**Youth Justice Innovation Grant Instructions and Application**

437003-C23-0002228

Youth Justice (YJ) Innovation Grants are a competitive opportunity for county human service agencies (counties) to implement new evidence-informed practices or programs with short-term start-up funding from the Department of Children and Families (DCF). All proposed projects must serve the overall purpose of *“improving community-based juvenile delinquency-related services”* and should meet requirements of one of the following topic areas: **reducing YJ referrals, pre-court diversion, or post-dispositional services.**

Innovation Grants are funded by unused Youth Aids funds, which under [Wis. Stats. sec. 48.526(3)(e)](https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/statutes/statutes/48/xi/526/3/e), DCF can carry forward two calendar years. A list of prior recipients and descriptions of past YJ Innovation Grant projects is available in the [Youth Justice Innovation Grants Final Report for 2017-2019](https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/files/cwportal/yj/pdf/ig-rpt-17-19.pdf) and in the [2022-23 Youth Justice Innovation Grants Project Summaries](https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/files/publications/pdf/5514.pdf).

**Grant Requirements**

Counties receiving a Youth Justice Innovation Grant must:

* Participate in periodic grantee conference calls, site visits, and presentation requests.
* Regularly collect program data and report out on outcomes. Counties will be asked to review and track specific measures related to racial and ethnic disparities using data from eWiSACWIS.

All proposed projects must satisfy the following requirements:

* Will provide “community-based juvenile delinquency-related services” within the scope of services allowable under [Youth Aids](https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/statutes/statutes/48/xi/526/2/c).
* Will not contribute to “net widening” or expanding YJ system involvement of youth whose primary needs would be best addressed in another system.
* Will serve a target population age 10 and over.
* Innovation funds will be used to initiate or significantly expand an evidence-informed program or practice (Innovation grants should not be used to fund existing programs or initiatives).

**Applications must be submitted electronically to** [**DCFYJ@wisconsin.gov**](mailto:DCFYJ@wisconsin.gov) **no later than July 20, 2023, at 5:00pm CST.** An email will be sent out on July 21, 2023, confirming receipt of application.

**Eligibility**

As the YJ Innovation Grants are repurposed Youth Aids funds, only Wisconsin county human service agencies are eligible to apply for this grant opportunity. However, counties may apply in partnership with other counties or tribes – all participating partners should be listed on the application. Counties may only apply for one YJ Innovation Grant in 2023.

**INITIAL GRANT**

Initial grants are reserved for counties starting a new evidence-informed practice or program. Counties awarded a grant (initial or continuation) in 2022 are not eligible to apply for an initial grant in 2023.

**CONTINUATION GRANT**

Counties who were awarded a YJ Innovation Grant (initial or continuation) in fall 2022 are eligible to apply for a second or third year of YJ Innovation Grant funding (continuation):

* Counties Awarded an Initial Grant in 2022 may apply for a second year of continuation funding *–* Green, Jefferson, Marathon, Oconto, Oneida, Washburn, Walworth, Waushara
* Counties Awarded a Continuation Grant in 2022may apply for a third year of continuation funding*–* Ashland, Crawford, Dane, Jackson, Pierce, Washington, Eau Claire, Outagamie

**Project Areas**

Based on eligibility status, counties may apply for grant funding for one of the following project areas:

**INITIAL GRANT**

Counties who have never been awarded a YJ Innovation Grant or were last awarded an initial YJ Innovation Grant before fall 2020 should apply for an initial grant. Three project areas are available, counties should select one of the following:

