

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM

**SUBJECT:** Acceptance of FY2026 Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Grant

**BUDGET IMPACT:** No local match is required, resulting in no impact to the County budget. This is a 100% reimbursable grant, and all eligible program costs will be reimbursed to the County following submission of appropriate documentation.

#### FUNDING SOURCE:

- (X) CJCC Funding - \$50,000.00
- ( ) Capital
- ( ) N/A
- ( ) SPLOST
- ( ) TSPLLOST

COUNTY ACTION REQUESTED ON: Approval to accept and activate the Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Grant Award.

## HISTORY, FACTS AND ISSUES:

Earlier this year, staff submitted a request for continuation funding under the Delinquency Prevention Grant. This grant program was initially awarded in April 2022 to support the implementation of evidence-based programs and prevention strategies for youth who are first-time offenders, diverted from the juvenile justice system, or charged with a status offense and identified as at risk. Lowndes County utilized this funding to implement the Strengthening Families Program (SFP).

The County was recently notified that it has been awarded \$50,000.00 in continuation funding for the Strengthening Families Program. This amount will support the delivery of two (2) SFP cohorts during the upcoming grant year. Each cohort includes a minimum of eight (8) and a maximum of twelve (12) youth and their families.

SFP is a nationally and internationally recognized, evidence-based family skills training program designed for both high-risk and general population families. Parents and youth attend weekly classes together, beginning with separate parent and youth sessions focused on parenting, communication, life skills, and refusal skills, followed by a joint family practice session.

This award represents the final year of the current five-year continuation funding cycle. While Lowndes County remains eligible to apply for future funding, the continuation model will end after this funding cycle, which concludes on September 30, 2026. Beginning next cycle, the grant program will shift to a competitive application process, and future awards are not guaranteed. Approval of this item will allow the County to complete the current funding cycle and position itself for a competitive application next year, should the Board elect to pursue continued support for SFP.