hospital
Valerie Duquette	CAIR Center Director, Flagler Hospital
Dusty Pye	Chief Integration Officer, LSF Health Systems, Inc.
Ben Rich	State Attorney's Office
Craig Atack	Public Defender's Office
Shirley Olson	Director of Court Services, 7 th Judicial Circuit
Howard O. McGillin	Circuit Court Judge, Veterans Treatment Court Judge
Alexander R. Christine	St. Johns County Judge, Adult Drug Court Judge
Ralph Cumberbatch	Adult Drug Court Coordinator
Jennifer Whipple	Correctional Probation Administrator, Department of Corrections
Darlene Schnittker	Probation Plus (misdemeanor court)
Christy Gillis	Circuit 7 Community Development Administrator, Department of Children and Families
Agata Gardner, Lillian Zeman, Kim Millrood	Health Planning Council of NE Florida
Pattie Hunt	NAMI
Lisa Taliaferro	Patients Not Prisoners, Inc. CEO
David Salisbury	Patients Not Prisoners, Inc. Board of Directors; Defense Attorney

6.1.2 Outline of the Planning Council's activities, including the frequency of the meetings for the previous 12 months and future scheduling of meetings.

In the previous 12 months, the PSCC convened quarterly, with a total of 4 meetings. Agenda items have included:

- Ongoing assessment of the county jail population
- Mobile Crisis Response Teams (one each for children and one for adults)
- Funding for a Behavioral Health Same-Day Access Support Center
- Updates on the CJMHSA Reinvestment Grant for the Jail-Bridge Re-Entry Program (JET)
- Expansion of the Adult Drug Court program via a SAMHSA grant
- Marchman Act and Baker Act processes
- Pre-Trial Diversion discussions and recommendations
- Various discussions and approval of funding opportunities to expand integrated behavioral health and criminal justice programming.

Future meetings on the PSCC are scheduled for the next 12 months are as follows:

- April 28, 2023 @ 9:00 am, St. Johns County Courthouse
- July 28, 2023 @ 9:00 am, St. Johns County Courthouse
- October 27, 2023 @ 9:00 am, St. Johns County Courthouse

- January 26, 2024 @ 9:00 am, St. Johns County Courthouse

6.2 Description and timeline for the proposed planning activities and expected milestones

The purpose of the MHCC Planning Committee is to lead a coordinated planning effort, as directed by the PSCC, that results in a strategic plan to divert individuals involved in the criminal justice system who have mental health or co-occurring conditions from incarceration and into evidence-based community treatment.

These efforts will be directed into four major phases: 1) a needs assessment phase to delineate the target population and identify service capacity; 2) a gap analysis and opportunity phase for best practice implementation and priority setting through a focused Sequential Intercept Mapping (SIM); 3) a strategic plan development phase that addresses the needs of the target population and system infrastructure needs through the establishment of specific objectives, tasks and activities; and 4) development of a recovery-oriented support system for families and supportive partners.

PLANNING ACTIVITES AND MILESTONES
<p><i>Objective 1: Work with Mental Health Court Collaborative Planning Committee and key stakeholders to develop a Strategic Plan for implementing a Mental Health Court in the county to divert eligible adults with behavioral health conditions from the criminal justice settings to community-based interventions practicing best practice interventions.</i></p>
<p>Task 1.1 Conduct a thorough needs assessment within the first quarter of the grant to include collecting behavioral health population data for those who are criminal justice involved, surveying stakeholders involved with this population to understands needs and priorities and identifying safety net needs in the community to support the success of community-based interventions.</p> <p>Task 1.2 Identify goals and mission of the court and how fidelity to the mission will be maintained.</p> <p>Task 1.3 Identify and evaluate best practice models for court program implementation to include visiting currently operational and successful mental health courts.</p> <p>Task 1.4 Conduct a focused Sequential Intercept Mapping workshop to identify and address systemic barriers, gaps in service delivery, and recommended solutions.</p> <p>Task 1.5 Establish consensus for priority areas of action and needed resource development.</p> <p>Task 1.6 Develop and present a Strategic Plan to the PSCC for approval.</p> <p>Task 1.7 Evaluate strategic planning activities and outcomes on a quarterly basis to determine success in meeting project milestones for report to advisory board.</p>
<p>Objective 1 Milestone: Completion, approval and submission of Strategic Plan by end of fourth quarter 2024.</p>
<p><i>Objective 2: Create, educate, and develop collaborations among stakeholders to advocate for and engage in the development of a sound, community-involved strategic planning.</i></p>
<p>Task 2.1 Canvas potential stakeholders, system advocates and donors to engage and educate about the need for system improvements through establishing a mental health court.</p> <p>Task 2.2 Convene stakeholders and subject matter experts in planning discussions to support the strategic plan development.</p> <p>Task 2.3 Conduct regular meetings, define stakeholder roles and expectations, establish decision making protocols.</p> <p>Task 2.4 Provide opportunities for cross-system training and knowledge exchange on emerging best or promising practices in criminal justice involved populations.</p> <p>Task 2.5 Leverage existing and new alliances to enhance collaboration for service delivery and crucial safety net resources.</p>

Task 2.6 Facilitate formal development of MOU's and legally binding agreements among agencies to deliver and coordinate services.
Objective 2 Milestone: Formal Partnerships evidenced by MOUs and legally binding agreements by 2 nd quarter 2023.
Objective 3: Identify key data elements and continuous improvement measures necessary for strategic plan development and for reporting to the PSCC and stakeholders.
Tasks 3.1 Identify data elements necessary for planning and implementation of identified strategies and ongoing data needed for future funding. Task 3.2 Establish continuous improvement measures and processes for updating, adjusting and reporting outcomes to inform the planning process, future service implementation and success of recommended strategies for continued community engagement and support. Task 3.3 Identify methods to facilitate shared data collections, sharing and reporting among partners to support the strategic plan activities.
Objective 3 Milestone: Methods established to share, collect and report data by end of 3 rd quarter 2024.
Objective 4: Develop a design for Recovery Oriented Support of families and supportive partners as an essential safety net system for persons living with mental illness who are involved in the criminal justice system.
Task 4.1 Connect and collaborate with family support advocacy groups to inform of the design development for recovery-oriented support. Task 4.2 Conduct focus groups eliciting family members and persons with lived experience to inform and identify system gaps and needs. Task 4.3 Identify and evaluate family recovery support models for best practice design guidance.
Objective 4 Milestone: Family recovery support model approved by 4 th quarter 2024.

6.2.1 Manner in which a needs assessment will be conducted.

Planning activities will initially focus on a comprehensive collection and review of qualitative and quantitative data to inform an understanding of population complexities, system attributes or weaknesses, and the strength of community treatment and resources to provide a continuum of care.

The needs assessment will collate existing data from criminal justice and organizations involved in the provision of behavioral health services or associated community support services. Through analysis of this data, gaps of data can be identified and a focused needs assessment survey developed to capture missing data. Review of other local agency needs assessments will further inform the population and system needs.

Due to the multiple needs and deficits of persons living with sustained mental health concerns, identification of available and accessible services, expertise and capacity are important to assess to ensure these safety nets resources are present within the community. Gaps will inform the strategic planning process and provide action items for the implementation phase.

As part of the analysis, consideration of the full impact of processing a person living with a mental illness through the criminal justice system, how decisions are made, what supports are needed for successful diversion are important aspects for strategic planning. Family focus groups and interviews with persons having firsthand experience in the system will provide person centered, recovery oriented knowledge to inform recommendations for system design and enhancing planning efforts.

Monthly planning, community meetings and/or focus groups will be used to synthesize and evaluate the findings and assist to develop recommendations to the PSCC related to clarification of the target populations, potential system form needs, and feasibility of meeting populations needs within the community through treatment and resources.

6.2.2 Proposed methodology to identify, coordinate, and share funding and related resources, and recommended organizational or structural change.

St. Johns County has a strong history of collaboration and working together to develop system design to meet or problem solve system needs. EPIC has been an integral part of bringing planning to fruition including establishing in jail substance use treatment interventions, creating a collaborative re-entry bridge program for persons with mental health or substance use disorders, and working to expand treatment options for county drug court participants. These programs developed from the backing and support of the PSCC, St. Johns County Health and Human Services Department, St. Johns County Sheriff's Office, the St Johns County Behavioral Health Consortium, and Board of County Commissioners. Sustained funding has been accomplished through advocacy and financial commitment from the St. Johns County Department of Health and Human Services, St. Johns County Sheriff's Office, state and managing entity funding commitment along with state and federal grant funding.

Deliberate communication with key stakeholders generates support, provides community awareness, and further engages collaborative planning. The St Johns County PSCC is responsive to community needs and works continuously to identify opportunities for improvement in the criminal justice system and make recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners.

Additional collaboration and coordination are addressed through multiple community stakeholder committees, small group planning with focused stakeholders and continued partnering with state and managing entity support. These standing committees and consortia support the continued planning, problem solving, resource sharing and assist to establish joint ventures and coordinated referral across systems.

The St. Johns County Behavioral Health Consortium is comprised of a diverse membership that includes professionals, officers, planners, administrators, lay advocates in the areas behavioral health, child welfare, health and human services, criminal justice, prevention, healthcare, and policy. Within the Consortium, two subcommittees exist to focus on community initiatives for child services and adult services. The adult services subcommittee supports the development of a mental health court planning grant and has identified for several years the need for a mental health court within the community. They will be appointed to serve as the MHCC Planning Committee and report to the PSCC progress towards meeting grant deliverables. This committee will also play an active role in providing expertise, feedback and tracking of the progress of the recommendations that emerge from the planning activities. Both the subcommittee and the full consortium will provide support and recommendations regarding suggestions or actions to pursue in areas of policy reform, procedural changes, service coordination, and strategies to increase service capacity thorough planned partnerships or agreements.

