

Agency Name: Fannin County
Grant/App: 2806213 **Start Date:** 9/1/2026 **End Date:** 8/31/2027
Fund Source: SF-State Criminal Justice Planning (421) Fund
Project Title: Structured Family Therapy
Status: Application - Program Review **Fund Block:** 2027

Profile Information

Applicant Agency Name: Fannin County
Project Title: Structured Family Therapy
Division or Unit to Administer the Project: Juvenile Probation
Address Line 1: 1203 East Sam Rayburn Dr.
Address Line 2:
City/State/Zip: Bonham Texas 75418-9998
Start Date: 9/1/2026
End Date: 8/31/2027

Regional Council of Governments(COG) within the Project's Impact Area: Texoma
Council of Governments
Headquarter County: Fannin
Counties within Project's Impact Area: Fannin

Grant Officials:

Authorized Official

Name: Christina Tillett

Financial Official

Name: Alicia Whipple

Project Director

Name: Brandon Caffee

Grant Writer

Name: Brandon Caffee

Narrative Information

Project Abstract :

Fannin County Juvenile Services provides services to children and families in Fannin County, Texas who have allegedly violated the law. The Department supervises kids who are on probation but also, kids who are awaiting disposition in their cases. The Structured Family Therapy program is a "last effort" at rehabilitation for children who are at risk for being placed out of the home or at risk for being sent to the Texas Juvenile Justice Department-Institutional Division. This program is a community-based effort with therapy being provided in the home with the child, parent or extended family, and siblings as well that teaches the family how to interact appropriately with the child. It sets specific goals for each family in order to be successful immediately and in the future. The program is evidence based and is designed to strengthen the family unit within the home.

Problem Statement :

Fannin County Juvenile Services is a small rural department located approximately one and a half hours northeast of Dallas. The county population is approximately 35,000 and has limited resources. The majority of families fall at or below the poverty range and children who find themselves in the criminal justices system are usually indigent. The department has very limited funds to rehabilitate children. The department contracts with individual counselors, Liberty Resources, and various residential programs across the State. Unfortunately, these programs are costly and Juvenile Services does not have unlimited funding for these programs. The department is funded by the State and locally from the County. The focus of the funding sought from the State will be directed at funding the Liberty Resources program, which we will potentially lose if funds are not made available. The Liberty Resources program will target the children who are at-risk of being placed outside the home or in the Texas Juvenile Justice Department in an Institutional setting. The idea behind the program is to keep the most severe at-risk children in their homes and in the community for rehabilitation, rather than being placed outside the home or in an institutional setting. This program is prevention and intervention based and ideally diverts kids from state institutions (TJJD.) Since 2019, bed space at the Texas Juvenile Justice Department-Institutional Division is limited and beds in Residential Treatment Facilities are at a premium and costs have risen dramatically. The department generally has funding for one child per fiscal year but this program serves 8 children per fiscal year at minimum.

Supporting Data :

The Structured Family Therapy program will serve a minimum of 8 families within the time frame. 85% of those children will complete the program and not be revoked or placed outside of the home. The program will be based within the community and will help the department meet its commitment reduction goal as set by the Texas Juvenile Justice Department of committing only one youth per fiscal year to the institutional division. It will also meet the goals of the grant guidelines by providing counseling or therapy to the child and family. The final goal/outcome will be that out of the youth who complete the treatment program, approximately 70% will not be arrested or placed out of the home within six months of completing treatment. In FY 2022, this program serviced ten families. This exceeded our goal for the fiscal year. Since the Covid Pandemic began, our referrals have been down starting in 2020 however, since that time we have steadily increased. Referrals were down during the nationwide lockdown but are on the rise currently. Eight youth were discharged during this reporting period (September 1, 2021-August 31, 2022). One of those eight was discharged administratively by the probation department or the Court due to charges being dropped by the District Attorney's office. Seven youth had the opportunity during this reporting period to complete the program and each of those did. Of the 7 that completed the program, 100% of them completed all treatment which met our goal of 75%. None of them were revoked or placed outside of the home, which meets our goal of 85% for the fiscal year. None of those youth experienced any arrest during treatment which also meets our goal of 85% for the fiscal year. Out of all the families that were in the program during the 2022 fiscal year, all of them (100%) were enrolled in school and or working. Finally, based on closed cases with contact after 6 months "post-treatment", 5 youth (youth who had been out of treatment at least 6 months) had not been arrested for a new offense or placed out of the home. In FY 2023, the program served a total of 9 children and their families. 8 youth were discharged from the program during this reporting period and 1 was removed by the department. That youth moved out of our jurisdiction before the program could be completed. Of the 7 youth who completed the program, 100% of those youth were not revoked or placed outside their home. Additionally, out of those 7 youth, 100% of those children were not arrested during the treatment period. In FY 2024, the program served a total of 8 children and their families. 6 youth were discharged from the program successfully

