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The Lighthouse Program

Application details

I confirm that I meet the eligibility criteria for this grant	✓
Legal name of applying agency	21st Judicial District District Attorney's Office
Mailing address line 1	PO Box 20,000
City	Grand Junction
State	Colorado
Zip	81502-5081
Agency phone number	+19702555041
Agency website	https://da.mesacounty.us/
Agency EIN	84-6000783
CEO or Executive Director name	Dan Rubinstein
Application contact and title	Jacque Berry, Director of Lighthouse Program
Type of agency	Governmental Unit

What is the mission of the applying agency?

The Lighthouse Program will reduce the number of juveniles entering the formal Juvenile Justice system, decrease substance use, including opioid use, and increase school attendance by collaborating with community partners.

1. D51 - collaborating by utilizing D51 truancy data to identify students who meet the criteria of truant.
2. Partners - collaborating for resources such as classes, restitution work crew, mentors, and pro-social activities.
3. CMU - collaborating to utilize interns from all Social & Behavioral Science Departments to work side by side with Juvenile Diversion Coordinators and Work Study Mentors. The CMU students will work with youth in the Lighthouse Program to show them they can have a future where higher education, vocational training or certifications are possible. The mission is to provide prevention services, prior to truancy and delinquency, by engaging, supporting and providing resources for youth and families to make positive sustainable changes; changes that will keep youth and families together and out of system involvement.

Describe the applying agency and provide a brief history

Juvenile Diversion has been a part of the 21st JD since early 1990's. Traditionally, youth are referred to Diversion, through the DA's Office, after a crime has been committed. This traditional approach has proven to be too late to address delinquency, school attendance and substance abuse. The Lighthouse Program is focused on early intervention and housed on CMU campus with D51 Truancy Officers, Suspension and Expulsion program. Lighthouse currently has 3 CMU Interns and 1 Work Study Mentor. Next steps are to begin reviewing and processing truancy data with D51 and finalize CMU student training and programming for mentors.

List the major programs related to opioid prevention, education, treatment, recovery, harm reduction, and/or criminal justice offered by your agency. Provide a brief description of each program and indicate the program/s for which you are requesting funding.

The Lighthouse Program has implemented a screening process called Program Eligibility Review. This process utilizes historical data and in-person interviews with youth and family. This process is to identify youth at-risk for dropping out of school, becoming involved in the Criminal Justice System and becoming active users of substances. Case Management works directly with the youth and family to identify services and support needed to mitigate the risk, provide education, develop protective factors and obtain mental health and substance abuse treatment. This is done through youth and parent interviews and assessments.

Rethinking Substance classes for Youth & Parents is a curriculum to educate youth, and engage parents, on the impact of substance use on their developing brain and tying substance use to the negative impacts on themselves, their family members and the community as a whole. Parental Engagement is an important part of the process. COSHI's (Colorado Sex Health Initiative) Independence Road classes for Youth is a curriculum facilitated by licensed treatment providers and/or certified trainers to educate youth on high risk behaviors with the goal of creating action plans to reduce high-risk behaviors in the youth. This has never been more critical as it is today with the increase in opioid addictions and overdoses.

Collaboration with community providers / partners allows for us to provide prevention services, education and intensive in-home treatment for the youth with extensive parental involvement.

Youth may also be assigned to work with a CMU Work Study Mentor to help build positive relationships, develop pro-social life skills and offer an overall supportive environment for the youth.

