



MacArthur Foundation Safety & Justice Grant Request for Additional Positions

Presented by

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October 15, 2019



Grant Overview

- The Safety & Justice Challenge grant from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, provides support to jurisdictions across the country to address the drivers of local jail populations
- In October 2018, Commissioners voted to accept the \$1.75m grant
- The Justice Resource Advisory Council developed a comprehensive plan for local justice system improvement



Supported by the John D. and Catherine T.
MacArthur Foundation



Goal

- Reduce the jail population by 15 percent, address racial disparities, and increase community engagement from October 2018 to September 2020
- The Justice Resource Advisory Council developed a comprehensive plan for local justice system improvement, including 7 grant strategies



BUNCOMBE COUNTY
**JUSTICE RESOURCE
ADVISORY COUNCIL**
*Leveraging best practices to increase system efficiency,
promote public safety, and community wellness*



Grant Strategies

Strategy 1: Deflection at Arrest and Booking	Strategy 2: Diversion to BH and SA Treatment	Strategy 3: Enhance Pretrial Services	Strategy 4: Efficiencies in Case Processing
Implement Public Safety Assessment at Magistrate	Improve law enforcement drop off process	Examine pretrial supervision assignment practices	Expand jail based case processing
Review local booking processes	Enhance supportive services for familiar faces	Utilize Public Safety Assessment	Implement automated court date reminder system
Review use of criminal summons	Continued collaboration between BH and CJ partners	Modify violation policy and supervision practices	Implement a bail alert report
			Create alternatives to custody for civil non-support
Strategy 5: Improve Data Utilization			
Strategy 6: Increase Community Engagement			
Strategy 7: Address Racial and Ethnic Disparities			



Buncombe County Pretrial Services



- County program within Strategic Partnerships Department
- Conducts risk assessments for those booked into jail and shares that information with the courts to help inform pretrial release decisions
- Provides supervised release as ordered by the courts
- 14 current positions



Pretrial Services & Grant Activities

New function for Pretrial Services:

- Conduct risk assessments at pre-booking phase (at the time of at initial appearance before a magistrate) 24 hours per day/7 days per week
- This strategy aims to reduce the number of people who are entering our detention facility and staying for short periods of time



Position Request

- 6 regular positions: 4 full-time; 2 part-time
- To be classified as Pre-Trial Screeners
- Fully funded by the grant
- Eligible for benefits in alignment with Grant Funded Positions Policy, (adopted by the Board of Commissioners in April 2019)
- Time-limited for the life of the grant
- Abolished after the end of the grant



More Info

For updates and progress on the grant, visit www.BuncombeCounty.org/SJC

