

- a. List the community partners and their description and contribution, if any, to the proposed program.

The Lowndes County Juvenile Court currently partners with several community partners to provide programs that will serve to supplement the program proposed in this application. Among the primary partners are the Department of Juvenile Justice, Behavioral Health Services, Peaceway Counseling Centers, Pathway to Hope, Southwest Keys Program, Lowndes Drug Action Council, and Choices for Life. Community partners directly associated with the FFT program include Evidence Based Associates and Grace Harbour, Inc.

For the past two decades, EBA has been actively helping states and other public systems on these transformational activities – namely, to identify, adopt, and implement high-quality (i.e., Well-Supported) EBPs for children, youth, young adults, and families at highest risk of serious system consequences such as child removal or incarceration (i.e., in the juvenile or criminal justice systems). Utilizing its scientifically grounded implementation support tools and resources, EBA guides states and large systems through stages of exploration, preparation, implementation, and sustainability that address barriers to achieving optimal program quality, clinical and programmatic fidelity, and positive outcomes. By focusing exclusively on implementation support (i.e., not engaging simultaneously in the delivery of clinical services), EBA is able to focus on the key systemic factors that drive successful and high-fidelity EBP implementation.

EBA and Grace Harbour are currently serving youth and families in Lowndes County and throughout Georgia and are prepared to start services immediately upon contract award.

- b. Describe the specific activities that will take place during this upcoming grant period to ensure sustainability, including any barriers for the program and how the organization intends to address said issues.

Lowndes County and the Court will work to make sure that the programs implemented realize cost savings greater than the current detention rates making the program cost effective enough to allow the legislature to allocate funds for the continuation of the diversionary programs implemented. Based on current economic and budgetary constraints, it is doubtful that these programs will continue without continuation of funding.

Lowndes County Juvenile Court staff work with countywide community providers to ensure program sustainability. Efforts to sustain the initiative will be largely driven by the collaboration between the Lowndes County Juvenile Court and local community providers that are capable partners in providing adjunct services to FFT, including mental health, substance abuse, life skills, educational, vocational, and mentoring needs of the youth and family members.

Monthly staffing with the evidence-based program provider, use of the Detention Assessment Instrument, Pre-Dispositional Risk Assessment, submission of a Monthly Data report to The Carl Vinson Institute of Government, and Recidivism Reports have all supported the provision of evidence-based services in Lowndes County.