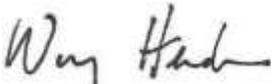


To: DCF/DMCPS Administrator
DCF Area Administrators
Child Placing Agency Directors
Child Welfare Agency Directors
County Departments of Community Programs Directors
County Departments of Human Services Directors
County Departments of Social Services Directors
Group Home Providers
Tribal Social Service/Indian Child Welfare Directors
Private Child Placing Agencies
Residential Care Center Providers
Shelter Care Providers
Tribal Chairpersons

From: Wendy Henderson
Administrator 

Re: **2017-2019 Youth Justice Innovation Grants Final Report**

PURPOSE

The purpose of this memo is to share the 2017-2019 Youth Justice Innovation Grants Final Report. Since 2017, these grants have supported counties in launching new, innovative youth justice projects and practices.

BACKGROUND

State statute {s. 48.526(3)(e)} allows the Department of Children and Families (DCF) to carry forward unused Youth Aids funds (underspending) from one calendar year to the next two calendar years. This money had previously been allocated through "Early Intervention" grants. In the fall of 2017, DCF invited applications for the first round of Innovation Grant funding due to greater than expected underspending for CY2016. The second round of Innovation Grant funding was awarded in the fall of 2018 for a grant period ending in December 2019.

INFORMATION SUMMARY

The attached report includes information about the projects funded through the first and second round of Youth Justice Innovation Grant funding in 2017-2018 and 2018-2019. Guided by the Youth Justice Vision and Strategic Plan, grants were funded in the areas of Alternatives to Detention, School/Justice Partnerships, Robust Case Planning, and Community Partnerships. Innovation Grants are designed to be a flexible source of funding to promote innovative practice in the targeted areas, and recipients were encouraged to develop, implement, and evaluate their programs in ways that were responsive to local needs.

Innovative work in youth justice is continuing around the state. In the fall of 2019, innovation grants were awarded to ten additional counties, and grants for the 2020-2021 period will be awarded in the fall of 2020. Counties and other local justice system partners are encouraged to use the information in this report to generate ideas, make connections, and move forward the Youth Justice Vision and Strategic Plan in their own communities.

CENTRAL OFFICE CONTACT: Youth Justice Policy Coordinator
Bureau of Youth Services
(608) 422-6899
DCFYJ@wisconsin.gov

MEMO WEB SITE: <http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/memos>

Attachment Links: Youth Justice Innovation Grants Final Report 2017-2019
<https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/files/cwportal/yj/pdf/ig-rpt-17-19.pdf>

Youth Justice in Wisconsin web page
<https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/yj>