Is this agency currently in a probationary status? No

Please select your agency's governance structure Other

Please describe your agency governance structure Juvenile Diversion is directly under the governance of the 21st JD District Attorney

Current Agency Sources of Income

		Total dollar amount	% of agency budget
1	Individual Contributions	0	0
2	Foundations	0	2
3	Billing/Billing Reimbursement	US\$9,000.00	-1
4	Program Service Revenue	0	0
5	Fees/Earned Income	0	0

6	Govt Grant - Federal	US\$274,912.00	4
7	Govt Grant - State	US\$23,750.00	-1
8	Govt Grant - County/Local	US\$100,175.00	1
9	Govt Contracts	US\$121,214.00	18
10	In-Kind Contributions	0	0
11	Other	US\$6,730,546.00	100

If you completed line 11 in the above table, please provide additional details on "other" income

We are an agency within the Mesa County government. Mesa County provides our department with a budget consisting of general fund monies and it is augmented by Public Safety Sales Tax funds. Our county budget encompasses all grant monies listed above. Our agency is mandated by the State legislature and we are not a revenue generating agency for the Mesa County government. Additionally, our balance sheet is incorporated in the Mesa County government finances, and will be made available upon request.

Agency Balance Sheet

	Beginning of year	End of year	
1	Cash (non-interest-bearing)	0	0
2	Savings and temporary cash investments	0	0
3	Pledges and grants receivable	0	0
4	Other assets	0	0
5	Total assets	0	0
6	Accounts payable and accrued expenses	0	0
7	Grants payable	0	0
8	Other liabilities	0	0
9	Total liabilities	0	0

10	Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances	0	0
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Agency Revenue/Expense Snapshot

		Total dollar amount
1	Total Revenue	US\$6,730,456.00
2	Total Expense	US\$3,435,560.69
3	Surplus/Deficit	US\$3,294,985.00

Program name: The Lighthouse Program

Please select the service area for which your program is seeking funding: Prevention and Education

Amount requested: US\$300,000.00

Physical address of program location (street, city, state, zip): 1060 Orchard Ave., Grand Junction, CO 81501

Date of program inception or expected start date: 2022-06-15

Please provide a narrative of the program for which you are seeking funding

The Lighthouse Program provides an early and timely intervention prior to delinquency, truancy and substance abuse. While still providing services, support and resources to youth and families through the traditional Juvenile Justice System. This expansion is geared toward early intervention and prevention. The Lighthouse Program aims to reduce the number of juveniles entering the formal Juvenile Justice System, decrease substance use, including opioid use, and increase school attendance by collaborating with community partners.

1. D51 - collaborating by utilizing D51 truancy data to identify students who meet the criteria of truant
2. Partners - collaborating for resources such as classes, restitution work crew, mentors, and pro-social activities
3. CMU - collaborating the use of interns from all of the Social & Behavioral Science Departments to work side by side with Juvenile Case Managers. The CMU student mentors will coach and /or teach youth in the Lighthouse Program about higher education, vocational training or certifications. They will also serve as a positive role model for the youth. The goal of the Lighthouse Program is to increase prevention services by engaging, supporting and providing resources for youth and families to make positive sustainable changes; changes that will keep youth and families together, substance free and out of the Juvenile Justice system.

Describe the duration and frequency in which clients are offered services

Two primary and unique components of the Lighthouse Program target early intervention & timely prevention. Rather than waiting for a formal disposition through a contested court process, the Lighthouse Program intervenes in the lives of youth and families at the earliest point. This is vital for engaging families to make sustainable changes. Dispositions through traditional court process take an average of 156 days (2022 data), which has increased by 50 days since 2018. Additionally, due

to a new legislative enactment requiring a sentencing assessment, the average length of the court process will increase by 30 days. This means traditional probation supervision is not implemented for more than 6 months after a crime has been committed by a juvenile.

The frequency, intensity and duration of supervision will be determined based on a review of objective criteria to identify, address, and mitigate risks. Case Management will develop a contract and a plan with the youth and parents, to address needs and mitigate risk and could potentially be adjusted over time, if needed.