Other community committees include the St Johns Health and Human Services Advisory Council charged with advising the Board of County Commissioners on health, mental health, substance use and social matters. This committee stays apprised of community needs, committee supported programs and innovative planning or practices developing to meet community health needs.

The Continuum of Care to End Homelessness promotes communitywide commitment, provides funding and promotes access to effective programs supporting efforts to minimize the impact caused by homelessness. Increasing support and accessibility for persons impacted by homelessness who have a mental health condition or substance use concern is included in this committee's strategic plan.

St Johns County Child Welfare Integration committee promotes collaboration and resource development to support children and families involved in the child welfare system. The committee strives to meet the service and support gaps impacting children and families by developing resources, advocacy and collaborative partnering to diminish support barriers.

The Care Connect Advisory Council addresses education, advocacy and collaboration to improve community access to needs related to social determinants of health such as food, housing, transportation and access to needed services.

Northeast Florida 988 committee is a multi-county collaboration of behavioral health providers, first responders, and 988 call centers working to develop pathways and partnerships for community response to mental health crisis. This group is working in conjunction with first responders to bring mental health expertise to crisis situations with the ability to link to treatment and other resources.

Through the involvement and networking of these committees, St Johns County has the relationships and mission to form the alliances needed to embark upon the process of systemic change to better serve individuals with mental illness involved in the criminal justice system.

6.2.3 The proposed strategy for project design and implementation.

Mental health courts are newer to the area of problem solving courts thereby limiting the amount of research, consistency in structure, and evidence based design. Because of this, the strategy for design and implementation will be through review of different program designs, understanding their rationale for the target population chosen and weighing the virtues and drawbacks of the different approaches when applied to the characteristics of the local population, priorities, and available resources.

The one-year planning initiative will focus on the system needed to divert persons with mental illness who are in or at risk of entering the criminal justice system by linking them to behavioral health and support services in the community. Project deliverables will include: an assessment of the target population need and community service capacity, a focused Sequential Intercept Mapping exercise on who will be served, how they will be processed, who will they be monitored, what interventions will be used and how decisions will be made, and the development of a comprehensive strategic plan.

Needs Assessment Phase - Through the needs assessment, process data and information will be collected to inform an understanding of the target population, determination as to who the priority population will be for the mental health court process, priorities from key stakeholders to garner engagement in the planning process, and defining the extent and scope of the need including community and infrastructure needs. An assessment will determine the capacity of the system to meet the target population needs, whether expertise development will be needed to build capacity, and the identify the capacity of resources to meet deficits in social determinants of health for persons with sustained mental health conditions.

To inform the needs assessment and prepare for focused Sequential Intercept Mapping, planned visits will be conducted to three (3) existing mental health courts and attended by peer counterparts of identified essential positions within the mental health court process. These visits will assist in the identification of rationale used to determine participant eligibility, target priority population, emerging best practices, system strengths, weaknesses and outcomes.

Focused Sequential Intercept Mapping (SIM) Phase - A focused SIM will be conducted to engage community stakeholders, criminal justice and behavioral health advocates, peers, family, and consumer advocates in the mapping exercise. The SIM is an interactive process to identify and address systemic barriers, identify gaps in service delivery, recommend solutions or interventions at each of the five points of intercept of the target population with the criminal justice system.

Once the mapping is completed, the results are summarized into a focused action plan that identifies the specific priority areas and decision makers with the responsibility for delineated tasks to move priorities to the implantation stage. It includes recommendations for resources to support capacity expansion using evidence based behavioral health treatment interventions.

The SIM will be used to collaborate and integrate action planning with other community planning partners to produce converging initiatives within the county and building networks for capacity building. The St Johns County Behavioral Health Consortium, the St Johns County Health and Human Services Advisory Council, and the Continuum of Care to End Homeless are community stakeholders with corresponding initiatives.

Strategic Plan Development Phase - The MHCC Planning Committee and key stakeholders will create a needs based, data informed comprehensive strategic plan to design a system to divert adults with mental illness from arrest, prosecution, or incarceration and into community based treatment and support services. The strategic plan will be grounded in the needs assessment findings and SIM priorities and recommendations. The strategic plan will include project goals, objectives, tasks, performance measures, lead person(s) or organization responsible for implementation of the plan, and projected completion dates.

In addition, the plan will include identification and development of training, education, recruitment and mentoring of family recovery support advocates to broaden the community safety net to include family and support system involvement. Participation in the family peer training and certification or the NAMI Family to Family training will be strongly encouraged.

Through the project's assessment, SIM and strategic planning activities, social reform obstacles will be identified that may lend to creating barriers to the successful diversion of individuals from the criminal justice system to treatment services. These barriers will be brought to the attention of the Consortium and PSCC for local and legislative advocacy to develop strategies to modify or remove such barriers.

6.2.4 Proposed strategy for coordination, communication and data sharing

Communication across agencies and stakeholders will occur throughout the duration of the planning activities. Written updates highlighting project deliverables and additional pertinent information will be prepared for each session of the PSCC. Updates will also be presented monthly during the St Johns Behavioral Health Consortium. Conference calls and email communications will be used to inform MHCC Planning Committee members of any needed updates or changes outside the phases of the

project. Updates will be presented or delivered to associated planning committees to encourage alignment and engagement in converging initiatives. Scheduled presentations will be presented or directed by the MHCC Planning Committee to update and educate county administrators or constituents and to solicit public comment.

Partnering agencies and other stakeholders will maintain communication to address planning activities, assist in collaborative decision-making, and problem solving across the project phases. These activities will ensure project effectiveness, progression of planning and use continuous quality improvement models for meeting project goals. The work developed during these activities will be summarized in updates to the PSCC.

The MHCC Planning Committee will develop MOUs and binding agreements for data sharing between partners and share composite data amongst partners. Developed performance measures will provide an essential tool and infrastructure to support the strategic planning process. The measures and data will help to inform future planning, expansion needs and implementation projects. A shared Teams Channel will be designed to gather input on data from our Committee members to share.

Outcome data will measure the project's effectiveness in achieving performance measures and inform the project if changes are needed for optimal performance. Updates will be shared with project partners, key stakeholders and the PSCC.

6.3 Performance Measures

6.3.1 Description of the process for collecting performance measurement data, and any other state or local outcome data to measure project effectiveness

The process for collecting performance measurement data will be led by the scientific consultant from the University of North Florida, Dr. Holly Ventura Miller. Performance measures, as specified in the RFP, include completion of a needs assessment, establishment of legally binding agreements with key stakeholders, submission of the final Strategic Plan, and the development of a "Recovery-Oriented Family Support Plan".

Specific project activities will include: 1) setting a monthly meeting schedule in coordination with technical assistance during the first month of the project, 2) within 60 days, establish formal partnerships through legally binding agreements with a minimum of three agencies 3) within 90 days, conduct a needs assessment and identification of the target population based on the collection and analysis of MI, SUD, and COD jail data to determine baseline prevalence rates, 4) conduct a comprehensive process analysis through utilization of a SIM to include assessment and analysis of existing resources, practices, policies, and training gaps and needs, 5) within 90 days, finalize data sharing, collection, and reporting methodologies among partners and the CJMHSA TAC, and 6) complete the strategic plan for the implementation of an adult mental health specialty court by incorporating feedback from process analysis to gauge our performance, identify improvement opportunities, and inform sustainability options.

6.3.2 Proposed targets and methodologies to address the measure specific in Section 2.3.1.

Needs Assessment

The needs assessment will collect existing quantitative data from criminal justice and organizations involved in the provision of behavioral health services or associated community support services. Through analysis of these data, gaps in service can be identified. The research consultant, Dr. Holly Ventura Miller, will collect official intake and assessment data from the jail on the following four key variables: number of people with mental illness booked into jail (number and percent), length of stay in jail (average number of days, range of days), connections to treatment (number and percent), and recidivism (number and percent). The specific type of mental illness (e.g., major depressive disorder, borderline personality disorder) or substance use disorder (e.g., opioid use disorder, alcohol use disorder) will also be delineated by the needs assessment in order to provide a thorough picture of the nature and extent of the issues in the jail. These numbers will provide an important baseline for an eventual outcome evaluation of the proposed mental health specialty court and inform the project partners' final Strategic Plan.

Qualitative data collection techniques will also be utilized to inform the needs assessment. Specifically, Dr. Miller will conduct focus group interviews of 3-5 individuals with law enforcement, corrections staff, judicial staff, jail treatment staff, recovery groups, and representatives from behavioral health and services provisions organizations in St. Johns County. The purpose of these interviews is to obtain first-hand knowledge of the issues related to mental health and its intersection with the criminal justice system. Dr. Miller will also attend community meetings and review any available local agency needs assessments that relate to behavioral health in St. Johns County. A final report from the needs assessment will be produced and shared with the Mental Health Court Collaborative Planning Committee. This mixed-methodological needs assessment will be completed within 90 days of the start of the grant and submitted to CJMHS A TAC.

Binding Legal Agreements

The establishment of formal partnerships, as evidenced by signed legally binding agreements, will be completed within 60 days of the start of the planning grant. Organization/agencies' authorized representatives and legal counsel will work together to prepare and execute these agreements which will delineate commitment and responsibilities to the parties as they mutually complete the final Strategic Plan. Specific agencies and organizations relevant for these agreements include: EPIC Behavioral Healthcare, St. Johns County Sheriff's Office, Florida's Seventh Judicial Circuit, SMA Healthcare, Patients Not Prisoners, and St. Augustine Police Department. Final copies of these executed agreements will be submitted to CJMHS A TAC within 60 days of the start of the grant.

