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Agency Name: Hidalgo County

Grant/App: 2541902 **Start Date:** 9/1/2013 **End Date:** 6/30/2014

Project Title: Young Adult Re Energizing Project

Status: Application Pending Submission

Profile Information

Applicant Agency Name: Hidalgo County

Project Title: Young Adult Re Energizing Project

Division or Unit to Administer the Project: 370th District Court

Address Line 1: 100 N Closner

Address Line 2:

City/State/Zip: Edinburg Texas 78539-3523

Start Date: 9/1/2013

End Date: 6/30/2014

Regional Council of Governments(COG) within the Project's Impact Area: Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council

Headquarter County: Hidalgo

Counties within Project's Impact Area: Hidalgo

Grant Officials:

Authorized Official

User Name: Noe Gonzalez

Email: gnz3@hotmail.com

Address 1: 100 E Cano

Address 1:

City: Edinburg, Texas 78539

Phone: 956-318-2280 Other Phone:

Fax: 956-318-2285

Title: The Honorable

Salutation: Judge

Project Director

User Name: Ester Contreras

Email: ester370@yahoo.com

Address 1: 100 E Cano

Address 1:

City: Edinburg, Texas 78539

Phone: 956-318-2280 Other Phone:

Fax: 956-318-2285

Title: Ms.

Salutation: Ms.

Financial Official

User Name: Ray Eufrazio

Email: ray.eufrazio@auditor.co.hidalgo.tx.us

Address 1: 100 E. Cano

Address 1: 3rd Floor

City: Edinburg, Texas 78540

Phone: 956-318-2511 Other Phone: 956-318-2535

Fax: 956-318-2577

Title: Mr.

Salutation: Mr.

Grant Writer

User Name: Noe Gonzalez

Email: gnz3@hotmail.com

Address 1: 100 E Cano

Address 1:

City: Edinburg, Texas 78539

Phone: 956-318-2280 Other Phone:

Fax: 956-318-2285
Title: The Honorable
Salutation: Judge

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Narrative Information

Primary Mission and Purpose

The purpose of this program is to support programs that prevent violence in and around schools and to improve the juvenile justice system and develop effective education, training, prevention, diversion, treatment, and rehabilitation programs in the area of juvenile delinquency.

Funding Levels

The anticipated funding levels for Juvenile Justice Programs are as follows:

- Minimum Award - \$5,000
- Maximum Award - None
- Matching Funds - None

For more information regarding grantee match, please click on the **Budget** tab, and then click on the **Source of Match** tab in eGrants.

Note: If you voluntarily include matching funds that exceed the minimum match requirement, you will be held to that amount throughout the grant period.

Program Requirements

Preferences

Preference will be given to those applicants that demonstrate cost effective programs focused on proven or promising approaches to services provision.

Juvenile Justice Board Priorities

Juvenile justice projects or projects serving delinquent or at-risk youth will address at least one of the following priorities developed by the Governor's Juvenile Justice Advisory Board to be eligible for funding:

Diversions - Programs to divert at-risk juveniles from entering the juvenile justice system. At-risk juveniles are those having had documented discipline problems in the school system or contact with law enforcement or juvenile probation.

Job Training - Projects to enhance the employability of juveniles or prepare them for future employment. Such programs may include job readiness training, apprenticeships, and job referrals.

Professional Therapy and Counseling/Mental Health - Services include, but are not limited to, the development and/or enhancement of diagnostic, treatment, and prevention instruments; psychological and psychiatric evaluations; counseling services; and/or family support services.

If your program incorporates academically researched, peer reviewed, or evidence based practices, please provide any information that supports the program's approach:

Programs providing mental health services are strongly encouraged to utilize a multidisciplinary team to assist with planning and implementation of the program.

If your program is utilizing a multidisciplinary team, please provide the name and discipline(s) of each team member:

School Based Delinquency Prevention - Education programs and/or related services to prevent truancy, suspension, and expulsion. School safety programs may include support for school resource officers and law-related education.

Substance Abuse - Programs, research, or other initiatives to address the use and abuse of illegal and other prescription and nonprescription drugs and the use and abuse of alcohol. Programs include control, prevention, and treatment.