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| Initial Grant Project Area | Project Objective | Examples |
| **Reducing YJ Referrals** | This project area is focused on collaborating with community stakeholder(s) to reduce the number of youth unnecessarily referred to the YJ system. Any services provided would be before the point of a YJ referral and delivered outside of the YJ system, although YJ staff should be involved in the collaborative efforts underpinning the project. | * *Truancy reduction project where goal is to increase daily attendance, while also decreasing the number of youth referred for JIPS-Truancy. Services are delivered by the school district or a local community agency like the Boys and Girls Club.* * *County collaborates with local law enforcement to offer officers expanded training in adolescent development and identify alternatives to arrest or YJ referral for delinquency offenses like Disorderly Conduct.* |
| **Pre-Court Diversion** | This project area is focused on collaborating with community stakeholder(s) to offer services/programming to divert referred youth away from formal court involvement. These are services that will be provided to youth after a youth is referred to YJ, but before they are formally petitioned to court. | * *Partnering with a local school district to offer restorative justice programming to youth referred for delinquency offenses that occurred on school grounds.* * *Establishing a Youth Panels Program where youth have the opportunity to appear in front of a panel of community volunteers.* |
| **Post-Dispositional Services** | This project area is focused on improving community-based service delivery for youth on supervision. Projects should implement programming that can be added to a county’s YASI Service Matrix for Medium- and High-Risk youth. Proposed services should be rooted in Positive Youth Development and should not include an electronic monitoring component. | * *Contracting with a local provider to implement Functional Family Therapy or Family Centered Treatment to serve youth who score moderate or high risk in the Family domain.* * *Training staff in Decision Points to offer skill-building services to youth who score moderate or high risk in the Attitudes or Skills domains.* |

**CONTINUATION GRANT**

Counties who were awarded a YJ Innovation Grant (initial or continuation) in fall 2022 should apply for a Continuation Grant. This opportunity is designed for these counties to continue the initiatives started with past Innovation funding.

**Application Requirements and Evaluation**

**INITIAL GRANT**

Complete and sign application page 4, respond to initial grant questions on pages 5-7, and attach responses for selected project area on page 8 in a separate document. Responses should not exceed four pages.

**CONTINUATION GRANT**

Complete and sign application page 4, respond to continuation grant questions on page 9, and attach required documents.

Applications that do not address all application requirements will not be considered. Applications will be reviewed by an evaluation committee and scored using the criteria outlined in the application. Contract awards will be granted to the highest scoring applications, regardless of project area or funding amount requested.

DCF’s evaluation committee will consist of members who have been selected because of their special expertise and knowledge of the service(s) and/or product(s) that are the subject of this application. Applicants may not contact members of the evaluation committee except at DCF’s request.

**Contract Terms, Funding, and Budget Proposals**

YJ Innovation Grants are distributed as short-term funding with the purpose of supporting counties to implement a new project or practice they would not be able to accomplish without significant seed money. Counties should clearly explain in their application how they intend to sustain their project beyond the life of the grant.

State statute specifies that Youth Aids funding granted to counties shall be used to purchase or provide “community-based juvenile delinquency-related services.” Additional details of allowable costs can be found in [Wis. Stat. 48.526(2)(c)](https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/statutes/48.526(2)(c)) and the [DCF Allowable Cost Manual](https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/files/finance/fias/pdf/dcfallowablecostmanual.pdf).

**INITIAL GRANT**

* **Contract Term** – Successful applicants will be notified in August 2023. Initial YJ Innovation Grant funds will be available January 1, 2024 and must be used by December 31, 2024 (funding cannot be carried forward into 2025). The contract may be renewed (with funding steps down) up to two additional 1-year periods and shall be subject to satisfactory performance and continued availability of funds.
* **Available Funding** – Counties may apply for funding equal to one of the following amounts:
  + $50,000
  + $100,000
* **Budget Proposal** – Please use the budget sheet on page 6 of the application to describe anticipated spending related to your proposal.

