

RESOLUTION
Department of Health and Human Services
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
Grants to Develop and Expand Behavioral Health Treatment
Court Collaboratives
(Adult Treatment Court Collaboratives)
RFA No. TI-11-010

WHEREAS, the Fort Bend County Commissioners Court finds it in the best interest of the citizens of Fort Bend County, that the Adult Treatment Court Collaboratives Program be operated for the Fiscal year 2012; and

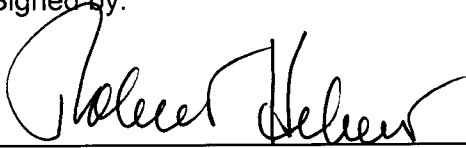
WHEREAS, the Fort Bend County Commissioners Court agrees that in the event of loss or misuse of the Health and Human services/Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration division funds, the County assures that the funds will be returned to the Department of Health and Human Services/Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration in full; and

WHEREAS, the Fort Bend County Commissioners Court designates Robert Hebert, Fort Bend County Judge, as the grantee's authorized official. The authorized official is given the power to apply for, accept, reject, alter or terminate the grant on behalf of the applicant agency.

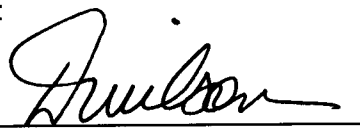
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fort Bend County Commissioners Court approves electronic submission of the grant application for Adult Treatment Court Collaboratives grant to the Health and Human services/Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration.

Passed and Approved this 24 day of May, 2011

Signed by:


Robert E. Hebert, County Judge

ATTEST:


Dianne Wilson, County Clerk



Grant Application Confirmation Number: Grant 108 90717

Executive Summary
“Adult Treatment Court Collaborative”
Department of Health and Human Services and Substance Abuse and
Mental Health Services Administration

Fort Bend County Texas, located southwest of Harris County (Houston), has grown from 345,452 in 2008 to approximately 585,141 currently. The increase in population creates tremendous pressure of county services, especially those dealing with the Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health services. Fort Bend County judicial leaders, sheriff's office, probation department and providers, recognized the need to improve criminal justice processes and enhance services for people with mental illness and co-occurring disorders. A collaborative infrastructure was developed, The Fort Bend Criminal Justice Mental Health Initiative, which provides the vehicle for communication, information sharing, program development and advocacy. As a result of the CJMH initiative, specialized mental health dockets have been in place for over 2 years, including a specialized prosecutor, specialized probation officers and court liaisons, an MH treatment team in the jail, weekly based jail treatment staffing, and most recently a specialized public defender's office for the mentally ill.

The **Department of Behavioral Health Services** and Dr Connie Almeida, along with the Sheriff's Office, CSCD, Texana Center, the **Public Defender's Office**, HHS, and **Fort Bend Regional Council on Substance Abuse** have established a team to complete the application to the Department of Health and Human Services/Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

GRANTS TO DEVELOP and EXPAND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TREATMENT COURT COLLABORATIVES (Adult Treatment Court Collaboratives)

3 years~up to \$400,000 per year. NO County Match

Application Deadline: June 6, 2011

This grant provides the necessary funding and support to further the collaborative system of the CJMH initiative. All parties involved in this application have observed the definite correlation between mental health and substance abuse. The goals of this collaborative court grant includes 1) establishing an **effective system of communication among the courts, jail, probation and treatment providers**, as well as a 2) **system of care to reduce relapse and recidivism**.

As part of this infrastructure development, we will identify redundancy in information, assessments, and data reporting, and streamline assessment, treatment planning, and court reports. An integrated management information system will be developed to allow communication and integration of information between courts, jail, and probation and treatment providers. We recognize that information exchange is a significant barrier in our current criminal justice system. Increased efficiencies in this area will reduce court processing time, attorney time and jail time. Improved coordination and integration of information will also lead to increased access to appropriate level of care, engagement in services, coordination of MH and substance abuse treatment, increased compliance with

care, reduced recidivism, as well as improved function and reintegration into the community.

Dr. Connie Almeida, Director of Behavioral Health Services in Fort Bend County is currently working with all departments mentioned to establish the best system to promote the continuity of care. This 'continuity of care' will support successful reentry into the community by identifying various intercept points for people to reengage with services when risk factors are identified. These intercept points will also be used to divert persons (non violent offenders with co-occurring disorders) from the criminal justice system and engage them with appropriate levels of care.

Funding for mental health and substance abuse services in Texas is extremely limited. If awarded this discretionary grant, the funds will be used to develop evidence based integrated MH/ substance abuse treatment including specialized therapeutic services focusing on trauma as well as an integrated management information system