Strategic Plan

The strategic plan will be the result of the needs assessment of the target population and the focused SIM which will include assessment and analysis of existing resources, practices, policies, training gaps, and needs. The plan will be cumulative, collaborative work between EPIC, the agencies identified in the legal agreements section above, and the outside researcher. The main objectives for this goal include the completion of the needs assessment, completion of the SIM, the approval of the Strategic Plan, and to evaluate at least quarterly the progress of the Strategic Plan.

6.3.3 At least one additional proposed performance measure unique to the tasks outlined in the application, including targets and methodologies

Recovery-Oriented Family Support Plan

During the planning phase, the applicants will also develop a design for Recovery Oriented Support of families and supportive partners as an essential safety net system for persons living with mental illness who are involved in the criminal justice system. Specific methodologies for this performance measure will include connecting and collaborating with family support advocacy groups to inform the design development for recovery-oriented support, conducting focus groups eliciting family members and persons with lived experience to inform and identify system gaps and needs, and identifying and evaluating family recovery support models for best practice design guidance. The main deliverable from this performance measure will include selection of an empirically-based family recovery support model approved by 4th quarter of the planning grant.

6.4 Capability and Experience

6.4.1 Capability and experience of the Applicant and other participating organizations, including law enforcement agencies, to meet the objectives detailed in this RFA.

EPIC Community Services, Inc. dba EPIC Behavioral Healthcare (EPIC) is a private, not-for-profit corporation that is celebrating 50 years of providing high-quality behavioral health care – prevention, treatment, and recovery services for children, adolescents, and adults. Beginning in 1973 as a drop-in center for adolescents and their parents, EPIC has understood and prioritized mental health and substance use prevention and treatment needs and is recognized locally as the lead company for behavioral health services due to our extensive experience and expertise. EPIC’s approach and philosophy on caring for people’s behavioral health disorder treatment needs revolve around the belief that recovery from mental health disorders, addiction, and substance use disorders is real. EPIC believes that all areas of a person’s life are impacted by their mental health disorders or substance use including all their relationships, educational and vocational goals, emotional well-being, and their physical health. EPIC’s commitment is to provide effective, affordable, evidence-based, culturally sensitive, and comprehensive care to impact individuals and families that lead them to recovery-oriented solutions personalized for them. EPIC provides a full array of services for adults with mental health or substance use disorders and/or co-occurring disorders, including individuals in or at risk of entering the criminal justice system (see Selected EPIC Services chart below).

Selected EPIC Services
Mental Health Treatment & Recovery (outpatient)
Substance Use Treatment & Recovery (outpatient)
Psychiatric Assessments & Medication Management
24/7 Mobile Crisis/Rapid Response Services including Adult MRT & Co-Responder Program
Jail-Based Treatment and Re-Entry programs
Treatment for Adult Drug Court and Veterans Treatment Court
Access Support Center – same day walk-in assessments & crisis intervention
Medication Assisted Treatment & Inpatient Detoxification
Residential Substance Use Program

Care Coordination and Peer Support

EPIC operates 6 facilities in St. Johns and Flagler Counties and employs a culturally diverse staff of more than 130 professionals including therapists, psychiatric practitioners, nurses, social workers, case managers, peer recovery specialists, etc. EPIC also has Sober Living Homes for both men and for women. EPIC is licensed to operate prevention, intervention, outpatient treatment, aftercare, case management, residential treatment Level 1 and detoxification in accordance with Florida Statutes 397 and Florida Administrative Code 65D-30 for substance use services. Mental health services are provided in accordance with Florida Statutes 394. EPIC maintains accreditation for behavioral health services by CARF International.

EPIC's mission statement is "to strengthen our community by providing person-centered care to individuals and families impacted by substance use and mental health disorders, and other behaviors through a comprehensive system of Education, Prevention, Intervention, and Counseling". EPIC's core values reflect the company's focus on providing quality care:

- Ethical & Confidential
- Consumer Focused
- Empathetic & Compassionate
- Committed to Continuous Improvement
- Demonstrating Dignity & Respect
- Culturally Competent & Diverse
- Accessible & Proactive
- Dedicated & Responsive

EPIC's vision: "The primary leader of quality, comprehensive behavioral healthcare in our community" also demonstrates the company's drive and determination to ensure that all members of our community – children, adolescents, young adults, families, and adults – have a resource to address their mental health and substance use disorder needs. This is also evidenced by EPIC's 50-year history in which the company has developed, and implemented quality and cost-effective programs and strategies based on best practice, evidence-based research in the field of prevention and treatment including such practices as Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Motivational Interviewing, Family Therapy, Moral Reconciliation Therapy, Dialectical Behavior Therapy Informed Practice, Acceptance Commitment Therapy, Person-Centered Treatment and programs of Project Success, Active Parenting, Seeking Safety, Living in Balance, Interactive Journaling, Wellness Recovery Action Planning, and The Matrix Model.

In recognition of EPIC's abilities and history, EPIC is the designated applicant on behalf of St. Johns County and has the capability and experience to meet RFA objectives including: 1) Experience in establishing diversion programs designed to increase public safety, avert increased criminal justice spending, and improve treatment accessibility and effectiveness for the target population (EPIC successfully submitted the CJMHSA Reinvestment Planning Grant and has successfully operated the CJMHSA Reinvestment Funded JET Program [EPIC Jail-Based Transition Program] since 2019); 2) Leadership in creating and facilitating collaborative projects among key stakeholders; 3) Utilizing evidence-based tools, programs, and models to identify and provide comprehensive treatment and support services for the target population; and 4) Experience in the development and implementation of problem solving courts – Adult Drug Court in St. Johns (2002) and in Flagler Counties (2022) and Veterans Treatment Court (2017) in St. Johns and Putnam Counties (2023).

Additional experience

EPIC was a member of the planning and implementation team for the St. Johns County Drug Court and has served as its sole treatment provider in since its inception in 2002. EPIC also implemented the S.I.G.H.T. (Serenity, Integrity, Goals, Hope, and Trust) Program in 2004 with the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office and the 7th Judicial Circuit Felony Court judge. S.I.G.H.T. is an in-jail treatment program for incarcerated individuals experiencing substance use or mental health disorders who are sentenced to complete the S.I.G.H.T. program and an outpatient aftercare component. At the request of the Flagler County Sheriff, this program was replicated in their jail in 2021. In 2019, a jail to community re-entry program was developed between EPIC and the St. Johns County Sheriff's and again replicated with the Flagler County Sheriff's Office.

EPIC was awarded a CJMHSA Reinvestment Implementation Grant in 2019 (after completion of the CJMHAS Planning Grant for this project in 2016) for the JET (EPIC Jail-Based Transition) Program based on the U.S. Department of Corrections evidence-based model *Transition from Jail to Community*. This program saw a significant reduction in recidivism back into the criminal justice system and an increase in mental health functioning of persons served. Due to the success of the program, EPIC was able to procure funding from the St. Johns County Board of County Commission and LSF Health Systems Managing Entity to continue and expand the services offered by the JET Program when the CJMHSA Reinvestment Implementation Grant ended in 2022.

EPIC has been the recipient of numerous federal, state, and county contracts and grants. EPIC has a proven record of successfully administering and managing federal, state and county grants and contracts as evidenced by consistently meeting the reporting and financial management requirements of the government agencies as noted through annual monitoring audits. EPIC also utilizes standards of the Florida Administrative Code Financial Rule F.A.C. 65E-14 regarding the use of grant funds. EPIC retains the services of an Independent Certified Professional Accountant to conduct an annual audit in accordance with 2 C.F.R., part 200, subpart F. Under our current executive management, EPIC has received clean audits with no management remarks or findings of deficiencies.

EPIC is an active member on numerous cross-system coordinating behavioral health planning and advisory groups in the 7th Judicial Circuit including: The St. Johns County Behavioral Health Consortium (CEO is a founding member and current chair), the St. Johns County Public Safety Coordinating Council, Civil Citation Partners Workgroup, Health Leadership Council, Care Connect+ Advisory Council, Continuum of Care to End Homelessness Board of Directors, Child Welfare Integration Committee, Northeast Florida 988 Committee, First Coast United Way Agency Directors Association, Tobacco-Free Partnership, the Integrated Services Team, and the PACT Prevention Coalition.

Additional Partners

Partnering organizations have capability and experience to meet RFA objectives, to serve the target population, share project data, indemnify best practices, serve as linkage/referral sources, participate in a CJMHAS Planning Council, and engage in community education and training.

Law Enforcement/Courts: The 7th Judicial Circuit Court reduces recidivism and increases public safety through a number of specialty courts in St. Johns County including its Drug Court and Veterans Court. The **Drug Court**, led by Judge Alexander R. Christine, Jr., is a program for non-violent people addicted to drugs with related charges who reside in St. Johns County. The program involves regular court appearances before the Judge, substance use treatment counseling, frequent random drug testing,

supervision by probation, and collaboration with other team members. The ***Veterans Treatment Court***, led by Judge Howard O. McGillin, Jr., is designed to provide essential substance use and/or mental health services to current and former military service members who become involved with the criminal justice system. The program is intended to provide participants with the skills and treatment necessary to maintain a clean and sober lifestyle and to reconnect with their families and community. The ***St. Johns County Sheriff's Office*** provides law enforcement services, the countywide 911 services and maintains the county jail. They are an advocate for collaboration in St. Johns County and consistently demonstrate a willingness to partner on initiatives that promote public safety. The ***St. Augustine Police Department*** and the ***St. Augustine Beach Police Department*** are as equally committed to partner with EPIC on public safety initiatives.

