

BLOG

Five Counties Awarded Federal Grants to Create Plans to Reduce Mental Illness in Jails

By **NASTASSIA WALSH** Oct. 20, 2015

Tags: Justice, Health

Five counties were awarded grants of up to \$150,000 from the U.S. Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) to create a collaborative county approach to reduce the prevalence of individuals with mental illnesses in jail, plan and implement a criminal justice and mental health or co-occurring collaboration, or expand upon or improve a well-established collaboration plan. The grant is part of the Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program (JMHCPC), which provides funding to facilitate collaboration among the criminal justice, juvenile justice, and mental health and substance abuse treatment systems. Grant funds under this track can be used to support:

a targeted analysis to measure the prevalence of people with mental illnesses in the local jail
a review of existing community resources, and
identification and initial implementation of policy and practice changes to minimize contact or deeper involvement of individuals with mental illnesses and co-occurring substance use disorders in the criminal justice system.

FY15 Awardees:

- Athens-Clarke County, Ga.
- Pacific County, Wash.
- Burleigh County, N.D.
- Pitt County, N.C.
- Champaign County, Ill.

The following counties also received FY15 JMHCPC grant awards for Planning & Implementation or Expansion of programs to serve this population:

- St. Louis County, Mo.
- Columbia County, Ore.
- Bexar County, Texas
- Montgomery County, Ohio
- Hennepin County, Minn.
- Rockingham County, Va.
- Lake County, Fla.
- Franklin County, Ohio
- Jones County, Miss.
- Newton County, Ga.
- Douglas County, Kan.

For upcoming federal grant opportunities, visit <http://ojp.gov/funding/Explore/CurrentFundingOpportunities.htm>.

These grants are not related to the Stepping Up initiative, nor was county participation in Stepping Up a factor in determining grant awards or eligibility.



About Nastassia Walsh (Full Bio)

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Nastassia Walsh is a Program Manager at the National Association of Counties. In this role, she focuses primarily on providing educational programming on the intersection of mental health and justice and other criminal justice areas.

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