

Award Letter

September 29, 2022

Dear Stacy Jones,

On behalf of Attorney General Merrick B. Garland, it is my pleasure to inform you the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) has approved the application submitted by FULTON, COUNTY OF for an award under the funding opportunity entitled 2022 OJJDP FY 2022 Family-Based Alternative Sentencing Program. The approved award amount is \$750,000.

Review the Award Instrument below carefully and familiarize yourself with all conditions and requirements before accepting your award. The Award Instrument includes the Award Offer (Award Information, Project Information, Financial Information, and Award Conditions) and Award Acceptance. For COPS Office and OVV funding the Award Offer also includes any Other Award Documents.

Please note that award requirements include not only the conditions and limitations set forth in the Award Offer, but also compliance with assurances and certifications that relate to conduct during the period of performance for the award. These requirements encompass financial, administrative, and programmatic matters, as well as other important matters (e.g., specific restrictions on use of funds). Therefore, all key staff should receive the award conditions, the assurances and certifications, and the application as approved by OJP, so that they understand the award requirements. Information on all pertinent award requirements also must be provided to any subrecipient of the award.

Should you accept the award and then fail to comply with an award requirement, DOJ will pursue appropriate remedies for non-compliance, which may include termination of the award and/or a requirement to repay award funds.

Prior to accepting the award, your Entity Administrator must assign a Financial Manager, Grant Award Administrator, and Authorized Representative(s) in the Justice Grants System (JustGrants). The Entity Administrator will need to ensure the assigned Authorized Representative(s) is current and has the legal authority to accept awards and bind the entity to the award terms and conditions. To accept the award, the Authorized Representative(s) must accept all parts of the Award Offer in the Justice Grants System (JustGrants), including by executing the required declaration and certification, within 45 days from the award date.

To access your funds, you will need to enroll in the Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP) system, if you haven't already completed the enrollment process in ASAP. The Entity Administrator should have already received an email from ASAP to initiate this process.

Congratulations, and we look forward to working with you.

Maureen Henneberg
Deputy Assistant Attorney General

Office for Civil Rights Notice for All Recipients

The Office for Civil Rights (OCR), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) has been delegated the responsibility for ensuring that recipients of federal financial assistance from the OJP, the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS), and the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) are not engaged in discrimination prohibited by law. Several federal civil rights laws, such as Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, require recipients of federal financial assistance to give assurances that they will comply with those laws. Taken together, these civil rights laws prohibit recipients of federal financial assistance from DOJ from discriminating in services and employment because of race, color, national origin, religion, disability, sex, and, for grants authorized under the Violence Against Women Act, sexual orientation and gender identity. Recipients are also prohibited from discriminating in services because of age. For a complete review of these civil rights laws and nondiscrimination requirements, in connection with DOJ awards, see <https://ojp.gov/funding/Explore/LegalOverview/CivilRightsRequirements.htm>.

Under the delegation of authority, the OCR investigates allegations of discrimination against recipients from individuals, entities, or groups. In addition, the OCR conducts limited compliance reviews and audits based on regulatory criteria. These reviews and audits permit the OCR to evaluate whether recipients of financial assistance from the Department are providing services in a nondiscriminatory manner to their service population or have employment practices that meet equal-opportunity standards.

If you are a recipient of grant awards under the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act or the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act and your agency is part of a criminal justice system, there are two additional obligations that may apply in connection with the awards: (1) complying with the regulation relating to Equal Employment Opportunity Programs (EEOs); and (2) submitting findings of discrimination to OCR. For additional information regarding the EEO requirement, see 28 CFR Part 42, subpart E, and for additional information regarding requirements when there is an adverse finding, see 28 C.F.R. §§ 42.204(c), .205(c)(5).

The OCR is available to help you and your organization meet the civil rights requirements that are associated with DOJ grant funding. If you would like the OCR to assist you in fulfilling your organization's civil rights or nondiscrimination responsibilities as a recipient of federal financial assistance, please do not hesitate to contact the OCR at askOCR@ojp.usdoj.gov.

Memorandum Regarding NEPA

NEPA Letter Type

OJP - Categorical Exclusion

NEPA Letter

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) record

Solicitation Title: OJJDP FY 2022 Family-Based Alternative Sentencing Program

Award number: 15PJDP-22-GG-03980-FAMI

Date: September 21, 2022

NEPA determination: Categorical Exclusion

The Fulton County District Attorney's Crimes Against Children Unit and the Pre-Indictment Diversion Unit are collaborating with the primary goal of serving youth by establishing a new family-based alternative sentencing program for parents/primary caregivers in the criminal justice system to provide trauma-informed therapy and supportive services for children and trauma-informed therapy and supportive services to parents and develop case plans for restoration and rehabilitative coping skills and crisis management to youth and parents.

None of the following activities will be conducted whether under the Office of Justice Programs federal action or a related third party action:

(1) New construction

(2) Any renovation or remodeling of a property located in an environmentally or historically sensitive area, including property (a) listed on or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, or (b) located within a 100-year flood plain, a wetland, or habitat for an endangered species

(3) A renovation that will change the basic prior use of a facility or significantly change its size

(4) Research and technology whose anticipated and future application could be expected to have an effect on the environment

(5) Implementation of a program involving the use of chemicals (including the identification, seizure, or closure of clandestine methamphetamine laboratories)

Additionally, the proposed action is neither a phase nor a segment of a project that when reviewed in its entirety would not meet the criteria for a categorical exclusion.