Behavioral Health Providers/Community-Based Support Organizations

Other partner organizations such as ***St. Johns County Health & Human Services, SMA Healthcare, Flagler Health+, Patients Not Prisoners, AZA Health (FQHC)*** and the managing entity ***LSF Health Systems*** are also committed to meeting the objectives, advocating for the treatment and recovery of mental health disorders, addressing behavioral health challenges, and advancing strategies that assist individuals in accessing the behavioral health care they need in order to have a successful recovery journey.

6.4.2 Availability of resources for the proposed project.

EPIC Behavioral Healthcare and partners have experience in community-based assessment and planning as needed for the proposed project. EPIC's Finance Department is experienced in grant contracts, billing, auditing procedures, and will maintain all financial records as required. EPIC's Compliance Manager has extensive experience in ensuring compliance with contractual requirements from funders. EPIC has staff who have expertise in working with the criminal justice population as well as implementing programs who will be able to provide valuable insight into the planning process. EPIC will have a Project Manager devoted to the planning process.

EPIC also has multiple partners committed to participating in the planning activities associated with the grant including data sharing and assigning personnel to attend meetings. For instance, the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office, will be tasked to assist with transportation logistics for the site visits to other Mental Health Courts. And, the participating Judges and County Health and Humans Services Department have often been generous in providing space for planning meetings.

6.4.3 Anticipated role of advocates, peer specialist, family members and responsible partners.

Advocates, peer specialists, family members and responsible partners are essential in the development and implementation of a strategic plan for St. Johns County to divert individuals with behavioral health conditions from the jails by providing treatment and linkages to community services. Advocates will help address policy and resource issues that may serve as barriers to diversion of the target population. Family members will raise awareness among stakeholders about the impact of stigma associated with mental illness and offender population, and how stigma can adversely affect successful re-entry in the community. Peer specialists will assist with first-person knowledge that is vital to the success of planning criminal justice, mental health, and substance use programs. Peers are in long-term recovery and therefore not only 'talk the talk' of recovery and wellness but 'walk the walk' and will provide first-hand knowledge and understanding of the effects of mental illness.

Leadership from the courts and law enforcement will add their expertise toward ensuring the strategic plan addresses public safety needs and that its recommendations are in compliance with Florida Department of Corrections policy and state law. Advocates, peers, family members and stakeholders will be encouraged to assist in advancing goals by developing/maintaining high-level relationships with participating systems/entities; deriving methodologies for collecting and sharing data among partners; participating in the development of the strategic plan, supporting the implementation of the formal recommendations contained in the strategic plan, and participating in the performance assessment of the planning actions, and advocating for policies and resources to support system change.

6.4.4 Proposed staff, including Project Director, key personnel, and subcontractors who will participate in the project, showing the role of each and their level of effort and qualifications.

EPIC Behavioral Healthcare will serve as the Lead Agency/designated partner for the Reinvestment Planning Grant. A Project Manager will be assigned to the project and will work in tandem with Dr. Holly Ventura Miller, Professor-Criminology and Criminal Justice Department at the University of North Florida to launch, manage, and evaluate the project. Key responsibilities will include:

- Facilitate the work of the PSCC and the Planning Committee
- Develop detailed actions plans
- Prepare for monthly meetings
- Synthesize collected data and information on mental health courts
- Facilitate continued communication among members and other stakeholders
- Arrange travel plans to other Florida Mental Health Courts
- Conduct Key Leaders Interviews
- Conduct Focus Group with stakeholders groups to include the Behavioral Health Consortium membership, National Alliance on Mental Illness, local chapter, adults with severe mental illness and/or addictive diseases, and the Recovery Community Organization membership

EPIC intends to assign their Chief Administrator Officer, Nangela Pulsfus, to the role of Project Manager for the Mental Health Court Reinvestment Planning Grant. The role of the Project Manager will include serving as the primary point of contact for community partners, the PSCC and the CMJHSA Planning Committee. The Project Manager will have full responsibility for coordinating all activities of the planning grant, ensuring all contracted deliverables (including formulation of the Strategic Plan) are met, inter-agency communication, and ensuring data collection and data sharing among stakeholders and agencies occur according to developed protocols. Ms. Pulsfus has a Master's Degree in Health Leadership and a Bachelor's Degree in Nursing. She is a service-oriented, results-driven clinical executive with 15+ years of leadership experience in the nonprofit healthcare sector. She has a proven record of building top-performing teams and engaging with stakeholders, including front line staff, patients & families, boards of directors, partner agencies, and community leaders. During her one-year assignment to manage the CJMHSAs Reinvestment Planning Grant, her level of effort will be at 67%.

EPIC will contract with our preferred researcher partners, Drs. Holly Ventura Miller, Professor in the Criminology and Criminal Justice Department at the University of North Florida in Jacksonville. Dr. Miller are recognized experts in the fields of program evaluation and fidelity research, having designed the frequently utilized the *Justice Program Fidelity Scale* published in *Criminology & Public Policy* in 2015 – an instrument increasingly used to determine the extent of program fidelity in justice programming. Currently they are project evaluators for EPIC's SAMHSA Drug Court Expansion Grant and the evaluation

partner in two (2) federal grants (BJA JMHCP and COSSAP) that includes a collaborative partnership between the Flagler County Sheriff's Office and EPIC.

6.5 Evaluation and Sustainability

6.5.1 Evaluation

Because this proposal requests funding for a planning grant, evaluation activities will be centered on process and planning as opposed to traditional program evaluation outcomes (e.g., recidivism after a new treatment initiative). The intent of the application is to engage in the process of planning a mental health specialty court which will result in the submission of an implementation grant next fiscal year. To that end, the evaluation of the planning initiative will include a mixed methodological approach to: 1) conduct a needs assessment, and 2) ensure the planning team is meeting goals and objectives.

For the needs assessment, the research consultant, Dr. HV Miller, will collect official intake and assessment data from the jail on the following four key variables: 1) number of people with mental illness booked into jail (number and percent), 2) length of stay in jail (average number of days, range of days), 3) connections to treatment (number and percent), and 4) recidivism (number and percent). The specific type of mental illness (e.g., major depressive disorder, borderline personality disorder, bi-polar disorder, etc.) or substance use disorder (e.g., opioid use disorder, alcohol use disorder) will also be delineated by the needs assessment in order to provide a thorough picture of the nature and extent of the issues in the jail. These findings will be summarized using descriptive and bivariate statistics, including measures of dispersion, centrality, and association between variables.

The needs assessment will also examine the extent to which stakeholder support and services coordination exist within the county among the various agencies and organizations that interface with those with behavioral health needs. To that end, qualitative data collection techniques will also be utilized to inform the needs assessment. Specifically, Dr. Miller will conduct focus group interviews of 3-5 individuals with law enforcement, corrections staff, jail treatment staff, judicial staff, and representatives from behavioral health and services provisions organizations in St. Johns County. The purpose of these interviews is to obtain first-hand knowledge of the issues related to mental health and its intersection with the criminal justice system. Dr. Miller will also attend community meetings and review any available local agency needs assessments that relate to behavioral health in St. Johns County. Findings from the qualitative interviews will be summarized and included in the final needs assessment report. This final report from the needs assessment will be produced and shared with the Mental Health Court Collaborative Planning Committee. This mixed-methodological needs assessment will be completed within 90 days of the start of the grant and submitted to CJMHSA TAC.

Finally, Dr. Miller will maintain weekly contact via video conferencing with key members of the Mental Health Court Collaborative Planning Committee to ensure that the other performance measures outcomes, the execution of legally binding agreements, and the completion of the Strategic Plan, are being met in a timely fashion and within the scope of the grant conditions. Specifically, Dr. Miller will ensure that legally binding agreements are executed and submitted within the first 60 days of the project. She will also take lead responsibility for the writing of the final Strategic Plan with input from the collaborative's stakeholders and ensure it is submitted by the end of the grant period.

As mentioned above, Dr. Holly Ventura Miller from nearby University of North Florida will conduct the evaluation of the planning grant as well as complete the needs assessment within the first 90 days of the grant. Her role on the project is to ensure that planning and implementation is assessment and data driven. She will also review all existing policies and MOUs impacted by the proposed project. Dr. Miller has extensive prior experience conducting research on justice mental health and substance use issues which has been published in top-rated scientific journals such as *Journal of Criminal Justice*, *Criminology & Public Policy*, *American Journal of Criminal Justice*, and the *Prison Journal*. Dr. Miller has significant grants experience evaluating justice system programming including treatment courts, is a National Institute of Justice W.E.B. DuBois Fellow, and has successfully collaborated with several of the application's partners, including EPIC Behavioral Healthcare and the 7th Judicial Circuit.

6.5.2 Sustainability

The St. Johns County stakeholders are very engaged and motivated to address the need of adults cycling in and out of courts and jails due to their undetected/untreated behavioral health conditions. Equally, the courts, especially our county courts, are ready for a different solution to offer assistance for individuals charged with a misdemeanor and found incompetent due to the mental illness but cannot be offered any court-order judgments including mental health treatment. The consequence of this practice is a direct threat to public safety and the exacerbation of an individual's mental health condition. The PSCC/MHCC Planning Committee and other community stakeholders are confident that the planning process outlined in this grant application will be the mechanism to address these issues through a collaborative process to develop a Strategic Plan specifically for the design and implementation of a mental health court. It is the intent of the PSCC and those involved in the planning to assemble the resources necessary to submit a CJMHSA Reinvestment Implementation Grant following the conclusion of this planning grant period.