The following programs will be offered regularly for youth and families and have access in a timely manner:

- Rethinking Substances (offered 1-2x per month) This class consists of 2 in-person group sessions and then 5 weeks of repairing harm to self, family and community. This is to help youth identify who is impacted and how they are impacted by substance use.
- Independence Road (offered 1x per quarter) This class consists of 10 group sessions to identify and reduce high risk behaviors such as substance use.
- External Providers (Weekly or bi-weekly sessions with individual providers)
- Prevention services and Case Management services: youth and families will be invited to participate with the Case Manager for meetings in office or virtually, in-home visits, school meetings and/or treatment team meetings. These types of contacts may occur 1-4x per week dependent upon the needs of the family. Other contacts include emails, texts and telephone conversations to provide check-ins and/or support. Youth and families may be meeting with providers virtually or in person, the frequency is dependent upon the treatment providers assessment and recommendations.

Please describe the expected outcome of this program

A reduction of juvenile crime, a reduction of juvenile substance use, an increase in school attendance, an increase in graduation rates and potentially an increase applications to Western CO Community College and Colorado Mesa University. This program may also increase employment skills, with the goal of becoming employed and self-sufficient. An additional outcome for the Lighthouse Program is to increase accessibility to this program through non-traditional referrals. (traditional referrals only come through the Juvenile Justice System)

Document the proven success of your program. Cite sources to support your success.

At this time there is no current data for the Lighthouse Program. The following data has been collected from the traditional Juvenile Diversion Program.

Utilizing fiscal year 20-21 there were 180 youth served, with 75% of the youth completing diversion successfully and 25% of the youth closing diversion unsuccessfully. The recidivism rate for successful completions is 9% and the recidivism rate for unsuccessful completion is 38%.

*Mesa County Diversion Program definition of recidivism: Any new criminal charge at 6 months, 1 year or 2 years since the closing of Diversion.

Describe the program's strategy of being socially connected. Ex: Task forces, coalitions, strategic partnerships, etc.

List the organizations and agencies that you currently collaborate with or would like to collaborate with to reach the expected outcome.

The Lighthouse Program is currently housed with D51 Truancy, Suspension and Expulsion on the CMU campus. We have an active partnership with Mesa County Partners who manages our Division of Criminal Justice (DCJ) grants and provides resources for our youth. If a youth is accepted into the Lighthouse Program there is a collaborative effort and partnership with D51 School Administration, Counselors and Psychologists, to provide the youth with wrap-around services. Continued collaboration with D51 schools will help to implement anti-substance use, anti-bullying and mediation curriculum, to provide accessibility to these programs for all students. The Lighthouse Program's partnership with School Resource Officer's exists to simplify and increase referrals to the Lighthouse Program. Partnership and collaboration with Mesa County Department Human Services to share resources for prevention and betterment of our community through community work groups such as HATCH (How Are The Children) and the Runaway Task Force. Additional funding and services are provided by Family & Adolescent Partnership (FAP), Individualized Services & Support Team (ISST) and Kids Needing EXtra (KNEX). Lastly, the Lighthouse Program partners with multiple service providers which are valuable and necessary for prevention and treatment.

State specifically how your program meets the identified service area you have chosen for your funding request

The Lighthouse Program will take referrals for any youth and family living in Mesa County.

Engaging the youth and family at the earliest point in time to prevent truancy, substance use and criminal activity. Once engaged, youth and family will begin receiving support and services to reduce high risk behavior, by addressing the needs of the whole person and familial environment. This approach should reduce juvenile substance use and entrance into the Juvenile Justice System.

In addition, engagement of the parents or guardians through education, services and support will decrease substance use/abuse and increase parental involvement which should reduce juvenile substance use and entrance into the Juvenile Justice system.

Total annual cost of program (including administration, staff salaries, and services) US\$392,037.38

Current Program Sources of Income

	Total dollar amount	% of program budget
1 Individual Contributions	0	0
2 Foundations	US\$109,000.00	8
3 Business	0	0
4 Program Service Revenue	0	0
5 Fees/Earned Income	0	0
6 Govt Grant - Federal	0	0
7 Govt Grant - State	0	0
8 Govt Grant - County/Local	US\$210,818.63	54
9 Govt Contracts	0	0
10 In-Kind Contributions	0	0
11 Other	0	0

Current Program Revenue/Expense Snapshot

Total dollar amount

1	Total Revenue	0
2	Total Expense	0
3	Surplus/Deficit	0

Discuss any major changes in program revenue or expense anticipated for the period covered by this grant

Increase in funding through this grant. We are seeking \$150,000 each year for the three full-time case manager salaries and fringe benefits. This will comprise the remaining 38% of the budget.

