



Board of Commissioners
Resolution
B2021-281

15 West Kellogg Blvd.
Saint Paul, MN 55102
651-266-9200

Sponsor: Public Health

Meeting Date: 12/21/2021

Title: Grant Award from the Minnesota Department of Public Safety for Sexual Assault Services

File Number: 2021-688

Background and Rationale:

Public Health's Sexual Offense Services (SOS) program receives annual state and federal grant funding from the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Office of Justice Programs to provide 24/7 crisis advocacy, ongoing individual advocacy, counseling and support, community awareness, information and education. In addition, SOS program provides follow-up services to victims and secondary victims (those who are impacted by sexual violence such as family and friends of victims). SOS services have been provided in Ramsey County since 1976. SOS provides over 8,000 services to approximately 1,100 victims of sexual violence, annually.

Research and experience has shown sexual assault victims experience considerable short- and longer- term distress. Victims who worked with an advocate were less likely to blame themselves for the sexual assault and less reluctant to seek further help from community support systems. As a result of advocacy, they were more likely to receive services from community professionals and to have better recovery outcomes.

Recommendation:

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners resolved to:

1. Ratify the submittal of the grant application to the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Office of Justice Programs, Crime Victim Services in the amount of \$694,628 for Sexual Assault Services.
2. Accept a grant award from and approve a grant agreement with the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Office of Justice Programs, Crime Victim Services for Sexual Assault Services for the period of October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2023 in the amount of \$694,628.
3. Authorize the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute the grant agreement.
4. Authorize the County Manager to enter into agreements and amendments to agreements in accordance with the county's procurement policies and procedures, provided the amounts are within the limits of the grant funding.

A motion to approve was made by Commissioner Frethem, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Motion passed.

Aye: - 7: Carter, Frethem, MatasCastillo, McDonough, McGuire, Ortega, and Reinhardt

By: 
Mee Cheng, Chief Clerk - County Board