Consequently, the subject federal action meets the Office of Justice Programs' criteria for a categorical exclusion as contained in paragraph 4(b) of Appendix D to Part 61 of Title 28 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

Questions about this determination may be directed to your grant manager
Environmental Coordinator for the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency
Prevention (OJJDP)

NEPA Coordinator

First Name

Lou Ann

Middle Name

Last Name

Holland

Project Information

This award is offered subject to the conditions or limitations set forth in the Award Information, Project Information, Financial Information, and Award Conditions.

Solicitation Title

2022 OJJDP FY 2022 Family-Based Alternative Sentencing Program

Application Number

GRANT13624564

Awarding Agency

OJP

Program Office

OJJDP

Grant Manager Name

Kathy Mitchell

Phone Number

[202-598-6453](tel:202-598-6453)

E-mail Address

Kathy.Mitchell@usdoj.gov

Project Title

Family Based Alternative Sentencing

Performance Period Start Date

10/01/2022

Performance Period End Date

09/30/2025

Budget Period Start Date

10/01/2022

Budget Period End Date

09/30/2025

Project Description

The Fulton County District Attorney's Crimes Against Children Unit and the Pre-Indictment Diversion Unit are collaborating with the primary goal of serving youth by establishing a new family-based alternative sentencing program for parents/primary caregivers in the criminal justice system to provide trauma-informed therapy and supportive services for children and trauma-informed therapy and supportive services to parents and develop case plans for restoration and rehabilitative coping skills and crisis management to youth and parents.

I have read and understand the information presented in this section of the Federal Award Instrument.

Proposal Narrative

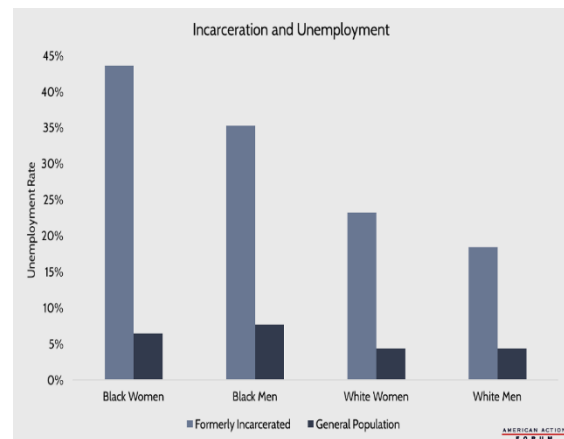
The Fulton County Government, Office of The Fulton County District Attorney's Crimes Against Children Unit and the Adult Diversion Unit are collaborating to impact court-exposed parents and their children by strengthening the emotional, physical, and social well-being of families. To that end, we respectfully request \$750,000 in grant funding across three years with the submission of this grant application, "Family-Based Alternative Sentencing Program" (16.738, O-OJJDP-2022-171258) to the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

Statement of the Problem

Georgia has the 8th highest rate of incarceration in the U.S., incarcerating 432 people per 100,000ⁱ. The Nature and scope of the problem and its impact when a parent goes to prison include costs which not only affect the child and the parent but also the community. The problems a family-based alternative sentencing program addresses are three-fold: (1) For children, emotional responses such as sadness, fear and guilt are reactions to the parent's incarceration, and without skills to address those emotions, anger and violence can develop leading the child to the criminal justice system; (2) The costs of incarceration on parents include lost earnings, adverse health effects, and further damage to the family; and (3) Incarceration costs are significantly more than supervisionⁱⁱ and as a result there are not adequate funds to address societal solutions.

Existing problem: Emotional reactions of children can turn into severe behavioral problems, triggering conflicts between the child and othersⁱⁱⁱ. In 2022, The Fulton County DA's Office has seen a 60% recidivism rate for juveniles.^{iv} Experts say the high recidivism rates are likely due to juveniles falling behind in school and experiencing mental health issues. Parental incarceration affects children most in struggling communities,^v and is creating a revolving door for youth who increase their risky behavior. A study published in Pediatrics found that young adults who had a parent incarcerated during their childhood are more likely to skip needed healthcare, smoke cigarettes, engage in risky sexual behaviors, and abuse alcohol, prescription and illicit drugs.^{vi} These findings have potentially broad impact, as over five million U.S. children have had a parent in jail or prison. The United States has the highest incarceration rates in the world^{vii}. Fulton County is also faced with concentrated poverty where poor families face more crime and failing schools.^{viii} Numerous studies show that neighborhoods with higher poverty rates tend to have higher rates of violent crime.^{ix} Children, who are victimized and exposed to violence, are more likely to suffer from depression, anxiety, and post-traumatic disorders; fail or have difficulty in school; and become delinquent and engage in criminal behavior.^x Youth are at higher risk of joining a gang if: they engage in delinquent behaviors, are predisposed to aggression or violence, experience multiple caretaker transitions, have multiple problems at school, associate with other gang-involved youth or reside where neighborhood juvenile crime exists.^{xi}