If awarded, please describe how you will use funding in year one

Funding will be utilized to secure the staff needed to accommodate case loads as well as providing prevention efforts to youth that have not yet entered the Juvenile Justice System. We were able to temporarily add to staffing through vacancy savings and this funding will allow us to sustain current staffing. In addition, funding will be utilized to enhance and expand our internal curriculums to offer more resources.

If awarded, please describe how you will use funding in year two

Continued funding required to continue the Lighthouse Program.

Please describe the plan in place to ensure this program remains sustainable

The Lighthouse Program is run within the District Attorney's Office, wherein the elected District Attorney and the staff are committed to early intervention and prevention. Funding is critical for sustainability of the Lighthouse Program.

What is the program's target population?

Juveniles 7 through 17 years of age and their families.

Does the program have service limitations? Yes

Please describe the program service limitations

Limits of time, staff and the efforts youth and family are willing to put into sustainable changes.

What are the parameters for client eligibility?

The Lighthouse Program will accommodate and serve youth that reside in Mesa County, youth that are at-risk of truancy, delinquency and substance use and youth amenable to supervision and accountable for making changes. Parental engagement is vital to eligibility.

Does this program charge clients for services? Yes

Please describe any billing, fees, or other costs to clients. Please also describe any program reimbursement or cost recovery processes.

The Lighthouse Program may impose program fees of up to \$165 dependent upon the nature of the charge. These fees are given to and managed through Partners. These fees help offset the cost of providing classes to youth and the operation of the

Restitution Work Crew, through Partners Program. The Case Managers have ability to allow waive the fees or be assigned to the Partners Program Work Crew to cover fees. This determination is dependent upon the family's ability to pay. Every other resource is free of charge to the youth and family either through a Medicaid provider or through grant funding.

Do other programs in Mesa County provide similar services? Yes

Why is there a need for more than one program providing similar services?

One other program in Mesa County is the D51 Pathways Program (substance abuse education) and it is limited to youth who are caught with substances at school and does not assist with substance use of the parent or guardian. While the State Probation Department may offer similar case management and supervision, those services are offered only after a crime has been committed, followed by the lengthy traditional court process.

Current Program Staffing

	Number of full-time staff	Number of part-time/seasonal staff	Number of volunteers
1	4	1	4

What is the geographic service area for this program? Mesa County

How does this program address the diverse needs of populations that are specific to your region (LGBTQ+, BIPOC, immigrants, rural communities, low income, etc.)

Lighthouse Program will not deny support or services to any youth regardless of status including, but not limited to, LGBTQ+, BIPOC, immigrants, rural communities, low income, etc. The Lighthouse is designed to meet youth and family where they are and to create a healthy successful environment. Case management of the youth and referrals will be individualized with a focus of individualizing the service plan. The Lighthouse Program recognizes the identification of unique characteristics of each youth and will provide necessary interventions through internal and community resources. The District Attorney's Office is aware of legislation focused on identifying these unique populations.

Program Demographics

		Two year prior FY actual	Most recently completed FY actual	Current FY projected	Next FY projected
1	Clients: Total # of unduplicated clients	250	234	450	600
2	Gender: Male	170	136	270	380
3	Gender: Female	80	92	175	205
4	Gender: Other	NA	3	5	15