With the involvement of the PSCC, the Behavioral Health Consortium (BHC), EPIC Behavioral Healthcare, the 7th Judicial Circuit, law enforcement, and other participating organizations, the MHCC Planning Committee will establish a sustainability plan including the identification of governmental grants (federal, state, local) and philanthropic resources that can be used to build the components necessary for a successful mental health court. The BHC currently establishes priorities to resolve significant gaps in service needs and coordination and has been successful in advocating for funding of those priorities. In addition, after the conclusion of the first Reinvestment Planning Grant in 2016 and the development of a Strategic Plan via our SIM result, the PSCC and the BHC have continued to plan and implement future projects to advance a systems-wide approach to successfully engage and divert individuals from incarceration to treatment. The BHC will continue to provide the structure and momentum to sustain progress, results, and recommendations beyond the life of the grant. The three (3) subcommittees of the Consortium and its Chair will continue to advocate with current partners, potential supporters, and report out at their monthly meetings as to the implementation of recommended actions in the strategic plan.

EPIC Behavioral Healthcare has a proven track record of securing funding for programs which has revolved around our ability to build partnerships with other organizations and work together on identifying and being awarded new funding sources. Recent successes include the development of the JET Re-Entry Program (Jail To Community Transition model) originally funded in 2019 via the CJMHSA Reinvestment Implementation Grant. Due to the success of the program outcomes, both the Board of County Commission and our Managing Entity provided the continuation funding for the program after the conclusion of the grant period. EPIC was also recently awarded a SAMHSA grant to expand

treatment within our Adult Drug Court program due to the advocacy and support of our community partners including the PSCC, the Behavioral health Consortium, the Board of County Commission, and the 7th Judicial Circuit. Funding for integrated criminal justice/behavioral health programming will continue to be leveraged to ensure new services and infrastructure recommendations contained in our strategic plan are formed for service growth and long-term sustainability.

TAB SEVEN

Project Timeline



TAB 7: Project Timeline

7.1 Project Timeline

The Mental Health Court Planning process timeline depicts a realistic and detailed timeline for the one-year planning grant project, and indicates goals, objectives, milestones, responsible partners as well as anticipated start and completion dates. This timeline assumes a start date of August 1, 2023.

Goal/Objective 1. (Strategic Plan) Work with Mental Health Court Collaborative Planning Committee and key stakeholders to develop a Strategic Plan for implementing a Mental Health Court in the county to divert eligible adults with behavioral health conditions from the criminal justice settings to community-based interventions practicing best practice interventions.

Goal/Objective 2. (Collaboration) Create, educate, and develop collaborations among stakeholders to advocate for and engage in the development of a sound, community-involved strategic planning.

Goal/Objective 3. (Data Development) Identify key data elements and continuous improvement measures necessary for strategic plan development and for reporting to the PSCC and stakeholders.

Goal/Objective 4. (Recovery Oriented Support) Develop a design for Recovery Oriented Support of families and supportive partners as an essential safety net system for persons living with mental illness who are involved in the criminal justice system.

Assessment Phase: Create a comprehensive data profile for the Target Population for PSCC review and analysis.				
Tasks	Milestone	Responsibility	Start	Complete
Assign a Project Manager.	Assignment of project lead	EPIC CEO	8.1.23	8.31.23
Convene the Mental Health Court Collaborative (MHCC) Planning Committee to meet monthly.	Meeting scheduled	EPIC Project Manager	8.15.23	8.31.23
Canvas potential stakeholders, system advocates, and donors to engage and educate about the need for system improvement through establishing a mental health court.	Listing of Stakeholders	EPIC Project Manager, MHCC Planning Committee	8.1.23	9.30.23
Canvas family support advocacy groups to inform of the design development for recovery-oriented support.	Listing of recovery advocates	EPIC Project Manager, MHCC Planning Committee	8.1.23	9.30.23
Collect existing data from organizations involved in judicial, law enforcement, health and social services agencies, and safety net community resource providers.	Data profile	EPIC/UNF Evaluator Team, MHCC Planning Committee	8.1.23	9.30.23
Focus group and key informant interviews with community partners.	Results added to profile	EPIC/UNF Evaluator Team,	8.1.23	9.30.23

		MHCC Planning Committee		
Identify criminal justice system attributes or weaknesses.	Additional data added to profile	EPIC/UNF Evaluator Team MHCC Planning Committee	8.1.23	9.30.23
Collect data on types of mental illnesses presenting in the jail and judicial system.	Additional data added to profile	EPIC/UNF Evaluator Team MHCC Planning Committee	8.1.23	9.30.23
Identifying desired data that is not currently collected.	Additional data added to profile	EPIC/UNF Evaluator Team, MHCC Planning Committee	9.15.23	10.15.23
Collate data profile and submit to MHCC Planning Committee for final review.	Data development plan	EPIC/UNF Evaluator Team, MHCC Planning Committee	10.1.23	10.31.23
Evaluate the progress of activities in this phase including presenting data profile to PSCC, according to the timeline.	Quarterly Phase Evaluation Report	EPIC/UNF Evaluator Team, MHCC Planning Committee, PSCC	8.1.23	11.30.23

Capacity Phase: Identify and map all relevant resources capacity information for PSCC review and analysis.				
Tasks	Milestone	Responsibility	Start	Complete
Map existing diversion, identification, screening, assessment and referral processes for adults in the criminal justice system with behavioral healthcare needs.	Summary of processes	EPIC/UNF Evaluator Team, MHCC Planning Committee	8.1.23	10.31.23
Map the capacity of prevention, intervention and treatment resources available for adults in the criminal justice system with behavioral healthcare needs.	Capacity Inventory	EPIC/UNF Evaluator Team, MHCC Planning Committee	8.1.23	10.31.23
Identify gaps and/or barriers that prevent appropriate and timely identification, screening, assessment and referral processes and adults in the criminal justice system with behavioral healthcare needs.	Gaps analysis of processes	EPIC/UNF Evaluator Team, MHCC Planning Committee	8.1.23	10.31.23
Identify gaps in the behavioral health system of care for adults in the criminal justice system.	Gaps analysis of service capacity	EPIC/UNF Evaluator Team, MHCC Planning Committee	8.1.23	11.30.23

Travel to other Mental Health Courts to identify rationale used to determine participant eligibility, target priority population, emerging best practices, system strengths, weaknesses and outcomes.	Completion of three visits to Mental Health Courts	EPIC/UNF Evaluator Team, MHCC Planning Committee	8.1.23	1.31.24
Inventory existing agreements between organizations that define the community's system for identification, screening, assessment, referrals and service delivery of behavioral health care services.	Inventory of agreements	EPIC/UNF Evaluator Team MHCC Planning Committee	8.1.23	9.30.23
Identify data sharing agreements and practices among system agencies.	Inventory of data sharing agreements	EPIC/UNF Evaluator Team, MHCC Planning Committee	8.1.23	9.30.23
Identify the funding sources that support identification, screening, assessment and referral processes and behavioral healthcare service delivery to adults in the criminal justice system.	Identify funding streams	MHCC Planning Committee	8.1.23	9.30.23
Conduct focused Sequential Intercept Mapping activity to synthesize final process and capacity information collected.	Final Sequential Intercept Map	EPIC/UNF Evaluator Team, MHCC Planning Committee	1.1.24	2.28.24
Convene workgroups on each SIM priority areas to review tasks and identity workgroup champion.	Appointment of workgroups	MHCC Planning Committee	2.1.24	5.31.24
Evaluate the progress of activities in this phase including presenting findings to PSCC, according to the timeline.	Quarterly Phase Evaluation Report	EPIC/UNF Evaluator Team, MHCC Planning Committee, PSCC	8.1.23	6.30.24

Best Practices and Partnerships Phase: Create a best practice plan for the target population including inventory and gaps analysis. Create an overview of existing partnerships for data sharing. Create binding agreements.				
Tasks	Milestone	Responsibility	Start	Complete
Inventory the emerging best practices for a Mental Health Court.	Best Practices inventory	EPIC/UNF Evaluator Team MHCC Planning Committee	11.1.23	4.30.24
Identify the best practices currently being implemented by St. Johns County organizations that align with the target population and prioritized intercepts.	Inventory of best practices in implementation	EPIC/UNF Evaluator Team, MHCC Planning Committee	11.1.23	1.31.24

Identify and evaluate family recovery support models for best practice design guidance.	Inventory of support models	MHCC Planning Committee	11.1.23	1.31.24
Assess training, financial resources, credentialed staff and other needs to implement best practices of a Mental Health Court.	Barrier Analysis	EPIC/UNF Evaluator Team	11.1.23	1.31.24
Identify existing partnerships, defined in formal and informal agreements, to share data, creatively coordinate funding, coordinate service delivery	Inventory of partnerships	EPIC/UNF Evaluator Team, MHCC Planning Com	8.1.23	10.31.23
Identify current methods to facilitate shared data collection and reporting methodologies among partners.	Inventory of data sharing	EPIC/UNF Evaluator Team MHCC Planning Committee	8.1.23	10.31.23
Establish methods to share, collect and reporting data methodologies regarding the Target Population within first 90 days of grant execution.	Data sharing and reporting plan	Agency member of the PSCC and/or MHCC Planning Committee	8.1.23	10.31.23
Execute MOUs and legally binding agreements to share data between partners within first 60 days of grant execution.	Executed agreements	Agency member of the PSCC and/or MHCC Planning Committee	8.1.23	9.30.23
Evaluate the progress of activities this phase, according to the timeline	Quarterly Phase Evaluation Report	EPIC/UNF Evaluator Team, MHCC Planning Committee, PSCC	11.1.23	6.30.24

Planning Phase: Create a comprehensive Strategic Plan to address the needs of the Target Population with a focus on the prioritized intercept(s).