Size of the problem: The costs of incarceration on parents are estimated at up to three times the direct costs of supervision, bringing the total burden of our criminal justice system to \$1.2 trillion.^{xii} A report by the Brennan Center for Justice found that prison sentences and criminal convictions cost millions of Americans hundreds of billions of dollars in lower earnings, losses that “entrench poverty” and “exacerbate the racial wealth gap.” Today, roughly 70 million Americans (or one in three adults) have been arrested or convicted of a crime. Of those, at least 7.7 million people have been imprisoned at some point in their lives.^{xiii} The greatest difference in post-incarceration



unemployment rates compared to the general population is for Black women—a difference of 37.2 percent. White men faced the weakest incarceration penalty with a difference of 14.1 percent. Additional pressure on Black families is the increased likelihood that Black children, are more likely to be separated from their parents, even in cases where flagrant abuse is not an issue. "Black children still tend to be taken into custody at a much higher rate and kept in the [foster care] system much longer.^{xiv} Najdowski and Bernstein documented the existence, content and strength of stereotypes that could contribute to these patterns (Child Abuse & Neglect, Vol. 86, 2018). In particular, the stereotype linking race to child abuse leads medical professionals to think of black parents as poor, uneducated, stressed and drug-involved, and to view battering and neglect as part of an intergenerational cycle in black families.^{xv}

Effects of problem on target population and larger community: Crime and high rates of incarceration impose tremendous costs on society, with lasting negative effects on individuals, families, and communities.^{xvi} The costs to incarcerate an adult is an 87% increase over community

supervision. The cost to incarcerate one youth in Georgia is \$112,862 per year^{xvii}. Aside from the



direct costs of incarcerating juveniles – such as the funds required for operating detention facilities – taxpayers pay in the long term as well in the form of lost future earnings, lost tax revenue and other ripple effects that the Justice Policy Institute estimates costs state and local

governments nationwide somewhere between \$8 billion and \$21 billion annually^{xviii}.

Describe target population: Fulton County is 534 square miles,

with 15 municipalities, and is the largest county in the state with its largest city, Atlanta, the capital of the state of Georgia. The race percentages of the Fulton County population are approximately 44% Black, 39% White, 7% Asian, 2% two or more races, and 7% Hispanic/Latino.^{xix} Atlanta has a complicated history of widespread segregation, biased legislation, and racial subordination. It is ironic that the highways I-85, I-75-, I-285, and I-20 were signs of the state’s prosperity when created but increased the likelihood of poverty

Municipalities

Alpharetta	68,117
Atlanta	472,269
Chattahoochee Hills	3,281
College Park	14,405
East Point	37,416
Fairburn	16,326
Hapeville	7,011
Johns Creek	86,218
Milton	40,224
Mountain Park	564
Palmetto	4,622
Roswell	98,181
Sandy Springs	111,338
South Fulton	104,161
Union City	25,567
TOTAL	1,089,700

when they cut through Black neighborhoods, isolating them from the broader community. Studies have shown that highway systems were highly detrimental to city communities, creating physical divides, psychological rifts, property devaluation, population loss and a substantial source of noise and air pollution.^{xx} Fulton County’s general poverty rate is 13.4 percent^{xxi}, but financially stratified

from the affluent suburbs of north metro-Atlanta to the impoverished area south of the state’s capital. For the city of Atlanta, the poverty rate is 19.2 percent and for persons in Fulton County under the age of 18, the poverty rate is also 19.2 percent. 21 percent of the population of Fulton County is under the age of 18 years.^{xxii} The most common racial groups living below the poverty line in Fulton County are Black (98,906), then White (30,892) and Hispanic (13,418). Fulton County represents 10% (1,089,700) of the statewide population with a gender ratio of females at 52%^{xxiii}. Fulton County is home to many low-income residents which increases their likelihood of incidents of crime. Research indicates that women are at an increased risk for victimization when their income is below the poverty level, and conversely, victimization increases women’s likelihood of unemployment and reduced income (Byrne, Resnick, Kilpatrick, Best, & Saunders, 1999).

Attempts to respond to family based alternative sentencing were limited by the priorities of the previous district attorney, who after serving for decades, lost the election in 2020. Prioritizing diversion programming is important to the newly elected Fulton County District Attorney, Fani Willis. The Adult Diversion Program was created by DA Willis and provides defendants, generally first-time offenders, with opportunities for alternatives to the traditional criminal justice process of ordinary prosecution.