5	Gender: Not Reported	NA	3	NA	NA
6	TOTAL FROM ROWS 2-6 (should match total from row 1)	250	234	450	600
7	Area: Grand Junction (81501-81507)	92 - FY 20-21 only	154		
8	Area: Clifton (81520)	16 - FY 20-21 only	26		
9	Area: Palisade (81526)	3 - FY 20-21 only	3		
10	Area: Fruita Area (81521, 81524, 81525)	6 - FY 20-21 only	32		
11	Area: Other Mesa County (Glade Park, Colbran, etc.)	0 - FY 20-21 only	4		
12	Area: Outside Mesa County	4 - FY 20-21 only	14		
13	Area: Not Reported	NA	1		
14	TOTAL FROM ROWS 7-13 (should match total from row 1)	121 - FY 20-21 only	234		
15	Ethnicity: White	106 - FY 20-21 only	202		
16	Ethnicity: Hispanic	3 - FY 20-21 only	15		
17	Ethnicity: Asian-	0 - FY 20-21 only	1		

	American				
18	Ethnicity: African- American	3 - FY 20-21 only	4		
19	Ethnicity: Native American	0 - FY 20-21 only	0		
20	Ethnicity: Other	4 - FY 20-21 only	11		
21	Ethnicity: Not Reported	5 - FY 20-21 only	1		
22	TOTAL FROM ROWS 15-21 (should match total from row 1)	121 - FY 20-21 only	234		
23	Age: 0-4	0	0	0	0
24	Age: 5-14	115	86	250	348
25	Age: 15-18	135	148	200	252
26	Age: 19-34	0	0	0	0
27	Age: 35-54	0	0	0	0
28	Age: 55-70	0	0	0	0
29	Age: 71+	0	0	0	0
30	Age: Not Reported	NA	NA	NA	NA
31	TOTAL FROM ROWS 23-30 (should match total from row 1)	250	234	450	600

Please use this space if there is additional information regarding the applying agency or program that is vital to convey in this application

The data for the Two Year Prior is for FY's 19-20 & 20-21. These numbers represent the number of youth served through traditional diversion. Most Recently Completed FY Actual is for 21-22 FY. This data is also traditional diversion data combined with the new vision of the Lighthouse Program. The Current FY Projected data is for the 22-23 FY. This projected data will encompass the full vision and implementation of the Lighthouse Program (prevention services). The data for the Next FY Projected is for the 23-24 FY. This data will include both traditional diversion and full implementation of the Lighthouse Program. Data in item #7-14 is only for FY 20-21 & FY 21-22. Data for previous FY 19-20 is not readily available. Unable to determine projections for ethnicity or geographical area.

REGARDING ATTACHMENTS:

Current program budget - within the County budget

Copy of your most recent audited financial statements, compilation, or review - For financial audit information please see:

<https://www.mesacounty.us/finance/financial-reports/>

Most recent 990 or other tax filing - NA due to being a government agency

Colorado Secretary of State Certificate of Good Standing or Certificate of Registration (if applicable) - NA due to being a government agency

Licensures and designations with the Office of Behavioral Health and/or the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment if applicable to your agency/program - NA

Discuss the resources, tools, and staffing available that will be utilized to reach program outcomes during the funding cycle

Current sustainable staffing for the Lighthouse Program includes; one half-time Chief Deputy District Attorney, one full-time Director and one part-time Administrative Assistant.

De to vacancy savings and donations (one-time money) the Lighthouse Program hired three full-time Juvenile Case managers. These three positions will become permanent staff if this funding is awarded. An additional staff member will be dedicated, to the Lighthouse Program, through Partners Program, by the end of July 2022. Through collaboration with CMU four interns and two work study mentors will help provide services to our population. Additional funding to increase staffing will allow for the program to serve more youth and families, with a focus on prevention. Our community collaboration with D51, CMU and Partners, along with our ability to broker services with various community organizations, is critical to the success of our program. Utilizing data to identify children & youth who are struggling to attend school allows for early intervention and the potential for family engagement at the parental level to make sustainable changes. The sustainable changes we are seeking are formed on screenings and assessments conducted to identify the known variables present in family environments that increase the risk of substance use, truancy and ultimately delinquent behavior.

Provide a narrative of the actions the program will take to reach the desired outcomes during the funding cycle, utilizing the resources listed above

This is more fully explained below.