during this reporting period and 1 was removed by the department due to a lack of engagement. 1 youth moved from the jurisdiction of the court. That youth moved out of our jurisdiction before the program could be completed. Of the 6 youth who completed the program, 100% of those youth were not revoked or placed outside their home. Additionally, out of those 6 youth, 100% of those children were not arrested during the treatment period. In FY 2025, the program served a total of 12 children and their families. 11 youth were discharged from the program successfully during this reporting period and 1 is currently open and working in the program. Of the 11 youth who completed the program, 100% of those youth were not revoked or placed outside their home. Additionally, out of those 11 youth, 100% of those children were not arrested during the treatment period. It should be noted that the one child that was opened during FY 25 that is still in the program is currently in a residential treatment facility for drug use, but was placed there by her parents and not the department or the Court. She remains with our counselor and will continue the program when she comes home.

Project Approach & Activities:

The Texoma Region Community Plan identifies 3 areas aimed at juvenile justice and delinquency prevention. They include: Reducing the use of drugs and alcohol within the juvenile population, substantially reduce youth crimes, anti-social behaviors, and trancies, and decrease the number of teen pregnancies within the Texoma Region. The goal of Fannin County Juvenile Services is to supervise and rehabilitate children who have committed crimes. It is the philosophy of the department to utilize as many community resources as possible to rehabilitate the child without removing him from the home. This includes counseling, community service, and supervision from the department. The Structured Family Therapy program not only provides counseling and therapy to the child but also to the family as well. We feel strongly that rehabilitation is needed by the child but also, the child's environment. That change must occur within the family structure and includes parents, siblings, and any other relatives that are involved heavily with the child's upbringing.

Capacity & Capabilities:

Without grant funds, our organization could not have this program. At the current time, we do have grant funding and serve between 8-10 families per year. We also make every attempt to source additional funding so that every child and family eligible can receive services through Liberty Resources, no matter the offense.

Performance Management :

The goal of this project is to assist Fannin County Juvenile Services with the ability to rehabilitate as many children and families as possible within the community through therapeutic means. We place very few children outside of the home thanks to this program. The program diverts children from the Texas Juvenile Justice Department-Institutional Division as well as residential treatment providers across the nation. There is a dramatic cost savings in comparing children who are placed outside of the home and those that are rehabilitated locally. Bed space in residential facilities and institutions are also very hard to find and the wait times for those programs are extensive, often leaving kids with needs unable to receive services. The cost for these Residential programs has risen dramatically over the past two fiscal years.

Target Group:

The Liberty Resources program is fully functional at this time. Since 2017, our goal has been to serve at minimum 10 families and we have accomplished that. We did see a slight drop in referrals to the department in 2020 and 2021 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. In

2021 and 2022 our numbers rose and we were able to serve more kids. In FY 2023, the department served 10 families. FY 2024 has been less productive. The program has served 8 children and their families but one family was removed for non compliance and one family moved out of the jurisdiction. FY 2025 saw an increase in referrals to the program and the program served 12 youth. 11 of those youth were successfully discharged and one is open in the program. That specific youth is receiving treatment for drugs use but remains in this program. We attributed the production downturn in FY 24 to a lack of referrals to the department this fiscal year. Our county has experienced a turnover in our Sheriff, our District Attorney, and our District Court Judge. The election for those offices was decided in March during the primary, so production and referrals dropped significantly from March until January when these new leaders took office. It should also be noted that our largest law enforcement agency is the Bonham Police Department and the Chief at that department has only been here for approximately 18 months. We feel strongly that our referrals will increase as these new leaders find their place within their respective offices. We have seen an increase in referrals and cooperation between agencies since January 2025.

