

NEWS RELEASE

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO



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COLLABORATIVE COURTS RECEIVE GRANTS TOTALING \$6.44 MILLION

The Court has secured three state grants totaling \$6.44 million to fund services and support for its Collaborative Justice Programs, Court Executive Officer Brandon E. Riley announced today. Grant funds also will help to improve public safety through a gun relinquishment protocol for individuals eligible for Mental Health Diversion (MHD).

“The Collaborative Courts team is motivated and committed to its mission to improve public safety while engaging justice-involved participants in problem-solving courts to address substance use disorders, mental health and other challenges,” Riley said. “These grant funds will help the Collaborative Courts in San Francisco to serve their mission while judicial branch budget cuts continue to impact the Court’s resources.”

MHD, Penal Code 1001.36, was passed and became California Law on June 27, 2018. The purpose of MHD is to allow courts to divert defendants with qualifying mental health conditions into treatment programs rather than through traditional criminal prosecution. On January 1, 2023, MHD was expanded by the Legislature to include most diagnoses.

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**GRANTS/SFSC
2-2-2-2**

The Court has received grant funds for:

**All Rise for Justice Bureau of Justice Assistance Award – Veterans
Treatment Court – \$41,000 over 12 months:**

- Train three peer mentors – Two with the Mentorship and Peer Support (MAPS) program and one with the Veterans Administration for advanced certification in Wellness Recovery Action Plan (WRAP) for Veterans, an evidence-based curriculum that works to support veterans to remain healthy, engaged, and free of future behavioral health hospitalizations and arrests. WRAP is the gold standard in peer recovery and support. The mentors who become certified will then work with justice-involved individuals in the Veterans Justice Court (VJC) and in-custody veterans in San Francisco to complete individualized WRAPs. The grant also will provide Motivational Interviewing training for VJC court staff and partners.

**Department of Health and Human Services Substance Abuse and Mental
Health Administration San Francisco Collaborative Courts Case
Management Expansion Grant – \$400,000 per year over five years
(\$2 million):**

- The Collaborative Courts Case Management Expansion funds will be used to provide additional support services to Family Treatment Court participants and to provide a full-time case manager for Parole Reentry Court over five years. Currently, there is a significant list of families waiting for services to reunify with their children. This grant will decrease wait times for families. Statewide funding for Parole Reentry Courts was eliminated from California's budget this fiscal year. Case managing those on parole in San Francisco will be able to continue through this funding. This full-time position will be funded via this grant for the next five years.

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GRANTS/SFSC
3-3-3-3

JCC, the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC), and the US Department of Justice (USDOJ) Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program Grant (Byrne SCIP) – \$4.4 Million over two years:

- The Byrne SCIP funding will provide services to MHD participants and aims to improve public safety through a gun relinquishment protocol in MHD. PC1001.36(m) requires a gun relinquishment form, which the prosecution will fill out, be available statewide. The grant will provide two court analyst positions – one in the Data Division, and one in the Collaborative Courts Division – allowing the Collaborative Courts to gather robust data about program successes and streamline the MHD process across departments. The grant also is providing a part-time position for a clinical team member at the San Francisco District Attorney’s Office; three UCSF/Citywide Case Management case managers to support MHD participants expediently; two peer navigators through the Mental Health Association of San Francisco; additional housing and treatment program funding; and two case managers for the San Francisco Pretrial Diversion Project to coordinate care for out-of-county or privately insured MHD participants. Additionally, SF Pretrial will provide two violence prevention groups for Transitional Age Youth in custody. One of the groups will be in Spanish.

Of the \$4 million, \$3.236 million will be dedicated to support MHD and related programs or initiatives, which work to keep guns out of the hands of people who pose a threat to themselves or others. These funds will support “local justice system partnerships that collaborate to improve the thoroughness and efficiency of prohibited persons checks and requirements for firearms relinquishment as appropriate,” according to the JCC grant agreement, which awarded the Byrne SCIP funds to the Court.

More information on San Francisco’s Collaborative Courts is available [here](#).

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