

Accountability Court Funding Program FY '26 Law Enforcement Competitive Grant

Department: Treatment Services

Program to be served by grant: Hall County Drug Court, Hall County H.E.L.P. Program and Veterans Treatment Court, Hall County DUI Court, Hall County Family Treatment Court, and Hall County Parental Accountability Court

Grant Solicitation Release Date: August 26, 2025

Grant Application Deadline: September 26, 2025

Total Budget Request: \$31,460

No Cash Match Requirement

Project Description

Treatment Services is the agency that manages all the accountability court programs in the Northeastern Judicial Circuit (Hall and Dawson counties). This circuit currently operates with a multi-track Drug Court program in Hall County with 4 distinct tracks (high-risk/high-need track, moderate-risk/moderate-need track, Veterans track, and a prison-reentry track), a multi-track Mental Health Court in Hall County with 2 distinct tracks (co-occurring track and severe and persistent mental illness track), Hall County Family Treatment Court, Hall County DUI Court, and a multi-track treatment court program in Dawson County with 3 distinct tracks (drug track, mental health track, and DUI track). Between all accountability court programs, Treatment Services currently serves over 600 participants with treatment and drug testing services offered 7 days per week. The agency operates a full-time drug testing lab which analyzes approximately 55,000 drug screens per year.

A significant number of program participants enter the Hall County Treatment Services building daily, requiring a security presence at the building entrance. Additional part-time security officer staff would assist in monitoring the treatment building to ensure building rules are enforced and all participants and staff are safe from any potential threat of violence. Treatment Services offers evening treatment groups, and an added part-time security officer could be available to escort treatment staff to their vehicles in the parking lot. On any given day, Treatment Services has approximately 340 program participants and other customers entering our building for services. This significant number of would be best served by providing a safe environment that is conducive to treatment facilitation

Additionally, Treatment Services will collaborate with the Hall County Sheriff's Office to transport program participants to residential treatment facilities. Approximately 50 criminal defendants a year are offered participation in a program concurrent with or conditioned upon participation in residential treatment. In many cases the defendant has no transportation or resources to get themselves to a treatment facility, no independent support system, and the court

requires transportation directly from the detention center to the residential treatment. It is proposed that Treatment Services utilize off-duty Hall County Sheriff's Office staff to facilitate this transportation.

Needs Statement

The Hall County Treatment Services building operates from 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 7:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m. on Friday, and 7:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. on the weekends. We offer over 65 treatment groups in our building per week at various times throughout the day. Additionally, staff meet regularly with participants for individual counseling and case management sessions, and our drug testing lab operates from open to close, collecting approximately 1,000 drug screens per week.

Treatment Services currently uses a part-time security officer for 18 hours per week, but the building is open more than 60 hours per week. It is necessary to supplement security services to allow for an additional 24 hours per week to provide a more consistent security presence.

Also, it is anticipated that during the six-month award period Treatment Services will experience the need to assist with approximately 25 transports to residential treatment facilities. This number is based on previously demonstrated need and the duration of the award period. Utilizing off-duty Hall County Sheriff's Office staff would assure the court that law enforcement is providing secure transport to help participants gain treatment.

Project Goals

1. Provide part-time security services for 24 hours per week at the Treatment Services building to monitor participant activity and adherence to program and building rules.
2. Provide secure transport to residential treatment programs for 25 current or prospective accountability court program participants.

Project Activities and Services

Funding will pay for a part-time security officer at a pay rate of \$40.00 per hour for 24 hours per week for 6 months for a total cost of \$24,960.

Funding will pay for 25 transports of current or prospective accountability court participants from the Hall County Detention Center to residential Treatment. Transports average four hours from start to finish, resulting in 100 hours of required officer time at \$65 per hour. The total cost is \$6,500

Resources Needed

This grant funding will allow Treatment Services to increase the security presence at the facility from just 30% of weekly operational hours to over 60% of weekly operational hours.

Grant funds will allow Treatment Services to provide secure transport for current and prospective accountability court participants from the detention center to approved residential treatment facilities. This will decrease periods of incarceration and increase Treatment Services' ability to facilitate effective treatment.