A continual and timely review of data and outcomes will be conducted to track the outcome measures of recidivism, substance abuse, juvenile filings into the court system, school attendance, graduation rates, higher education, job readiness and curriculum review.

Describe the audience served, number of clients that will receive assistance during the funding cycle, and what services will be offered to each

The goal of the Lighthouse Program is to serve 450 youth and their families during the current FY (2022-2023). Services offered include, but are not limited to, education, treatment for both mental health and substance use, parenting skills, relapse prevention, positive youth outcomes, classes, case management and mentoring. All of these services may be offered to youth and their family living in Mesa County from elementary aged to 17.

Provide a final desired outcome statement

The final desired outcome for the Lighthouse Program is funding for increased staffing. The program is unable to expand services to youth and families with out this funding.

Describe your program's overall approach to evaluation. Refer to methods, instruments, and procedures (surveys, interviews, tests, logs, etc.) for collecting data, and your process for analyzing the data.

The Lighthouse Program has current software and databases designed specifically to hold the data as outlined below. A potential need, in the future, would be a need to expand our ability to track youth and families receiving only prevention services through the Lighthouse Program. These are youth who are at risk of truancy, substance use and delinquency, but have yet to enter the Juvenile Justice System.

Evaluating data to ensure we are addressing the identified needs through frequency, intensity and duration of contract services.

Surveys are utilized at the close of each case; one for the youth and one for the parent. The data from these surveys are to ensure we are meeting the needs of the youth and family through community partners and/or internally. Multiple instruments and tools are utilized to measure change as summarized below.

What are the instruments or tools you will use to measure change?

Through our software and databases the following instruments and tools are utilized:

Youth Survey

Parent Survey

ARNA Screening Tool to measure risk & needs

MAYSI - mental health screening

GAINS - substance use screening

UA / Substance Use Monitoring

Module Database (Recidivism, Successful and Unsuccessful compliance with program, Age, Gender, Gender Identity, Sexual Orientation, Ethnicity, Race, Geographical location, Services Offered and whether they are provided by internal or external providers

D51 Data (Truancy, Monitoring Attendance and Grades & Graduation Rates)

Crossover Youth (DHS involvement past or present)

Pro-Social Involvement (employment, volunteer work, organized activity)

Monthly Reports from service providers

How will evaluation results be used?

Data is evaluated to ensure we provide services to meet the needs identified by the youth and family as well as through screening tools.

Evaluation looks at current curriculum and fidelity to the evidenced based models. Recidivism and relapse are data points that will be crucial to ensure we are providing and/or brokering the right services to meet the families needs.

Compliance with the program is reviewed to ensure our due diligence was met to serve the youth and family.

Quantity of clients served and outcome data

		Most recently completed FY actual	Current FY projected	Next FY projected	Following FY Projected (Year 2)
1	Total # of clients served	234	450	600	800
2	# of clients utilizing youth mentoring opportunities	0	20	60	100

3	# of clients utilizing youth diversion program	234	300	350	400
4	# of clients receiving prevention education	72	150	250	400
5	# of CAS trainings offered	0			0
6	# of clients receiving SUD treatment and wrap around services	0			0
7	# of clients receiving peer delivered care coordination	0			0
8	# of peer recovery specialist trainings provided	0			0

Please upload the following documents:

1. Current agency operating budget
2. Current program budget
3. Copy of your most recent audited financial statements, compilation, or review
4. Most recent 990 or other tax filing
5. Colorado Secretary of State Certificate of Good Standing or Certificate of Registration (if applicable)
6. Licensures and designations with the Office of Behavioral Health and/or the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment if applicable to your agency/program

Current agency operating budget

PDF	DA Budget Status 2022.pdf (51 KiB download)
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Current program budget

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PDF

[Attachment for Opioid Gran... \(42 KiB download\)](#)

Copy of your most recent audited financial statements, compilation, or review

PDF

[Attachment for Opioid Gran... \(42 KiB download\)](#)

Most recent 990 or other tax filing

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