**CONTINUATION GRANT**

* **Contract Term** –Successful applicants will be notified in August 2023. Continuation funds will be available January 1, 2024 and must be used by December 31, 2024 (funding cannot be carried forward into 2025).
  + *Counties awarded an Initial Grant in 2022* – The contract may be renewed (with funding steps down) for one additional 1-year period and shall be subject to satisfactory performance and continued availability of funds.
* **Available Funding** – Counties will be awarded the following amounts:
  + *Counties awarded an Initial Grant in 2022 –* 75% of 2022 Initial Award Amount.
    - $112,500: Jefferson, Walworth, Waushara
    - $75,000: Green, Oconto
    - $37,500: Marathon, Oneida, Washburn
  + *Counties awarded a Continuation Grant in 2022 –* 50% of 2021 Initial Award Amount.
    - $75,000: Dane, Eau Claire, Jackson, Pierce, Washington
    - $50,000: Ashland, Outagamie
    - $25,000: Crawford
* **Budget Proposal –** Please use the budget sheet on page 9 of the application to describe anticipated spending related to your proposal.

**DCF Contact and Optional Zoom Q&A**

For further information regarding this application, contact: YJ Policy Coordinator, [DCFYJ@wisconsin.gov](mailto:DCFYJ@wisconsin.gov), 608-333-2440

An optional Zoom Q&A will be held on June 28, 2023, at 2:00pm. Please register using this link for Zoom access. <https://dcfwi.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcsc-ygrDMpH9OumZXH8e1vMtzyaiUQ4o2s>

**2024 Youth Justice Innovation Grant Award Application**

**Use of form:** Use of this form is mandatory. If the requested information is not provided, the department will be unable to process your application. Personal information you provide may be used for secondary purposes [Privacy Law, §.15.04(1)(m), Wisconsin Statutes].

**Form instructions:** A county may submit only one grant application in 2023. Please limit written responses to questions corresponding to selected project area to five single-spaced pages.Submit completed responses to [DCFYJ@wisconsin.gov](mailto:DCFYJ@wisconsin.gov) by 5:00pm on July 20, 2023.

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| Application No.  437003-C23-0002228 | | Title  Youth Justice Innovation Grant | |
| Issue Date  June 1, 2023 | | | Due Date  July 20, 2023 by 5:00pm CST |
| DCF Contact Name  Alana Peck | DCF Contact Phone  608-333-2440 | | DCF Contact Email  [dcfyj@wisconsin.gov](mailto:dcfyj@wisconsin.gov) |
| Grantees will be expected to sign a contract. Most will be signing the DCF Standard Contract. For situations where the Standard Contract is not required, the DOA Standard Terms and Conditions will apply. Some awarded applicants may be asked to establish their financial stability. Samples of all can be found on our DCF Grant Opportunities Page. <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/doingbusinesswith/applications> | | | |

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| **Applicant Information** | |
| Applying County Human Service Agency(ies) (if applying as consortium, please list Lead County first) | |
| Lead County Human Service Agency Mailing Address (Street, City, State, Zip Code) | |
| Name of Application Point of Contact | |
| Email of Application Point of Contact | Phone Number of Application Point of Contact |
| *We certify that everything in the application is true to the best of our knowledge and we will adhere to the requirements of the application and the resulting contract.* | |
| Name of Lead County Human Service Director | |
| Email of Lead County Human Service Director | Phone of Lead County Human Service Director |
| Signature of Lead County Human Service Director | Date Signed |

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| **Initial Grant Application (p. 1 of 4)** | | |
| Please answer all questions below. Responses to all three questions **should not exceed one page**. | | |
| **COUNTY BACKGROUND SUMMARY (3 points):** In one paragraph, briefly describe your county (Ex. Urban or rural community? High poverty rate? Large distances between population centers?). | | |
| **PROJECT AREA:** Select one option below. | | |
| Reducing YJ Referrals | Pre-Court Diversion | Post-Dispositional Services |
| **PROJECT SUMMARY (3 points):** In one paragraph, clearly state the primary objective of your project, the target population that will be served, and summarize any key features/activities. | | |