Tasks	Milestone	Responsibility	Start	Complete
Review the results of the focused SIM workgroup recommendations.	Draft recommendations from SIM	MHCC Planning Committee	3.15.24	4.15.24
Identify agency(ies) to pilot model service implementation and potential funders.		MHCC Planning Committee	3.15.24	4.15.24
Develop a draft Strategic Plan based on information collected to date.	Draft Plan with all required components	EPIC/UNF Evaluator Team, MHCC Planning Committee	3.15.24	4.30.24
Present the draft Strategic Plan to the PSCC and key partners for review, editing, and recommendations.	Presentation of draft	EPIC/UNF Evaluator Team, MHCC Planning	4.30.24	5.31.24

		Committee, PSCC		
Prepare and submit final Strategic Plan based on key findings and recommendations from the PSCC and key partners for adoption by the St. Johns County Board of County Commission within 365 days of grant execution.	Final Strategic Plan adopted	MHCC Planning Committee, PSCC	5.31.24	6.30.24
Develop a sustainability plan to ensure continuation of workgroups achievement.	Plan completed	MHCC Planning Committee	3.15.24	4.30.24
Evaluate the progress of activities in the phase, according to the timeline.	Quarterly Phase Evaluation Report	EPIC/UNF Evaluator Team, MHCC Planning Committee, PSCC	3.15.24	6.30.24

TAB EIGHT

Letters of Commitment



Exhibit B

Summary List of Organizations involved with implementation of the proposed project:

St. Johns County Behavioral Health Consortium
State of Florida Circuit Court Seventh Judicial Court
Office of the State Attorney, Seventh Judicial Circuit of Florida
Law Offices of Public Defender, Seventh Judicial Circuit of Florida
St. Johns County Sheriff's Office
St. Augustine Police Department
St. Augustine Beach Police Department
St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners
LSF Health Systems
Flagler Hospital
United Way of St. Johns County
SMA Healthcare, Inc.
Patients Not Prisoners
University of South Florida, College of Behavioral & Community Sciences
University of North Florida



March 27, 2023

Patti Greenough, CEO
EPIC Behavioral Healthcare
3910 Lewis Speedway Ste. 1106
St. Augustine, FL 32084

Dear Ms. Greenough,

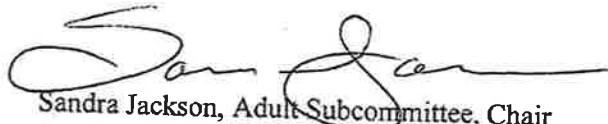
Please accept this letter of commitment to support your application to seek funds made available through the Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Planning Grant Program (#DCF RFA 2223062) to facilitate a planning process for a Mental Health Court in St. Johns County. A Mental Health Court has been a priority of the Consortium's Adult subcommittee since 2017 and is aligned with the overall purpose and mission of the Consortium.

The St. Johns County Consortium is a group of diverse social, legal, education, law enforcement, government, health, and human services community stakeholders. We work together to prioritize behavioral health needs in our community, specifically mental health and substance abuse needs for both adults and children/adolescents. On behalf of our 40+ members, as the Chair of the Adult Subcommittee, I commit the resources of the Consortium to:

- Convene the Adult Subcommittee to serve in the capacity as the Mental Health Court Collaborative Planning Committee for the PSCC to provide ongoing planning, implementation, assessment, evaluation and monitoring of its goals.
- Advocate for program participants to ensure that their mental health and substance use disorder needs are addressed.
- Assist in the data collection and evaluation of the program in order to meet goals and objectives of the project.
- Report quarterly to the St. Johns Public Safety Coordination Council as to the progress of the grant objectives in meeting grant goals and outcomes.

I look forward to the success of this grant application and to the opportunity that it will provide us to implement these vital and needed service enhancements.

Sincerely,



Sandra Jackson, Adult Subcommittee, Chair
St. Johns County Behavioral Health Consortium

**STATE OF FLORIDA
CIRCUIT COURT SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
RICHARD O. WATSON JUDICIAL CENTER
4010 Lewis Speedway, Room 365
St. Augustine, Florida 32084**

*Howard M. Maltz
Circuit Judge*

*Susan Miller, Judicial Asst.
Tel.: (904) 827-5600
Fax: (904) 827-5602*

March 9, 2023

Patti Greenough, CEO
EPIC Behavioral Healthcare
3910 Lewis Speedway, Ste. 1106
St. Augustine, FL 32084

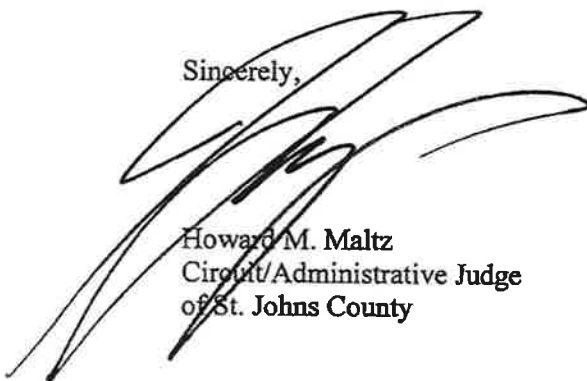
Dear Ms. Greenough,

I would like to express my support to EPIC Behavioral Healthcare in applying for planning funds made available through the Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Grant/Planning Grants Program (RFA 2223 062). As we have discussed on numerous occasions, a significant percentage of criminal cases brought before the Courts is the result of substance abuse and/or mental health disorders. In St. Johns County we currently have a Drug Court and Veterans Treatment Court, but do not currently have a Mental Health Court. Like many judges, I have handled many cases in which criminal behavior was a result of a significant mental disorder, and when those persons are properly medicated the improper behaviors subside. However, too often, those persons are not properly managed and stop taking their medications, resulting in the return of the unwanted behaviors. Many jurisdictions throughout the State of Florida and United States have implemented Mental Health Courts with positive results. I believe the grant you are seeking will provide us with the opportunity to explore the viability of commencing a mental health problem solving court in our community. Thus, I support EPIC in working on a Mental Health Court with this planning grant in the furtherance of justice.

Furthermore, myself and the other judges in St. Johns County are committed to actively participating in the assessment and planning activities coordinated through the grant as appropriate.

Thank you for your efforts on this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping, fluid strokes that form a cursive representation of the name Howard M. Maltz.

**Howard M. Maltz
Circuit/Administrative Judge
of St. Johns County**

HMM/sm



March 20, 2023

Patti Greenough, CEO
EPIC Behavioral Healthcare
3910 Lewis Speedway, Ste. 1106
St. Augustine, FL 32084

Dear Ms. Greenough,

As the sitting Judge for the St. Johns County Felony Drug Court, our treatment court strongly supports EPIC Behavioral Healthcare in applying for planning funds made available through the Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Grant/Planning Grants Program (RFA 2223 062). Your proposed effort to assess our current criminal justice, mental health and substance use systems for adults and to develop a strategic plan to increase public safety, avert increased spending on criminal justice systems, and improve the accessibility and effectiveness of treatment services for adults with behavioral healthcare needs who are in or at-risk of entering the criminal justice system is an important undertaking and is in alignment with the mission of the St. Johns County Drug Court. We support EPIC in working on a Mental Health Court with this planning grant.

I commit to actively participating in the assessment and planning activities coordinated through the grant project and to participate in activities, as appropriate. I am also willing to assist with the gathering and analysis of adult data to support the objectives of the project.

As a County Court Judge, I believe that there is a significant gap in criminal justice tools and services available to address mentally ill criminal defendants, particularly for those dangerous mentally ill Defendants in County Criminal Justice Courts.

I wish you the best of luck in these efforts and will assist where appropriate.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Alexander R. Christine, Jr.", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Alexander R. Christine, Jr.
County Court Judge
4010 Lewis Speedway, Room 205
St. Augustine, FL 32084



STATE OF FLORIDA
SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
Richard O. Watson, Judicial Center
4010 Lewis Speedway
St. Augustine, Florida 32084

Howard O. McGillin, Jr.
Circuit Judge

904-827-5603 (Phone)
904-827-5605 (Fax)

Veronica Griffis
Judicial Assistant

March 21, 2023

Patti Greenough, CEO
EPIC Behavioral Healthcare
3910 Lewis Speedway, Ste. 1106
St. Augustine, FL 32084

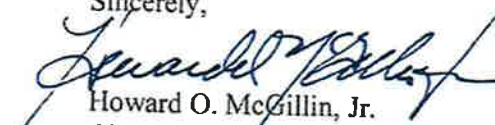
Dear Ms. Greenough:

Thank you for meeting with Judge Maltz, Judge Blocker and myself. As you know, we strongly support EPIC Behavioral Healthcare in applying for planning funds made available through the Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Grant/Planning Grants Program (RFA 2223 062). Your proposed effort is critical to assess our current criminal justice, mental health and substance use systems for adults. The planning grant will be a vital step to develop a strategic plan to increase public safety, avert increased spending on criminal justice systems, and improve the accessibility and effectiveness of treatment services for adults with behavioral healthcare needs. Each of us has experienced, on a regular basis in our courtrooms, adults who are involved with the Criminal Justice system. While we have a Felony Drug Court and a Veterans Treatment Court, Mental Health, for non-veterans, remains a singular gap in our therapeutic justice efforts. We support EPIC in working on a Mental Health Court with this planning grant.

I commit to actively participating in the assessment and planning activities coordinated through the grant project and will designate other Seventh Circuit staff to participate in activities, as appropriate. I am also willing to assist with the gathering and analysis of adult data to support the objectives of the project.

You have my unqualified commitment to move this effort forward to the benefit of both the future participants in a Mental Health Court and our larger community.