Project Design and Implementation

PROBLEMS	GOAL	OBJECTIVES	DELIVERABLES
(1) For children, emotional responses such as sadness, fear and guilt as a reaction to the parent’s incarceration develop, and without skills to address the emotions, anger and violence are a result leading the child	To establish new and enhance existing family-based alternative sentencing	Provide treatment and accountability to parents/primary caregivers in the criminal justice system by allowing them to remain with their dependent children under community supervision.	Develop cross-system coordination and collaboration in the provision of services to children and families

to the criminal justice system	programs for parents/primary caregivers in the criminal justice system to improve child, parent, and family outcomes.		
(2) The costs of incarceration on parents include lost earnings, adverse health effects, and further damage to the family		reduce the likelihood of future involvement in the criminal justice system	to submit a program evaluation at the end of the award period that demonstrates the extent to which the program may result in cost savings for the criminal justice and/or child welfare systems.
(3) Incarceration costs are significantly more than supervision and with this high rate of spending on incarceration there is not adequate funds to address societal solutions.		improve parental attachment	
		increase healthy child development	
		prevent children from entering the foster care system	
		improve parenting skills	
		increase family preservation	
		reduce the financial impact on the criminal justice and/or child welfare systems.	

The Fulton County District Attorney’s Crimes Against Children Unit and the Adult Diversion Unit are collaborating with the primary goal of serving youth by establishing a new family-based alternative sentencing program for parents/primary caregivers in the criminal justice system. The Adult Diversion program was started in October of 2021 and although not a year old, already the Unit is serving a 141 defendants who are parents. The steps to operate a new family-based alternative sentencing program throughout the funding period are: (1) Hire a Case Manager (County position specification executive assistant) to work with the Crimes Against Children Unit to review case files and make recommendations; this staff will be familiar with Juvenile Court and community solutions in support of family care services; (2) Partner with community service provider, Families First, to provide trauma-informed therapy and supportive services for children and trauma-informed therapy and supportive services to parents; (3) The newly hired Case Manager will present cases to the Adult Diversion Unit and discuss case plan for restoration and

rehabilitative coping skills and crisis management to youth and parents; (4) Through a mixed-methods approach, Cristin Rollins, Ph.D. at Statement House, will gather and synthesize information on program impacts and cost effectiveness, allowing Fulton County to understand more about how family preservation through evidence-based therapeutic services impacts both individual and community-level factors; (5) Behavioral Health Consultant serves as the glue and will be available to both Units to advise on therapeutic sessions and progress.

The Strategy begins with the types of cases in the Crimes Against Children (CAC) Unit which will be referred to the Adult Diversion Unit. The CAC Unit has 10 cases waiting to be reviewed before referral. The determining factor for these cases are that a child's outcomes are not improved by a parent's incarceration. An example is a neglect case in the Crimes Against Children Unit where a single mom, living below the poverty line, who without resources, was living in an apartment without running water. The neglect case was followed by The Division of Family & Children Services (DFACs) to improve child, parent, and family outcomes. The Georgia Division of Family & Children Services (DFCS) investigates reports of child abuse; finds foster and adoptive homes for abused and neglected children; issues SNAP, Medicaid and TANF; helps out-of-work parents get back on their feet; and provides numerous support services and innovative programs to help families in need.^{xxiv} Mom had attended all meetings and was accomplishing tasks on her list of assignments for her family to be restored. However, DFACs has had several changes in leadership over the years^{xxv} and support services have not always been available for cases in the DA's Office. By having a case manager on staff to monitor these cases we better serve the child and parent and prevent details from dropping through the cracks.

As a result of the partnership with Families First, therapy will be provided for youth, who lack self-regulation skills, and are struggling to express their feelings. Although we don't yet have data on the number of students with incarcerated parents who have been court exposed themselves, we do know that Georgia is ranked last in the United States for psychologist student ratio. In Georgia there is 1 school psychologist for every 6,389 students. The national recommended average is 700:1^{xxvi} We also know that widespread truancy from Fulton County schools is not being addressed since the pandemic and with the rise in juvenile cases, we know there are emotions of youth which are not being addressed.

38,800 youth were reported chronically absent this school year
APS: **19,000** students chronically absent (**36%** of all students)
Fulton county: **19,800** students chronically absent (**21%** of all students)

Family therapy is critical to supporting a parent who feels guilty, shame and or anger and feels the pressure of unemployment, rising costs of food, transportation, and caring for youth. Families First is experienced at helping parents learn how to be the best parent possible. Families First utilizes evidence-based tools to help people set goals for thriving, celebrate their progress in their journey of recovery and set emotional safeguards for the long term^{xxvii}. Families First has expanded its Behavioral Health Department with clinicians available seven days a week, via secure video or telephone, to offer individuals support when they need it most. Options for therapy removes a barrier of transportation required for in-person sessions. Families First has agreed to an estimate of \$120.00 a session for child/family therapy. On average we estimate a family will require at least 7 sessions and then if more needed the family has the option to move to insurance payments. If the family does not have insurance, Families First will assist with enrollment. Families First accepts most insurance and offers a sliding scale payment option to those who need financial assistance,

thanks to their donors. With the estimation of \$840 a family, then our grant funding could help 47 families a year to receive the full 7 sessions.

The Adult Diversion Program at the Office of the Fulton County District Attorney provides defendants with opportunities for alternatives to the traditional criminal justice process of ordinary prosecution. This innovative Pre & Post Indictment Diversion Program is truly Criminal Justice Reform in Action and the fulfillment of Madam District Attorney Fani T. Willis's campaign promise. The Adult Diversion Program will assist victims in obtaining better awareness and retribution in their cases, assist the District Attorney's Office in addressing cases faster and provide needed rehabilitative services to the program participants that will in turn, help to reduce recidivism rates. All participants completing the Fulton County District Attorney's Office Adult Diversion Program will have their charges dismissed and a record restriction filed, creating opportunities for program participants to accept responsibility for their actions while gaining a second chance at getting things right. We are creating safer communities & rehabilitated program participants with the Adult Diversion Program.