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| **Initial Grant Application (p. 2 of 4)** | | | |
| **FUNDING AMOUNT:** Select one option below. | | | |
| $50,000 Grant | $100,000 Grant |  | |
| **BUDGET PROPOSAL (3 points):** Use the chart below to summarize how you intend to use the level of funding you are seeking. You may use estimates where appropriate. | | | |
| Personnel Expenses  *If expenses expected in this category, please briefly describe.* | | | Sub-Total  $ |
| Supplies, Equipment, and Other Operating Expenses  *If expenses expected in this category, please briefly describe.* | | | Sub-Total  $ |
| Training, Consultant, and Sub-Contractor Expenses  *If expenses expected in this category, please briefly describe.* | | | Sub-Total  $ |
| Other Expenses  *If expenses expected in this category, please briefly describe.* | | | Sub-Total  $ |
| Total of Subtotals | | | $ |
| **SUSTAINABILITY PLAN (3 points):** Describe how agency leadership and/or project partners plan to sustain the project beyond the conclusion of DCF funding. | | | |

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| **Initial Grant Application (p. 3 of 4)** | |
| **REPORTING – DATA BASELINE (3 points):** Respond to the three data questions that correspond with your selected project area. | |
|  | **Reducing YJ Referrals**   1. Indicate **one** focus YJ referral type your proposed project will address. *Your selected referral type* ***must*** *be tracked by your county in eWiSACWIS.*   Delinquency Ordinance/Civil Law Violation JIPS Truancy JIPS Non-Truancy   1. In the last two calendar years, how many referrals did your county receive with the focus YJ referral type?  |  |  | | --- | --- | | 2021 |  | | 2022 |  |  1. If your project is effective, what changes do you expect to see in this or related data over time? |
|  | **Pre-Court Diversion**   1. Indicate **one** focus YJ referral type your proposed project will address. *Note – your selected referral type* ***must*** *be tracked by your county in eWiSACWIS.*   Delinquency Ordinance/Civil Law Violation JIPS Truancy JIPS Non-Truancy   1. In the last two calendar years, how many referrals did your county receive with the focus YJ referral type?  |  |  | | --- | --- | | 2021 |  | | 2022 |  |  1. If your project is effective, what changes do you expect to see in this or related data over time? |
|  | **Post-Dispositional Services**   1. Indicate **one** focus YASI Domain you believe your proposed project will address. *Note – only dynamic (changeable) domains are included below. It is possible your project may relate to multiple YASI domains – please only select one for this exercise.*   Family School Community & Peer Alcohol & Drugs Aggression/Violence  Attitudes Skills Employment/Free Time   1. How many of the following were completed in your community in the last calendar year?  |  |  | | --- | --- | | YASI Full Assessments completed in 2022 |  | | YASI Full Assessments with Dynamic Risk indicated in the selected focus domain in 2022 |  |  1. If your project is effective, what changes do you expect to see in this or related data over time? |

