



MonmouthCares Community Resource Development Funds Background and Rationale, Fiscal Year 2021-2022

The NJ Children's System of Care, Monmouth County, and MonmouthCares are interested in expanding services and programs for youth in the county with mental health, behavioral health, intellectual disabilities, and substance use needs. **This one-time funding of \$125,000 (less may be applied for) must be utilized in full by June 30, 2022 and will become unavailable to the awardee(s) after that date.** Funding is to support new or existing activities or services through collaboration with community partners that reduces risks to child(ren) and youth well-being and promotes their safety, health, and connections at home and in the community. *Funds are not intended to purchase services for specific individuals or families.* Applicants must commit to working in partnership with MonmouthCares, other system partners, and community-based resources. They must embody the values of the New Jersey Children's System of Care.

There have been noted gaps and needs in quality, community-based behavioral health services through various system-wide surveys and needs assessments. MonmouthCares has reviewed recent county and state data, needs assessments, and local focus groups who have documented areas of need for our county. Applicants considering proposals for this funding should be able to tie their proposed services or programs to the needs cited in this RFP:

- Youth resiliency ⁽⁷⁾
- Stigma for seeking treatment, substance use/mental health/culturally competent ^(2,3,5,11)
- Prevention Education with Young children ⁽¹¹⁾
- Identity affirming spaces and services for Transgender and LGBTQ+ youth, who have particularly high rates of suicide and self-harm ⁽¹⁰⁾
- Peer support programs for those w/ mental health needs and to reinforce academics ^(7,10)
 - Online communities, not limited to social media, the promote healthy conversations about mental health ⁽¹⁰⁾
- Summer programming ⁽¹⁾
- Services for Intellectual / Developmentally Disabled youth, especially in languages other than English. ^(1,3)
- Outpatient Services Accepting Medicaid (Counseling, IOP, PHP, Groups, Medication Management) ^(1,3)
 - Mental health services for youth in Spanish and Portuguese ⁽³⁾
- Transition to Adulthood, youth employment and training opportunities ^(3,9,11)
- Transportation to services (specifically western and southern areas where services lack) ^(1,3,9,11)

The pandemic has highlighted ongoing needs that existed before the pandemic, but it also brought attention to the forefront of other needs families across our county experience:

- BIPOC communities have been disproportionately affected by the pandemic ⁽¹⁰⁾
- Social isolation due to physically not being in school and social distancing ^(1,7,10)
- Domestic Violence increased 65% ^(3,4)
- Eating disorders have seen a significant increase over the last year ⁽¹³⁾
- Students are faced with challenges returning from virtual instruction ⁽⁸⁾
- Learning loss due to not being in school ⁽⁷⁾
- Young people are facing fatigue due to the pandemic and the use of online conferencing that replaced in person services ⁽⁷⁾



- Undocumented people’s mental and physical health and their access to services ⁽¹¹⁾
- Suicide Prevention ^(1,7, 10, 11)
- Self-care for youth and families ⁽⁸⁾
- Programs that integrate and normalize social emotional learning and mental health self-care through all activities (such as sports and clubs). ⁽¹⁰⁾

Needs related to substance use:

- Parental education on substance use disorders, warning signs, treatment and supporting for those in recovery ^(5,6)
- Alcohol, Marijuana, Heroin, Tobacco and Electronic Nicotine Delivery Devices, prescription medication all identified as priorities for prevention, education, and treatment ^(6,7,9)
- Increased screening for substance use among youth and adolescents ⁽²⁾
- Anti-stigma resources for substance use that are culturally competent ^(2,3,5,11)
- In-patient substance use services that accept Medicaid ⁽³⁾

Needs relating to juvenile justice:

- Delinquency prevention programs specifically in Asbury Park, Neptune Twp, Ocean Township, Long Branch, Eatontown, Freehold Township, Howell Twp, Middletown Twp, Holmdel Township, Wall Township ⁽⁹⁾
- Programming and resources for Gang prevention and escape ^(1,11)

Needs related to care givers:

- Parent Education regarding services and treatment available ⁽¹¹⁾
- Stigma for seeking treatment, substance use/mental health/culturally competent ^(2,3,5,11)
- Prevention programs that teach parenting skills that promote peaceful alternatives to conflict resolutions ^(3,9)
- Community Education on ACES and the impact on substance use and mental health ^(5,9)
- Affordable programs before/after school and in the evenings ^(1,3,7,11)

Needs related to education:

- Caregiving issues related with youth not being physically in school and managing virtual education ⁽⁷⁾
- School avoidance and truancy ⁽⁹⁾

Data Sources:

1. Human Service Needs Assessment for Monmouth County, New Jersey: A Call to Action
2. Monmouth County SUN Needs Assessment
3. DCF Monmouth County Needs Assessment
4. Monmouth County: A Profile of Family and Community Indicators
5. Monmouth County Overdose Fatality Review Team
6. Monmouth County Comprehensive Plan for Organization and Delivery of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Services
7. Monmouth County Positive Youth Development HUB School Feedback survey
8. 3/31/21 Pandemic Potential Convening Action Plans
9. 2021-2023 – Monmouth County Youth Services Plan
10. Young Peoples Mental Health Report 2020 by Mental Health America



11. Monmouth County Partnership For Success Grant
12. <https://nj1015.com/demand-for-nj-domestic-violence-services-has-skyrocketed-during-pandemic/>
13. https://www.nbcnews.com/health/health-news/pandemic-created-perfect-storm-eating-disorders-teens-n1268331?utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=news_tab&utm_content=algorithm

All applicants must demonstrate the ability to manage the finances and implement the services/supports proposed in their application. Applicants must agree to submit comprehensive reports on December 31st, March 31st, and June 15th in the fiscal year the funding is year applied for:

- Program Performance Reports via template provided.
- Expenditure Reports, via template provided, that include:
 - Detailed submission of all documents that substantiate funding use (receipts, time logs, invoices, mileage, etc.)

MonmouthCares will be hosting four public Grant Overview sessions where interested parties will be able to ask questions and receive information regarding the scope, implementation, and requirements of the grant:

- June 7th, 3:00pm
 - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85307075002?pwd=aW5TUjVnYXhvejl0TE5wd0xGQWdMdz09>
- June 10th, 5:00pm
 - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83290007136?pwd=RXo4azJ6TjdpOEJBOWJ2a3N5VWJ1Zz09>
- June 15th, 6:00pm
 - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82072094339?pwd=SGN2QklyRDNzbytBS0QyMjZnWlRwUT09>
- June 17th, 10:00am
 - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86861382984?pwd=b0VCbUpyODdld1FyT1M4K01OeW1PUT09>
- Password for each of these meetings is "CSOC"

All applications will be reviewed and scored via a panel consisting of the MonmouthCares' Director of Community Relations and Resource Development, various MonmouthCares' Board Members, local Children's Children's System of Care Partners, executive team members of the Monmouth County Children's Interagency Coordinating Council (CIACC), and board members from the Monmouth County Mental Health Board

- **All proposals are due 12:00pm, Friday, June 25th and should be submitted to cmajczan@monmouthcares.org.**
- **Anticipated implementation date for awarded proposals is September 1st, 2021.**
- **All awards are contingent on the sufficiency and availability of state funding.**

Please see the attached application and direct any questions you may have to my attention.

Thank You,

Chad Majczan
Director of Community Relations and Resource Development
MonmouthCares, Inc.
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