The Adult Diversion program is administered from the evidence-based practice of a strength-based perspective and anchored in the belief that a problem does not constitute all of a person's life. Each person (family, community) is complex and multifaceted. A person (family) is more than he or she presents at a given moment, with strengths and resources that may not always be apparent. Focusing on strengths does not mean ignoring or condoning problems or harm. Rather, focus is placed on:

- What they can do versus exclusively focusing on what they cannot do.
- What they have versus what they do not have.

- Where they found success versus an exclusive focus on where they have failed.
- Their possibilities versus an exclusive focus on their obstacles.^{xxviii}

Community supervision practices that encourage the client and the client’s family and social networks to participate in the decision-making and treatment process and that value the client’s perceptions are more likely to result in positive behavior change (Addiction Technology & Transfer Center National Office, 2005). An example of a tool often used in classes at the DA’s office while enrolled in Adult Diversion is that of a vision board, a collage of images that represent

Simply eliminating immediate problems does not bring about long-term behavior change; long-term change requires individuals to call upon internal and external strengths.

goals to manifest your dreams, help gain self-awareness and self-reflect on what is important to achieve those dreams.^{xxix}

An adjustment when working with families in the Alternative Sentencing Program within the Family Support Approach is instead of avoiding unlimited services to all family members, we will consider providing more services to all family members^{xxx} to

promote successful completion of goals and objectives of community supervision.

While there are real problems inherent in some families that cannot be dismissed or completely ignored, the Family Support Approach for Community Supervision recognizes that despite what the justice system might perceive as dysfunction within families and communities, families and communities also bring strengths that can serve as a source of support to an individual during the supervision. Generally, during these times persons under community supervision and their families are in a crisis, perhaps nervous about the role Adult Diversion will play in their lives. Looking at the individual and his or her family through only one context reveals only one aspect of the individuals involved. Critical to avoiding viewing a family through only one context is the

Behavioral Health Specialist consultant who will be available to the team. The Behavioral Health Consultant will be available to discuss a therapy plan, case management steps and assist with facilitating an anger management group for adults and a separate one for teens. According to Family Support Approach for Community Supervision, examples of strengths to look for include skills, competencies, talents, goals, past successes, attributes, interests, attitudes, dreams, wants, and positive connections to family members and social networks and these are critical for teens.

Currently, Adult Diversion is solely funded by the General fund of the District Attorney.

Priority Considerations: Priority 1(A) The proposed project will promote racial equity and the removal of barriers to access opportunity for communities that have been historically underserved. Adult Diversion is based on a rehabilitative model that recognizes that there may be an apparent causal connection between the offense charged and the rehabilitative needs of a defendant. Further, the rehabilitative model emphasizes that social, cultural, and economic conditions often result in a defendant's decision to commit crime.^{xxxix}

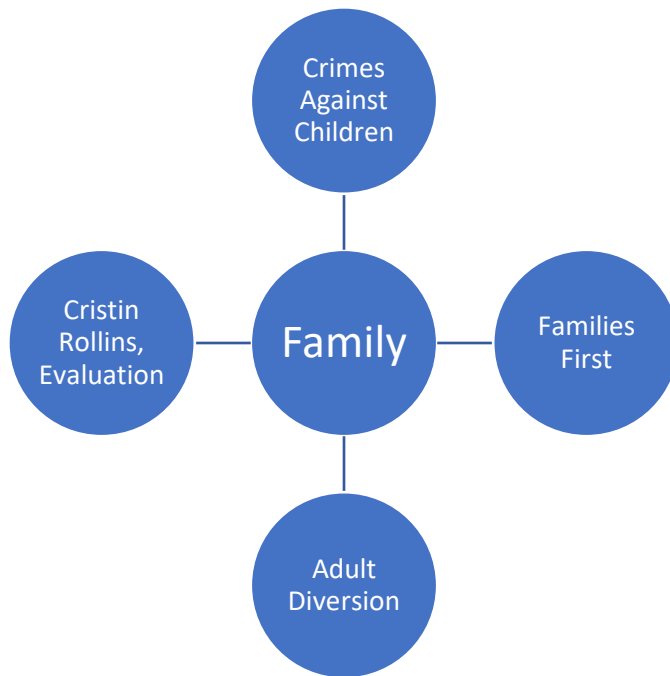
Priority 1(B) The proposed project will ensure fairness, equity, and access to justice for all children and families with the removal of barriers. Access to services for victims is a priority for the office of the Fulton County District Attorney and by providing transportation assistance, we are removing a barrier preventing families from attending in-person sessions. By the time the case of an adult, who as a youth had a parent that was court exposed gets to court, so much damage has already occurred. Building Fulton's Adult Diversion Unit to work with cases from the Crimes Against Children Unit is focused on the trauma the survivor has experienced. Most parents with cases in the Crimes Against Children Unit are Black and this funding will support the hiring of a specialized case manager who will be experienced in garnering wrap-around services. Our ultimate goal is to disrupt the cycle of arrest before a potential victim experiences

more court exposure. By intervening before there is incarceration, a family can be lifted out of pain, abuse and poverty.

