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For Immediate Release
March 24, 2015

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Arizona Criminal Justice Commission Awards Over \$600,000 in 2015 Substance Abuse Prevention Grants

Grants Will Fund Evidence-Based Drug Prevention and Education Programs Focused on Arizona Youth and Young Adults

Phoenix, AZ, Tuesday, March 24, 2015 – Today, the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission (ACJC) announced that it will be awarding \$604,339 to 13 criminal justice agencies and non-profit organizations across the state to fund evidence-based drug prevention and education programs focused on Arizona youth and young adults. This 2015 grant program is a collaboration between ACJC and the Arizona Department of Health Services, Division of Behavioral Health Services to fund prevention and education efforts by state, county, local, and tribal criminal justice agencies – as well as non-profit organizations – between April 1, 2015 and September 30, 2015.

“I am extremely pleased with the quality of the proposals that ACJC received from our applicants,” said John A. Blackburn, Jr., Executive Director of the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission. “The evidence-based programs that we will be funding should have an immediate impact in communities all across the state.”

The Substance Abuse Prevention Grant program is designed to assist state, county, local, and tribal criminal justice agencies in implementing effective substance prevention and education efforts encompassing evidence-based interventions and environmental prevention strategies involving multiple sectors of the community focusing on reducing access and opportunity, enforcing consequences, and decreasing the likelihood of substance abuse by addressing risk and protective factors.

Goals of the effort include projects that are designed to prevent and/or reduce substance abuse that are cost-effective and result in increased public safety, proactively address substance abuse before its inception to thwart negative consequences related to safety, health, and academic achievement, and build collaborative relationships between public health, community, and criminal justice organizations to better address substance abuse. In addition, meeting these goals must be done using evidence-based interventions.

Drug Prevention and Education Grant Summaries

Apache County Sheriff's Office \$11,600

Project focus is to educate public and provide safe disposal of unused or unwanted prescription drugs throughout Apache County. Population affected: adults and juveniles.

- Proposal will fund a drug incinerator and supplies/materials to promote drug take back events.

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Administrative Office of the Courts \$100,000

Project focus is to provide drug prevention training to probation officers to more effectively deal with substance abusers on probation. Drug prevention and reduction are the keys to the project and drug testing of offenders is included in the project activities. Population affected: adults.

- Proposal will fund contract expenses and in-state travel expenses related to the training and 7,240 drug testing kits.

Attorney General's Office \$54,778

Project focus is to support the Alcohol Adult Literacy Project (AALP). This education project is geared towards children and young adults to convey misconceptions about alcohol use and support an alcohol-free lifestyle. Population affected: juveniles.

- Proposal will fund contractual services to train AG personnel on the AALP, which includes a 3-day class delivered locally, AG personnel expenses to deliver the training to various locations in the state, and materials/supplies expenses to support the project.

Arizona Department of Corrections \$23,025

Project focus is to receive education and training at the Southwestern School for Behavioral Health Studies Conference in Tucson, August 24-27. The goal of the training is to enhance the clinical skill sets of ADOC substance abuse counseling staff to improve the quality of treatment services and outcomes. Population affected: adults.

- Proposal will fund the travel and per diem costs of 25 staff and registration costs to attend the training.

Coconino County Superior Court \$22,200

Project focus is to increase success rate of current or potential substance abusers going through DUI/Drug Court or Integrated Family Court using random drug tests to deter substance abuse. This project would also expand existing DUI/drug testing by increasing the number of substances included in the drug tests from 5 substances to 10 substances. Population affected: adults and juveniles.

- Proposal will fund materials and supplies for 3,600 drug tests and a small number of substance abuse assessments for those clients that need a more thorough assessment for treatment/prevention referrals.

Kingman Police Department \$65,915

Project focus is to support the Mohave Opportunities Rehab Education (MORE) program that proactively addresses substance abuse through education to juveniles and adults. This is a pilot program in Kingman, with anticipation of expanding countywide after an evaluation of the program. Population affected: adults and juveniles.

- Proposal will fund substance abuse prevention and education training for school resource officers, field officers, school faculty and staff, contract services for initial assessments and specimen testing of participants, and materials and supplies for drug prevention and education activities.

Maricopa County Adult Probation \$79,045

Project focus is to work with Adult Drug Court to increase the frequency of drug testing of program participants to two tests per week, delivered randomly, to ensure accountability and effectiveness in reducing substance abuse. Population affected: adults.

- Proposal will fund contract services to cover the costs of 10,400 drug tests over a 6 month period.

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Maricopa County Attorney \$14,976

Project focus is to support the Good Choices, Bright Futures program that delivers substance abuse prevention curriculum for youth between ages 10-14, in out-of-school settings. Population affected: juveniles.

- Proposal will fund contract services for training and evaluation of the project, travel costs related to delivering the presentations, materials/supplies related to the training and presentations, and equipment for the presentations.

Tempe Social Services – Care 7 \$29,620

Project focus is to support the Celebrating Families Program that is a parenting skills program designed for families where one or both parents are in the early stages of substance addiction recovery and there is a high risk for domestic violence/child abuse. Population affected: adults and juveniles.

- Proposal will fund personnel costs to deliver the training, contractual expenses to provide technical assistance to trainers, and materials/supplies for program.

HOPE, Inc. \$26,789

Project focus is to support the Community Reintegration Program with substance abuse prevention and education and relapse prevention coping skills. Population affected: adults.

- Proposal will fund personnel costs to revise and administer the substance abuse curriculum, materials/supplies to support the curriculum and participants, and equipment costs of the program.

MATFORCE \$98,975

Project focus is to implement a mass media campaign on the harms of marijuana across the state of Arizona and work with community coalitions to affect change by disseminating information and delivering training. Population affected: juveniles.

- Proposal will fund contractual services to develop toolkits, deliver training presentations, and develop curriculum, cover costs to produce toolkits, and operating expense related to a conference.

Pasadera Behavioral Health Network \$41,289

Project focus is to support the Rx360 and The Buzz programs to target 525 parents and 110 youth with prevention education related to underage drinking, youth Rx drug use, and the consequences associated with these risk taking behaviors. Population affected: adult and juvenile.

- Proposal will fund personnel costs related to project oversight and coordination, contract services to deliver various aspects of the prevention training for facilitators and participants and provide translation services, and materials/supplies related to prevention training.

Pima Prevention Partnership \$36,118

Project focus is to support the Pima County Teen Court program deliver substance abuse prevention training to youth that demonstrate higher risk of recidivism due to substance use. Population affected: juvenile.

- Proposal will fund personnel costs for program oversight and for workshop facilitators, contract for training services for staff, travel expenses for staff to conduct workshops, and materials/supplies to support delivering the prevention workshops.

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Created in 1982, the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission is a statutorily authorized entity mandated to carry out various coordinating, monitoring and reporting functions regarding the administration and management of criminal justice programs in Arizona. The ACJC serves as a resource and service organization for Arizona's criminal justice community on a myriad of issues ranging from drugs, gangs and victim assistance to criminal history, and crime laboratory enhancements.