Training and Technology/Juvenile Justice System Improvement (for Statewide Projects Only) - Programs, research, and other initiatives to examine issues or improve practices, policies, or procedures on a system-wide basis (e.g., examining problems affecting decisions from arrest to disposition and detention to corrections).

Sustainability

Over the course of the past few years, funding for juvenile programs has experienced a substantial decline. For example, federal awards to Texas under the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act have decreased by 66% since 2010. CJD encourages applicants to consider alternative methods of sustaining grant funded services should future funding become unavailable.

Criminal History Reporting

Entities receiving funds from CJD must be located in a county that has an average of 90% or above on both adult and juvenile dispositions entered into the computerized criminal history database maintained by the Texas Department of Public Safety as directed in the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, Chapter 60. The disposition completeness percentage is defined as the percentage of arrest charges a county reports to DPS for which a disposition has been subsequently reported and entered into the computerized criminal history system.

Civil Rights Liaison

A civil rights liaison who will serve as the grantee's civil rights point of contact and who will be responsible for ensuring that the grantee meets all applicable civil rights requirements must be designated. The designee will act as the grantee's liaison in civil rights matters with CJD and with the federal Office of Justice Programs.

Enter the Name of the Civil Rights Liaison:

Enter the Address for the Civil Rights Liaison:

Enter the Phone Number for the Civil Rights Liaison [(999) 999-9999 x9999]:

Certification

Each applicant agency will certify to the specific criteria detailed above under **Program Requirements** to be eligible for funding under the Juvenile Justice Program Local and Statewide Solicitations.

I certify to all of the above eligibility requirements.

Problem Statement:

Please provide a detailed account in the Problem Statement section of the existing issues your project will target.

Enter your problem statement:

Hidalgo County would like to target juveniles and young adults that have not completed high school to enter into an online high school credit recovery program. Hidalgo County sees many juveniles and young adults who enter the criminal justice system and are no longer candidates to enter the public school system. Juvenile, County, and District courts many times set conditions of probation to juveniles and young adults who must attempt to complete high school and/or a GED program. Consequently, the Region One service center reports that there is a waiting list of over 1,000 who want to enter the GED program. As a stated problem one must say that the Hidalgo County has a need for a high school credit recovery program for those juveniles and young adults who have the desire to meet their conditions of probation and those who do not have time to be on a GED program waiting list in order to comply with the conditions of probation. Those who have committed a crime and have adjudicated their cases and have been set for probation must be provided a vehicle to obtain an education. If we do not address this problem we are leaving no option to juveniles and young adults but to continue in the criminal justice system as adults.

Supporting Data:

Provide as much supporting data, to include baseline statistics and the sources of your data, which are pertinent to where the grant project is located and/or targeted. Do not use statewide data for a local problem or national data for a statewide problem.

Enter your supporting data:

One must note that the County of Hidalgo has over 75 juvenile and young adults court cases per day. The alterations of the law by juveniles are increasing on a weekly bases and schools are using the court system as a dumping ground for juveniles who cause problems in their school. Drug, robbery, assault cases are only to name a few of the issues we face in the court system. The Texas Department of State Health Services determined that alcohol continues to be the most widely used substance among Texas secondary school students with 62 percent in 2010 reporting they had used alcohol at some point in their lives, down from 63 percent in 2008 and 81 percent in 1990. Past-month use of alcohol also decreased from 30 percent in 2008 to 29 percent in 2010. Marijuana is still the most commonly used illegal drug among Texas youth. About 26.2 percent of secondary students in 2010 reported lifetime use of marijuana, up from 24.6 percent in 2008. Likewise, past-month use of marijuana increased from 10.0 percent in 2008 to 11.4 percent in 2010. The rise in overall illicit drug use among youth from 2008 to 2010 was driven in large part by the increases in marijuana use. In 2010, 5.4 percent of secondary students reported they had ever tried cocaine or crack, and 1.7 percent reported using these substances in the month before the survey. Both prevalence of use showed a continuous decrease from the recent peak in 1998. Ecstasy use showed a substantial increase from 2008 to 2010 both in lifetime use (from 5.1 percent to 6.8 percent) and in past-month use (from 1.8 percent to 2.5 percent). The mentioned statistics show that teens continue to reach out for drugs and alcohol. By gathering informative data as to why teens seek drugs and alcohol will help teachers, mentor, counselors and juvenile judicial courts to understand why teens turn to substance abuse.