Capabilities and Competencies

Fani T. Willis is the District Attorney for Fulton County and is the first woman to serve in the position. DA Willis came into the office with a plan to reorganize divisions to serve the Fulton County residents efficiently and effectively. DA Willis took office on January 1, 2021, with a commitment to both protect Fulton's neighborhoods and reform Fulton's criminal justice system by making it fairer, more transparent, and focused on reducing crime by changing lives rather than just seeking retribution. Based on DA Willis' experiences as a prosecutor she understands the challenges a prosecutor faces when having to prosecute these crimes of Crimes Against Children. She has committed to putting together a team of the most experienced and well-trained prosecutors in the country to work with these most special victims. This division will handle all cases that involve our children as the victims of crime, where the Defendant is also not a child. These prosecutors and staff will have the most advanced training on issues surrounding children who have been victimized. This unit will be one that treats those little ones suffering from the impact of trauma with love. The Office of The Fulton County District Attorney's Crimes Against Children Unit Team Members include: Lauren McAuley, Bryant Brinson; and the Adult Diversion Unit team includes: Ramona Toole, Epiffany Henry, and Deonte Pollard.

Organization Chart



Lauren McAuley, Deputy District Attorney, Terrell Williams Crimes Against Children Unit, is a trial attorney with ten years of experience and a record of commitment to public service. Lauren has served the citizens of Fulton County for the past eight years in the District Attorney’s Office. Lauren previously served as a Senior Assistant District Attorney where she litigated high-profile and complex felony cases with a significant focus on adult sexual assault and crimes against children. Prior to serving as the Deputy over the Crimes Against Children/Sexual Assault Unit, Lauren supervised the Juvenile Court and Complex Trial divisions. During her tenure with the District Attorney’s Office, Lauren has been consistently recognized for her trial advocacy and leadership skills. In 2016, she was named Crimes Against Women and Children Attorney of the Year and received a Special Merit Award for her contributions to a juvenile justice program. Lauren was named Supervisor of the Year in 2017 and received the Lewis Slaton Highest Achievement Award in 2019. With a continuing commitment to advocating for children and adult victims of sexual assault, Lauren is an active member of the Junior League of Atlanta, chairing the Georgia Center for Child Advocacy committee and serving as a JLA representative to Georgia’s

Criminal Justice Coordinating Council's Human Trafficking Taskforce. Lauren also works with ChildFirst training for child advocacy centers and as a guest lecturer at Emory University.

Lauren holds a Masters of Laws in Child Law and Policy from Emory University School of Law. She obtained her Juris Doctorate from University of Detroit Mercy School of Law. She obtained her Bachelor of Arts, magna cum laude, in political science and communications studies from the Honors Program at the University of Detroit Mercy.

Ramona Toole, Deputy District Attorney - Pre-Indictment Diversion, Records, and Records Restriction Ramona Toole has spent the last 17 years of her life zealously protecting the rights of the most vulnerable members of her community and making the community safer for them to live in and enjoy. Ramona earned her B.A. from Berea College, her MBA from Alabama A&M University, and her Juris Doctor from Mississippi College School of Law. Since passing the Georgia Bar in December of 2003, she has kept the streets of Atlanta safe as an Assistant Solicitor General in the City of Atlanta Traffic Court and as a Senior Assistant District Attorney in the Fulton County District Attorney's Office. While in the Atlanta Judicial Circuit, she conducted over 500 hearings and over 1000 witness interviews as the top Senior Trial Attorney in the Complex Trial Division. Needless to say, she has extensive experience prepping pre-indicted cases and conducting First Appearance and Preliminary Hearings. She is known for her trial and negotiation skills, research and writing mastery, insatiable quest for justice, strong analytical ability, and thorough management of detailed proceedings. Not only has she developed this reputation for herself, but she spent over five years assisting and supervising young attorneys with trial preparation as well and supervising all interns and fellows assigned to the Complex Trial Unit. Additionally, she has experience in the Veteran's Accountability Court and the Drug Accountability Court. In 2016, she left the Atlanta Judicial Circuit and continued her prosecutorial

career in the Gwinnett County District Attorney's Office. Once there, she continued her stellar record of conducting felony criminal jury trials and prosecuting violent crimes. Ramona is a member of the Georgia State Bar, Court of Appeals of the State of Georgia, Supreme Court of the State of Georgia, United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit, and The Supreme Court of the United States. She is also a member of the Georgia Association of Women Lawyers (Gwinnett Chapter), Georgia Association of Black Prosecutors, and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Prior to joining District Attorney Fani Willis' administration, she tried everything from traffic offenses, armed robbery, carjacking and aggravated assault to vehicular homicides, murder, illegal possession of firearms and illegal manufacture and distribution of controlled substances. In short, she has been a trial lawyer in more than 60 jury and bench trials since 2004. She has passionately, competently, and consistently argued and won many appeals and will continue to do so for the citizens of Fulton County.