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| **Initial Grant Application (p. 4 of 4)** | |
| **PROJECT SPECIFIC QUESTIONS (18 points):** Please answer all questions corresponding with one project area in a separate document. To ensure your application is accurately scored, label responses with the corresponding question number. **Responses should not exceed four pages**. | |
|  | **Reducing YJ Referrals**   1. Briefly describe why your proposed diversion strategy/programming to reduce YJ referrals is necessary in your community. 2. What are the diversion strategies and or programming you plan to offer and how is each proposed strategy/program connected to current best practice? Provide a link for each proposed strategy/program. Please also note if the strategy/program is evidence-based and included in a catalog of evidence-based strategies for youth like the [Title IV-E Prevention Services Clearinghouse](https://preventionservices.acf.hhs.gov/), [OJJDP Model Programs Guide](https://ojjdp.ojp.gov/model-programs-guide/all-mpg-programs), or [NIJ Crime Solutions](https://crimesolutions.ojp.gov/). 3. How will eligibility for proposed diversion programming be determined? 4. Who will be providing the strategy/programming? Please attach a letter of support from the collaborative partner who will be providing diversion programming (letter not included in 4-page limit). 5. Describe how you plan to engage and collaborate with any relevant stakeholder groups. This includes judges, the district attorney’s office, school districts, community service providers, etc. 6. How will you ensure your proposed diversion programming does not contribute to net widening, or the expansion of YJ services to youth whose primary needs would be best addressed in another system? |
|  | **Pre-Court Diversion**   1. Briefly describe why your proposed diversion strategy/programming *pre-court* is necessary in your community. 2. What are the diversion strategies and or programming you plan to offer and how is each proposed strategy/program connected to current best practice? Provide a link for each proposed strategy/program. Please also note if the strategy/program is evidence-based and included in a catalog of evidence-based strategies for youth like the [Title IV-E Prevention Services Clearinghouse](https://preventionservices.acf.hhs.gov/), [OJJDP Model Programs Guide](https://ojjdp.ojp.gov/model-programs-guide/all-mpg-programs), or [NIJ Crime Solutions](https://crimesolutions.ojp.gov/). 3. How will your county identify youth eligible for this diversion programming? 4. Describe how you plan to engage and collaborate with any relevant stakeholder groups, this includes judges, the district attorney’s office, community service providers, youth/parent voice groups, etc. 5. How will you ensure positive youth development is a core value of your proposed strategy/programming? 6. How will you ensure proposed diversion programming does not contribute to net widening, or the expansion of YJ services to youth whose primary needs would be best addressed in another system? |
|  | **Post-Dispositional Services**   1. Briefly describe why your proposed post-dispositional service is necessary in your community. 2. What is the post-dispositional programming you plan to offer and how is each proposed program connected to current best practice? Provide a link any program/practice/curricula proposed. Please also note if the strategy/program is evidence-based and included in a catalog of evidence-based strategies for youth like the [Title IV-E Prevention Services Clearinghouse](https://preventionservices.acf.hhs.gov/), [OJJDP Model Programs Guide](https://ojjdp.ojp.gov/model-programs-guide/all-mpg-programs), or [NIJ Crime Solutions](https://crimesolutions.ojp.gov/). 3. How will your county identify youth eligible for these services? 4. Describe how you plan to engage and collaborate with any relevant stakeholder groups, this includes judges, the district attorney’s office, community service providers, youth/parent voice groups, etc. 5. How will you ensure positive youth development is a core value of your proposed service(s)? 6. How will you ensure proposed programming does not contribute to net widening, or the expansion of YJ services to youth whose primary needs would be best addressed in another system? |

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| **Continuation Grant Application** | | | | | |
| **FUNDING AMOUNT:** Select the award amount associated with your county. | | | | | |
| $112,500  Jefferson, Walworth, Waushara | $75,000  Dane, Eau Claire, Green, Jackson, Oconto, Pierce, Washington | $50,000  Ashland, Outagamie | $37,500  Marathon, Oneida, Washburn | $25,000  Crawford | |
| **BUDGET PROPOSAL (3 points):** Use the chart below to summarize how you intend to use the level of funding you are seeking. You may use estimates where appropriate. | | | | | |
| Personnel Expenses  *If expenses expected in this category, please briefly describe.* | | | | | Sub-Total  $ |
| Supplies, Equipment, and Other Operating Expenses  *If expenses expected in this category, please briefly describe.* | | | | | Sub-Total  $ |
| Training, Consultant, and Sub-Contractor Expenses  *If expenses expected in this category, please briefly describe.* | | | | | Sub-Total  $ |
| Other Expenses  *If expenses expected in this category, please briefly describe.* | | | | | Sub-Total  $ |
| Total of Subtotals | | | | | $ |
| **SUSTAINABILITY PLAN (3 points):** Describe how agency leadership and/or project partners plan to sustain the project beyond the conclusion of DCF funding. | | | | | |
| **CONTINUATION GRANT SUPPORTING MATERIALS (27 points):** Please attach the document listed below to your application.   * Copy of your county’s completed 2023 Mid-Year Evaluation | | | | | |