Community Plan:

For projects that have a local or regional impact target area, provide information regarding the community plan need(s) that your project will address.

Enter your community planning needs:

Sites will have wi-fi available in order for the students to be able to log in to an on line credit recovery program and commence to earn high school credits. All subjects required for high school graduation will be provided.

Goal Statement:

Provide a brief description of the overall goals and objectives for this project.

Enter a description for the overall goals and objectives:

The County of Hidalgo goals includes to have an avenue for juveniles and young adults who do not have access to public schools and who have had an altercation with the law, be able to have a resource for education. The goal includes that the education be virtual in nature and have the ability to be logged on anywhere there is internet service.

Cooperative Working Agreement (CWA):

When a grantee intends to carry out a grant project through cooperating or participating with one or more outside organizations, the grantee must obtain authorized approval signatures on the cooperative working agreement (CWA) from each participating organization. Grantees must maintain on file a signed copy of all cooperative working agreements, and they must submit to CJD a list of each participating organization and a description of the purpose of each CWA. Cooperative working agreements do not involve an exchange of

funds.

For this project, provide the name of the participating organization(s) and a brief description of the purpose(s) for the **CWA(s)**. You should only provide information here that this project's successful operation is contingent on for the named service or participation from the outside organization.

Note: A **Sample CWA** is available [here](#) for your convenience.
Enter your cooperating working agreement(s):

Continuation Projects:

For continuation projects only, if your current or previous year's project is NOT on schedule in accomplishing the stated objectives, briefly describe the major obstacles preventing your organization from successfully reaching the project objectives as stated within your previous grant application. (Data may be calculated on a pro-rated basis depending on how long the current or previous year's project has been operating.)

Enter your current grant's progress:

Project Summary:

Briefly summarize the entire application, including the project's problem statement, supporting data, goal, target group, activities, and objectives. Be sure that the summary is easy to understand by a person not familiar with your project and that you are confident and comfortable with the information if it were to be released under a public information request.

Enter your summary statement for this project:

The Young Adult Re Energizing Project will provide dynamic opportunities to the County of Hidalgo for a much needed purpose. The budget for this project calls for three major components: 1. To provide a virtual school for 42 students who are out of the public school system due to altercations with the law. 2. To provide workshops for the 42 students to improve self esteem and identify hidden talents.

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Project Activities Information

Reserved

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Selected Project Activities:

ACTIVITY	PERCENTAGE:	DESCRIPTION
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Geographic Area:
Hidalgo County area

Target Audience:
Juveniles that have not completed high school due to substance abuse, which have led them into a judicial court system.

Gender:
Male/Female

Ages:
16 and up

Special Characteristics:
Students that have dropped out of high school and are not eligible for the public school system.

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Measures Information

Progress Reporting Requirements

All programs will be required to report the output and outcome measures for this program to Texas A&M University, Public Policy Research Institute (PPRI).

Objective Output Measures

OUTPUT MEASURE	CURRENT DATA	TARGET LEVEL
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Custom Objective Output Measures

CUSTOM OUTPUT MEASURE	CURRENT DATA	TARGET LEVEL
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Objective Outcome Measures

OUTCOME MEASURE	CURRENT DATA	TARGET LEVEL
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Custom Objective Outcome Measures

CUSTOM OUTCOME MEASURE	CURRENT DATA	TARGET LEVEL
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Budget Details Information
 Budget Information by Budget Line Item:

CATEGORY	SUB CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	CJD	CASH MATCH	IN-KIND MATCH	GPI	TOTAL	UNIT/%
Contractual and Professional Services	Curriculum Development and/or Implementation Services	Online-School-An online school as a solution to keep students engaged in the learning process. To obtain missing credits through acceleration.	\$20,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$20,000.00	0
Contractual and Professional Services	Professional, Presentation, and/or Training Services	Assist students in online registration. Provide guidance to students, hold workshops to identify hidden talents. Also assist students with tutoring and providing monthly reports to probation officers on progress of the online school as well as provide reports to CJD.	\$104,027.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$104,027.00	0

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