Epiffany Henry, Deputy Chief of Staff – Adult Diversion, is a native of Alabama and currently serves as the Deputy Chief of Staff and Director of Adult Diversion for Fulton County's District Attorney's Office. Epiffany has over 15 years of experience providing exceptional case management services and knowledge in the field of criminal justice. Epiffany is a proud graduate of Auburn University in Auburn, Alabama, "war eagle" where she obtained a Bachelor of Arts in Criminology. She also obtained a Master of Arts in Forensic Psychology from Argosy University in Dunwoody, Georgia. Epiffany holds a Georgia POST certification from the Georgia Corrections Academy Tift College. Epiffany moved to Georgia in 2008 to start her public servant career in the field of criminal justice and has proudly served the citizens of the State of Georgia with integrity since such time. Prior to joining the administration of Fulton County District Attorney Fani T. Wills, Epiffany made history after joining the United States' first entirely African American

woman led court team serving as the Director of Pre-Trial Diversion for the City of South Fulton's Municipal Court in 2018. As the Programs and Probation Manager with the City of South Fulton's Municipal Court, Epiffany created a robust and innovative diversionary program and several rehabilitative community programs for first time offenders, helping to push the needle of true criminal justice reform in the City of South Fulton. Epiffany served as a Community Supervision Officer (Probation/Parole) and Behavioral Health Counselor for the Department of Community Supervision since 2011. As a community supervision officer, Epiffany held the titles of Sex Offender Officer, Mental Health Officer, Court Officer, and Behavioral Health Counselor, serving the Superior Courts of DeKalb County, Fulton County and Clayton County. Other responsibilities held while working with the State of Georgia included testifying as an expert witness and providing case management skills in the areas of Accountability Courts that provided Drug, Mental Health, and Veterans services. Epiffany also has extensive experience providing therapeutic treatment both in the private and public sectors. While working in the private and public sectors, Epiffany provided individual and family clinical supervision treatment and connected these members of the community with wraparound services while facilitating group and individual therapeutic sessions under the directive of a licensed psychiatrist. Epiffany learned early in her career the importance of accurate, fair, firm, consistent and transparent case management skills in the field of criminal justice, after obtaining her first post undergraduate studies employment with Lee County Youth Development Center in Opelika, Alabama. In this position, Epiffany selflessly served a juvenile population that had a diagnosis of a serious mental illness. Epiffany personally believes in the motto "no one cares what you know, until they know you care". She strives daily to serve with integrity, transparency and believes in providing the highest level of customer service to her community while showing that she truly cares.

Deonte Pollard, Adult Diversion Operations Manager served as a Community Liaison at the Office of the Fulton County District Attorney before his promotion to join Adult Diversion.. He manages community projects, serves as a point of contact to the community, and develops methods (strategies, activities, programs) for partnerships with the community throughout the district. Mr. Pollard is passionate about his community, helping others, and speaking with groups. Deontè has been recognized in his field for communicating with stakeholders to build positive, trusting, and effective interpersonal relationships within the community. Deontè graduated from Georgia State University with a Bachelor of Science in Public Policy/Economic Development.

Michele Henry, Grants Manager, will work in coordination with the Crimes Against Children Unit and Adult Diversion Unit to provide the formal periodic updates both quantitative/qualitative and financial/programmatic. AMS trained, she monitors grant spending. The overall performance will be measured against the project timeline. The timeline will be reviewed and updated. Ms. Henry has also received her DOJ Grants Financial Management Training certification.

The Fulton County District Attorney's Office has received Department of Justice grant funding in support of SAKI (Sexual Assault Kit Investigations), the Conviction Integrity Unit (CIU), OJJDP and Byrne Gang Prevention; Hate Crime, ICJR Domestic Violence and Prosecuting Cold Cases to use DNA technologies to prosecute and reinvestigate cold cases. With the OJJDP grant we have sub-awardees who are community partners.

The Fulton County Finance Department serves as a central point through which all revenues and disbursements of the general Fulton County Government are channeled and manages the County's debt and investment portfolio, risk management and internal audit. Expenditures are tracked via the County's financial system, AMS. Budgeted vs. Actual amounts are tracked and monitored by County departments and grants administrative staff. Requests for payments to include those from

sub-awardees are processed through the County's Grants Administration Division. Drawdowns occur in a timely manner and according to the grantors instructions to ensure timely reimbursement for grant activities. Internal controls include approved grant budget line items which are assigned object codes in the County's financial system, AMS. Only expenditures that can be assigned to those object codes are approved for reimbursement.

Led by Dr. Cristin Rollins, Statement House, LLC. is an independent, woman-owned firm that specializes in evaluations of community-based programs. Throughout her 20(+)-year career history in research and evaluation, Dr. Rollins has led impact studies on program effectiveness, evaluations of comprehensive community initiatives, and large-scale assessments of policy and systems reform. Specialized experience in evaluation with justice-involved families:

From 2013 to 2015, Rollins was the State Evaluation Director of [Georgia's Juvenile Justice Reform Initiative](#), and developed statewide evaluation criteria, tools, training, and processes for the implementation of Georgia's community based juvenile justice diversion initiative.