Sincerely,


Howard O. McGillin, Jr.
Circuit Judge



STATE OF FLORIDA
SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
Flagler, Putnam, St. Johns & Volusia Counties
125 E. Orange Ave., Rm. 200
Daytona Beach, Florida 32114

Mark A. Weinberg
Court Administrator

Phone: (386) 257-6097
Web: www.circuit7.org

March 24, 2023

Patti Greenough, CEO
EPIC Behavioral Healthcare
3910 Lewis Speedway, Ste. 1106
St. Augustine, FL 32084

Subject: Letter in Support – Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Grant

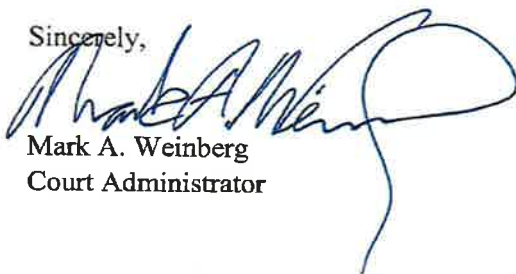
Dear Ms. Greenough:

Please accept this letter as an indication of the Seventh Judicial Circuit Court's support and endorsement of EPIC Behavioral Healthcare's CJMHPA grant application. Your proposal to assess our community's needs with an eye toward possibly creating a Mental Health Court or similar diversion program in St. Johns County is one the Court enthusiastically supports.

The Court is aware of the success of similar projects that address the needs of those who might benefit from these types of services, and my office will participate in grant activities as appropriate. We believe such a program holds great promise in helping our community address the persistent shortage of mental health services for those most in need. Likewise, this will hopefully help law enforcement officials discern between individuals who belong in the criminal justice system from those who may reap more significant benefits from mental health services.

Thank you for the opportunity to express support for this worthwhile endeavor. Please contact my office if you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,



Mark A. Weinberg
Court Administrator

OFFICE OF THE STATE ATTORNEY

SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA
VOLUSIA, FLAGLER, PUTNAM & ST. JOHNS COUNTIES

R.J. Larizza
STATE ATTORNEY



251 North Ridgewood Avenue
Daytona Beach, FL 32114-7509
Phone (386) 239-7710
Fax (386) 239-7716

March 9, 2023

Patti Greenough, CEO
EPIC Behavioral Healthcare
3910 Lewis Speedway, Ste. 1106
St. Augustine, FL 32084

Dear Ms. Greenough,

The Seventh Judicial Circuit State Attorney's Office strongly supports EPIC Behavioral Healthcare in applying for planning funds made available through the Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Grant/Planning Grants Program (RFA 2223 062). Your proposed effort to assess our current criminal justice, mental health and substance use systems for adults and to develop a strategic plan to increase public safety, avert increased spending on criminal justice systems, and improve the accessibility and effectiveness of treatment services for adults with behavioral healthcare needs who are in or at-risk of entering the criminal justice system is an important undertaking and is in alignment with the mission of the State Attorney's Office. We support EPIC in working on a Mental Health Court with this planning grant.

I commit to actively participating in the assessment and planning activities coordinated through the grant project and will designate staff to participate in activities, as appropriate. I am also willing to assist with the gathering and analysis of adult data to support the objectives of the project.

The State Attorney's Office, Seventh Judicial Circuit supports the efforts of EPIC Behavioral Healthcare and we look forward to continuing our working relationship with them.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R.J. Larizza', written over a light blue horizontal line.

R.J. Larizza
State Attorney's Office
Seventh Judicial Circuit



LAW OFFICES OF
PUBLIC DEFENDER
SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
FLAGLER, PUTNAM, ST. JOHNS & VOLUSIA COUNTIES

MATTHEW J. METZ
PUBLIC DEFENDER

March 23, 2023

Patti Greenough, CEO
EPIC Behavioral Healthcare
3910 Lewis Speedway, Ste. 1106
St. Augustine, FL 32084

Dear Ms. Greenough,

The Office of the Public Defender strongly supports EPIC Behavioral Healthcare in applying for planning funds made available through the Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Grant/Planning Grants Program (RFA 2223 062). Your proposed effort to assess our current criminal justice, mental health and substance use systems for adults and to develop a strategic plan to increase public safety, avert increased spending on criminal justice systems, and improve the accessibility and effectiveness of treatment services for adults with behavioral healthcare needs who are in or at-risk of entering the criminal justice system is an important undertaking and is in alignment with the mission of the Office of the Public Defender. We support EPIC in working on a Mental Health Court with this planning grant.

I commit to actively participating in the assessment and planning activities coordinated through the grant project and will designate other Public Defender staff to participate in activities, as appropriate. I am also willing to assist with the gathering and analysis of adult data to support the objectives of the project.

Sincerely,

Matthew Metz
Public Defender



ST. JOHNS COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE

ROBERT A. HARDWICK, SHERIFF

4015 LEWIS SPEEDWAY, ST. AUGUSTINE, FL 32084 | 904.824.8304 | www.SJSO.org

March 9th, 2023

Patti Greenough, CEO
EPIC Behavioral Healthcare
3910 Lewis Speedway, Ste. 1106
St. Augustine, FL 32084

Reference: EPIC Behavioral Healthcare

Dear Ms. Greenough,

St. Johns County Sheriff's Office strongly supports EPIC Behavioral Healthcare in applying for planning funds made available through the Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Grant/Planning Grants Program (RFA 2223 062). Your proposed initiatives for developing a strategic plan to strengthen public safety, prevent additional spending, and enhance the accessibility and efficacy of treatment for adults with behavioral health needs who are in or at-risk of entering the criminal justice system is an important undertaking that aligns with our agency's mission. We support EPIC in working on a Mental Health Court with this planning grant.

I commit to actively participating in the assessment and planning activities coordinated through the grant project and will designate other St. Johns County Sheriff's Office staff to participate in activities, as appropriate. I am also willing to assist with the gathering and analysis of adult data to support the objectives of the project.

We know the connection between the criminal justice system and the social service system is critical to the safety and well-being of our community and support any improvement of providing accessibility to mental health and substance abuse treatment.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Hardwick
Sheriff





St. Augustine Police Department
151 King Street
St. Augustine, FL 32084
Ph: 904.825.1074 (Non-Emergency)
Fax: 904.823.4323

March 22, 2023

Ms. Patti Greenough, CEO
EPIC Behavioral Healthcare
3910 Lewis Speedway, Ste. 1106
St. Augustine, FL 32084

Dear Ms. Greenough:

The St. Augustine Police Department strongly supports EPIC Behavioral Healthcare in applying for planning funds made available through the Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Grant/Planning Grants Program (RFA 2223 062). Your proposed effort to assess our current criminal justice, mental health and substance use systems for adults and to develop a strategic plan to increase public safety, avert increased spending on criminal justice systems, and improve the accessibility and effectiveness of treatment services for adults with behavioral healthcare needs who are in or at-risk of entering the criminal justice system is an important undertaking and is in alignment with the mission of the St. Augustine Police Department. We support EPIC in working on a Mental Health Court with this planning grant.

I commit to actively participating in the assessment and planning activities coordinated through the grant project and will designate other Police Department staff to participate in activities, as appropriate. I am also willing to assist with the gathering and analysis of adult data to support the objectives of the project.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Michaux
Chief of Police
St. Augustine Police Department



St. Augustine Beach Police Department

Daniel Carswell, Chief of Police



March 9th, 2023

Patti Greenough, CEO
EPIC Behavioral Healthcare
3910 Lewis Speedway, Ste. 1106
St. Augustine, FL 32084

Dear Ms. Greenough,

The St. Augustine Beach Police Department strongly supports EPIC Behavioral Healthcare in applying for planning funds made available through the Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Grant/Planning Grants Program (RFA 2223 062). Your proposed effort to assess our current criminal justice, mental health and substance use systems for adults and to develop a strategic plan to increase public safety, avert increased spending on criminal justice systems, and improve the accessibility and effectiveness of treatment services for adults with behavioral healthcare needs who are in or at-risk of entering the criminal justice system is an important undertaking and is in alignment with the mission of the St. Augustine Beach Police Department. We support EPIC in working on a Mental Health Court with this planning grant.

I commit to actively participating in the assessment and planning activities coordinated through the grant project and will designate other St. Augustine Beach Police Department staff to participate in activities, as appropriate. I am also willing to assist with the gathering and analysis of adult data to support the objectives of the project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Daniel Carswell".

Daniel Carswell, Chief of Police



St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners

Health and Human Services

March 14, 2023

Patti Greenough, CEO
EPIC Behavioral Healthcare
3910 Lewis Speedway, Ste. 1106
St. Augustine, FL 32084

Dear Ms. Greenough:

St. Johns County Health & Human Services strongly supports EPIC Behavioral Healthcare in applying for planning funds made available through the Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Grant/Planning Grants Program (RFA 2223 062). Your proposed effort to assess our current criminal justice, mental health and substance use systems for adults and to develop a strategic plan to increase public safety, avert increased spending on criminal justice systems, and improve the accessibility and effectiveness of treatment services for adults with behavioral healthcare needs who are in or at-risk of entering the criminal justice system is an important undertaking and is in alignment with the mission of St. Johns County Health & Human Services. We support EPIC in working on a Mental Health Court with this planning grant.

I commit to actively participating in the assessment and planning activities coordinated through the grant project and will designate other Health & Human Services staff to participate in activities, as appropriate. I am also willing to assist with the gathering and analysis of adult data to support the objectives of the project.

