



### **Agenda Action Form Overview**

The Board is requested to approve Budget Ordinance Amendment No. BCCo75 in the amount of \$5,000 to recognize additional grant funds from the Durham County Alcohol Beverage Control Board for the Durham Recovery Court.

### **Background/Justification**

Durham County's Justice Services Department (JSD) assumed operation and funding of the Durham Recovery Court (RC) Program in FY2011/12 when the NC Administrative Office of the Courts eliminated funding for all drug court programs across the state. As the field evolves, recovery courts across the country amend their programming to follow evidence-based practices. Some of the recommendations are cost prohibitive for JSD to implement. This, in 2019, staff approached the Durham County Alcohol Beverage Control (ABC) Board requesting an amendment to the type of agencies eligible to receive ABC Board grant funding. The ABC Board approved the request, amended the guidelines and the Drug Treatment Court received initial funding in FY20. JSD has reapplied annually and received additional funding each year. We anticipated \$65,000 for FY25-26 during the budget submission process. JSD actually received \$70,000 in funding from the ABC Board. This Budget Amendment will recognize the additional \$5,000.

This funding is intended to continue support and enhance critical program components. The elements include alcohol and drug testing supplies, laboratory confirmation testing, assistance with housing and client basic needs, as well as other program components.

Alcohol and Drug Testing Supplies & Laboratory Screening and Confirmations - Reliable alcohol and drug testing is essential to an effective RC program. Alcohol and drug testing provide an accurate, timely, and comprehensive assessment of unauthorized substance use throughout participants' enrollment in the Recovery Court. The RC staff continues to improve the testing devices as new and improved testing devices are developed to detect new substances. New updated testing materials are significantly more costly, and grant funding is used to cover those costs.

Housing and Client Basic Needs - Participants receive wrap-around and supportive services for conditions that are likely to interfere with their compliance in Recovery Court. Depending on participant needs, supportive services may include housing assistance, mental health treatment, trauma-informed services, criminal-thinking interventions, family or interpersonal counseling, vocational or educational services, transportation assistance and medical or dental treatment. Participants are unlikely to succeed in treatment if they do not have basic needs and necessities, a safe, stable, and drug-free place to live or adequate transportation to get there. The additional grant funds allow RC to house more clients for longer periods of time if needed.

### **Policy Impact**

Accepting the grant funds is consistent with the County's policy to support the recovery court program in order to provide positive and healthy outcomes for residents involved in the criminal justice system.



**Procurement Background**

N/A

**Fiscal Impact**

This grant does not require a County match.

**Recommendation**

The County Manager recommends that the Board approve Budget Ordinance Amendment No. BCC075 in the amount of \$5,000 to recognize additional funds from the Durham County ABC Board for the Durham Recovery Court.