Additionally, from 2016-2020, Rollins was the evaluation leader for [Girls Inc.'s](#) Bold Futures, a \$3.5M OJJDP Multistate Mentoring Grant to reduce juvenile delinquency, drug abuse, truancy, and other problem and high-risk behaviors in girls and young women.

In 2022, Rollins and Statement House began work with juvenile justice partner, [AMIKids](#), to provide evaluation expertise and evidence-based framework development for their Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) programming with adjudicated youth and their families.

Edward M. Valentin, Director of Clinical Services at Families First, which is Georgia's largest family and children's services organization in metro Atlanta. We work to improve outcomes for youth at every stage of life by providing them with mental health support, mentorship, early

education, and supportive housing and strengthening families no matter what challenges they may be facing.

Plan for Collecting the Data

Data collection and participation in evaluation activities are necessary to determine if the program is meeting stated goals and objectives.

OBJECTIVES	DELIVERABLES	Tools	Responsible	Measurement
Provide treatment and accountability to parents/primary caregivers in the criminal justice system by allowing them to remain with their dependent children under community supervision.	Develop cross-system coordination and collaboration in the provision of services to children and families	Survey parents	Case Mgr	Cross-system coordination and collaboration allows 85% of caregivers to remain with their dependent children
		Report from Families First	Families First	
		Report from Evaluation	Dr. Cristin Rollins	
reduce the likelihood of future involvement in the criminal justice system	Program evaluation at the end of the award period that demonstrates the extent to which the program may result in cost savings for the criminal justice and/or child welfare systems.	Program evaluation report at the end of the award period	Dr. Cristin Rollins	The program will reduce the likelihood of future involvement in the criminal justice system by 60%; improve parental attachment by 70%; prevent 60% of children from entering the foster care system; improve parenting skills by 70%; increase family preservation by 70%; and reduce the financial impact on the criminal justice system by 90%
improve parental attachment				
increase healthy child development				
prevent children from entering the foster care system				
improve parenting skills				
increase family preservation				
reduce the financial impact on the criminal justice and/or child welfare systems.				

The deliverables will be measured quarterly by service-hour or units delivered, type of service, number of new and continuing victims served, and other key data points. Michele Henry, Grants Manager will assist in reporting service delivery through JustGrants and or any other Performance

Measurement Tool if required. Similarly, Ms. Henry reports for all grants using the JustGrants system to include for the SAKI unit. The Case Manager will document monthly contact with participants and necessary partner providers. They will maintain monthly contact to ensure that the participant is receiving and following up on services provided for 6 months (or longer as needed). Ongoing program participation will be assessed every 3 months following the initial 6 months. Quarterly reports will be submitted. Goals for completion of the program will be updated and designed to be completed within 6 months or less (or longer as needed). Data obtained from the intake form will be compared to services received during the course of the program for evaluation purposes. All program participants will also have the opportunity to complete a satisfaction survey which will be used for program evaluation purposes.

In addition to excel spreadsheets, our office uses a criminal justice partner data and information management solution called, “Odyssey” by Tyler Technologies. Odyssey serves as a comprehensive database for all cases. Tyler Technologies is a leading provider of end-to-end information management solutions and services for local governments. Odyssey tracks case information from the beginning of the prosecutorial process to resolution and then serves as an electronic archive recordkeeping service. Odyssey is fully integrated into our work and is used by our Victim Advocates to track service delivery, referrals, and to make notes regarding legal advocacy. Statistical reports and targeted metric reports are tracked in real-time as a service is rendered or as a case makes its way through our office.

ⁱ worldpopulationreview.com

ⁱⁱ <https://www.uscourts.gov/news/2017/08/17/incarceration-costs-significantly-more-supervision>

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- iii <https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/talking-about-trauma/201505/when-parent-is-incarcerated#:~:text=When%20a%20parent%20goes%20to%20prison%2C%20young%20children,problems%2C%20triggering%20conflicts%20between%20the%20child%20and%20others.>
- iv Chief Deputy District Attorney Juvenile Division, Brett Pinion
- v <https://www.wabe.org/8-percent-ga-children-have-had-parent-incarcerated/>
- vi <https://www.news-medical.net/news/20180709/Incarceration-of-parents-during-childhood-impacts-youth-behavior.aspx>
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- xxii <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fultoncountygeorgia>
- xxiii <http://worldpopulationreview.com/us-counties/ga/fulton-county-population/>
- xxiv <https://dfcs.georgia.gov/about-us>
- xxv <https://www.ajc.com/politics/confrontation-with-officer-led-to-resignation-of-georgias-child-welfare-director/BKXTNHJCJJDYFHFMOF4Q25D35I/>
- xxvi <https://www.nbcdi.org/sites/default/files/resource-files/NBCDI%20SOBC%20Report%20Card%20Georgia.pdf>
- xxvii <https://familiesfirst.org/counseling/>
- xxviii <http://www.appa-net.org/eweb/docs/APPA/pubs/IFSACS.pdf>
- xxix <https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/click-here-happiness/202103/what-is-vision-board-and-why-make-one>
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