Sincerely,


Shawna A. Novak
Director

SAN/mg

200 San Sebastian View, Suite 2300, St. Augustine, FL 32084
P: 904.209.6140 | F: 904.209.6141
www.sjcfl.us



GOVERNMENT • INTEGRITY • ACCOUNTABILITY



HEALTH
SYSTEMS

March 9, 2023

Patti Greenough, CEO
EPIC Behavioral Healthcare
3910 Lewis Speedway, Ste. 1106
St. Augustine, FL 32084

Dear Ms. Greenough,

LSF Health Systems strongly supports EPIC Behavioral Healthcare in applying for planning funds made available through the Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Grant/Planning Grants Program (RFA 2223 062). Your proposed effort to assess our current criminal justice, mental health and substance use systems for adults and to develop a strategic plan to increase public safety, avert increased spending on criminal justice systems, and improve the accessibility and effectiveness of treatment services for adults with behavioral healthcare needs who are in or at-risk of entering the criminal justice system is an important undertaking and is in alignment with the mission of LSF Health Systems. We support EPIC in working on a Mental Health Court with this planning grant.

I commit to actively participating in the assessment and planning activities coordinated through the grant project and will designate other LSF Health Systems staff to participate in activities, as appropriate. I am also willing to assist with the gathering and analysis of adult data to support the objectives of the project.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dr. Christine Cauffield".

Dr. Christine Cauffield, CEO
LSF Health Systems



9428 Baymeadows Rd., #320 • Jacksonville, FL 32256 • Ph: 904-900-1075 • F: 904-900-1628 • www.lsfhealthsystems.org
LSF Health Systems is a managing entity contracted with the Department of Children and Families.



March 22, 2023

Patti Greenough, CEO
EPIC Behavioral Healthcare
3910 Lewis Speedway, Ste. 1106
St. Augustine, FL 32084

Dear Ms. Greenough,

Flagler Health + strongly supports EPIC Behavioral Healthcare in applying for planning funds made available through the Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Grant/Planning Grants Program (RFA 2223 062). Your proposed effort to assess our current criminal justice, mental health and substance use systems for adults and to develop a strategic plan to increase public safety, avert increased spending on criminal justice systems, and improve the accessibility and effectiveness of treatment services for adults with behavioral healthcare needs who are in or at-risk of entering the criminal justice system is an important undertaking and is in alignment with the mission of Flagler Health +. We support EPIC in working on a Mental Health Court with this planning grant.

I commit to actively participating in the assessment and planning activities coordinated through the grant project and will designate other Flagler Health + staff to participate in activities, as appropriate. I am also willing to assist with the gathering and analysis of adult data to support the objectives of the project.

Sincerely,

Michelle Paulo
Administrator of Emergency, Behavioral Services and Nursing Operations
Flagler Health +
400 Healthpark Blvd.
St. Augustine, FL 32086
904-819-4303



Mark LeMaire, CEO
United Way of St Johns County
117 Bridge Street
St Augustine, FL 32085

Patti Greenough, CEO
EPIC Behavioral Healthcare
3910 Lewis Speedway, Ste. 1106
St. Augustine, FL 32084

March 22, 2023

Dear Ms. Greenough,

United Way of St Johns County strongly supports EPIC Behavioral Healthcare in applying for planning funds made available through the Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Grant/Planning Grants Program (RFA 2223 062). Your proposed effort to assess our current criminal justice, mental health and substance use systems for adults and to develop a strategic plan to increase public safety, avert increased spending on criminal justice systems, and improve the accessibility and effectiveness of treatment services for adults with behavioral healthcare needs who are in or at-risk of entering the criminal justice system is an important undertaking and is in alignment with the mission of UW-SJC. We support EPIC in working on a Mental Health Court with this planning grant.

As you know, at United Way of St Johns County, we are focused on improving the health, education and financial stability of our neighbors. So many of the people we help to serve as both a funder and service provider in this community are dealing with the issues that this ambitious endeavor can help address. We are happy to participate in the assessment and planning activities coordinated through the grant project and will designate other staff to participate in activities, as appropriate.

We are grateful for your agency's leadership in this endeavor and are hopeful for the good work that it will achieve in the lives of individuals and families.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark LeMaire".

Mark LeMaire
CEO, United Way of St Johns County



March 21, 2023

Patti Greenough, CEO
EPIC Behavioral Healthcare
3910 Lewis Speedway, Ste. 1106
St. Augustine, FL 32084

Dear Ms. Greenough,

SMA Healthcare strongly supports EPIC Behavioral Healthcare in applying for planning funds made available through the Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Grant/Planning Grants Program (RFA 2223 062). Your proposed effort to assess our current criminal justice, mental health and substance use systems for adults and to develop a strategic plan to increase public safety, avert increased spending on criminal justice systems, and improve the accessibility and effectiveness of treatment services for adults with behavioral healthcare needs who are in or at-risk of entering the criminal justice system is an important undertaking and is in alignment with the mission of SMA Healthcare. We support EPIC in working on a Mental Health Court with this planning grant.

I commit to actively participating in the assessment and planning activities coordinated through the grant project and will designate other SMA Healthcare staff to participate in activities, as appropriate. I am also willing to assist with the gathering and analysis of adult data to support the objectives of the project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ivan A. Cosimi', written over a faint circular stamp or watermark.

Ivan A. Cosimi, CEO
SMA Healthcare Inc.



March 20, 2023

Patti Greenough, CEO
EPIC Behavioral Healthcare
3910 Lewis Speedway, Ste. 1106
St. Augustine, FL 32084

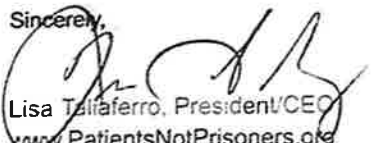
Dear Ms. Greenough,

Patients Not Prisoners, strongly supports EPIC Behavioral Healthcare in applying for planning funds made available through the Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Grant/Planning Grants Program (RFA 2223 062). Your proposed effort to assess our current criminal justice, mental health and substance use systems for adults and to develop a strategic plan to increase public safety, avert increased spending on criminal justice systems, and improve the accessibility and effectiveness of treatment services for adults with behavioral healthcare needs who are in or at-risk of entering the criminal justice system is an important undertaking and is in alignment with the mission of Patients Not Prisoners.

We support EPIC in working on a Mental Health Court with this planning grant. I commit to actively participating in the assessment and planning activities coordinated through the grant project and will designate other Patients Not Prisoners staff to participate in activities, as appropriate. I am also willing to assist with the gathering and analysis of adult data to support the objectives of the project.

Additionally, we would like to add an objective to the grant that would include a Focus Group of family members and individuals with Mental Health lived experience. We would like to mirror the success of our Veteran's Administration Court in which volunteers who have real lived experience can be an integral and meaningful part of the Mental Health Court.

Sincerely,


Lisa Taliaferro, President/CEO
www.PatientsNotPrisoners.org
patientsnotprisonersfl@gmail.com
904.834.0335



UNIVERSITY of
SOUTH FLORIDA

College of Behavioral & Community Sciences

Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and
Substance Abuse Technical Assistance Center

March 9, 2023

Patti Greenough, CEO
EPIC Behavioral Healthcare
3910 Lewis Speedway, Ste. 1106
St. Augustine, FL 32084

Dear Ms. Greenough,

The Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Technical Assistance Center (CJMHTA TAC) strongly supports EPIC Behavioral Healthcare in applying for planning funds made available through the Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Grant/Planning Grants Program (RFA 2223 062). Your proposed effort to assess our current criminal justice, mental health and substance use systems for adults and to develop a strategic plan to increase public safety, avert increased spending on criminal justice systems, and improve the accessibility and effectiveness of treatment services for adults with behavioral healthcare needs who are in or at-risk of entering the criminal justice system is an important undertaking and is in alignment with the purpose of the reinvestment grant opportunity. We are eager to partner to provide the necessary training, technical assistance, and consultation to ensure successful planning grant implementation. We support EPIC in working on a Mental Health Court with this planning grant.

I commit to actively participating in the assessment and planning activities coordinated through the grant project and will designate other CJMHTA TAC staff to participate in activities, as appropriate. If awarded the grant, our Center is prepared to provide technical assistance and support for the St John's County grant program. We are committed to working with the St. John's County Public Safety Coordinating Council and all of the St. John's County reinvestment grant stakeholders in meeting any technical assistance needs you may have as it relates to this planning proposal. You can contact me at ashockley1@usf.edu or call directly at 813-974-2330.

Sincerely,

Abby Shockley, MPH, CPH
Director
Criminal Justice, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Technical Assistance Center



UNIVERSITY of
NORTH FLORIDA

March 22, 2023

Patti Greenough, CEO
EPIC Behavioral Healthcare
3910 Lewis Speedway, Ste. 1106
St. Augustine, FL 32084

Dear Ms. Greenough,

The University of North Florida (UNF) strongly supports EPIC Behavioral Healthcare in applying for planning funds made available through the Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Grant/Planning Grants Program (RFA 2223 062). Your proposed effort to assess our current criminal justice, mental health and substance use systems for adults and to develop a strategic plan to increase public safety, avert increased spending on criminal justice systems, and improve the accessibility and effectiveness of treatment services for adults with behavioral healthcare needs who are in or at-risk of entering the criminal justice system is an important undertaking and is in alignment with the mission of the Department of Criminology & Criminal Justice at the University of North Florida. We support EPIC in working on a Mental Health Court with this planning grant.

I commit to actively participating in the assessment and planning activities coordinated through the grant project and will designate other UNF staff to participate in activities, as appropriate. I am also willing to assist with the gathering and analysis of adult data to support the objectives of the project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Holly Ventura Miller'.

Holly Ventura Miller, Ph.D.
Professor of Criminology & Criminal Justice
MSCJ Graduate Program Director
University of North Florida
Jacksonville, FL 32224
904-580-2581
hollyvmiller@icloud.com