Evidence-Based Practices:

The Placement Diversion / Family Reunification Program (PD/FRP) or "Liberty Resources" is an in-home, community-based treatment program with a clinical foundation in the evidenced based Structural Family Therapy model. The program is also outcome data driven, with Fannin County receiving quarterly outcome reports. The data is reviewed between the Fannin County Juvenile Probation Director and the Liberty Resources Clinical Director to ensure that there is objective evidence that the program is resulting in positive outcomes for youth and families. It should also be noted that the Treatment Specialist and the probation officer of the child meet weekly to discuss progress and cooperation of the family and child in the program. Communication between the department and the treatment team is extremely important for the success of the youth and overall program.

Project Activities Information

Introduction

This section contains questions about your project. It is very important for applicants to review their funding announcement for guidance on how to fill out this section. Unless otherwise specified, answers should be about the EXPECTED activities to occur during the project period.

Selected Project Activities:

ACTIVITY	PERCENTAGE:	DESCRIPTION
Community-Based Programs and Services	100.00	We contract with Liberty Resources, Inc. for this Community-Based Program. This program is designed for the children who are most at-risk for being removed from their homes and being sent to the Texas Juvenile Justice Department-Institutional Division or from out of home (contracted) placements. This program allows the children to remain in the home and get the therapy needed to stay in the community for rehabilitation. The program also focuses on family intervention and rehabilitation to change the environment in which the child is being raised. Our treatment specialist not only work with the child, but the entire family. We offer help with employment seeking, medical and dental needs,

		and most importantly mental health needs that the program is not designed to provide.
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Measures Information

Objective Output Measures

OUTPUT MEASURE	TARGET LEVEL
Number of hours of service completed by program youth.	0
Number of program youth served.	12

Objective Outcome Measures

OUTCOME MEASURE	TARGET LEVEL
Number of program youth completing program requirements.	12
Number of program youth who offend or reoffend.	0

Budget Details Information

Budget Information by Budget Line Item:

CATEGOR Y	SUB CATEGOR Y	DESCRIPTIO N	OOG	CASH MATC H	IN- KIND MATC H	GPI	TOTAL	UNIT/ %
Contractual and Professional Services	Substance Abuse-Related Case Management, Counseling, Outpatient, and/or Treatment Services	Contract with Liberty Resources - They provide (hire) the counselors as well as the supervision of those counselors, travel, etc. The flat rate is \$50,000. Breakdown for contract is as follows: Salary	\$50,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50,000.00	0

		<p>and Benefits: Total - \$26,600 This includes salary and benefits for the half time Treatment Specialist. Salary is \$20,000 (part time) and benefits (33%) are \$6,600.</p> <p>Clinical/Program Supervision: Total - \$10,500 This includes \$6000 for the Clinical Director (0.1 of time for Clinical Supervision) to ensure the clinical services the youth and families receive are consistent with the program model, resulting in successful outcomes. The Clinical Director reviews the family progress and needs with the Treatment Specialist on a weekly basis, develops a written plan for each family of a weekly basis, is on-call, provides clinical development activities, and provides clinical trainings throughout the year. This also includes \$4500 for Regional Director (0.05</p>						
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		<p>of time for Program Supervision). These funds pay for the general supervision of the program including monitoring performance, creating and disseminating reports, troubleshooting issues, providing funding support, and assisting the county in ensuring families in Fannin County are successful. The above amounts reflect the cost of providing the services listed and do not include benefits.</p> <p>Staff Travel: Total - \$8,400 This includes Treatment Specialist travel for Service provision (200 miles per week x \$0.54) which consists of Treatment Specialist travel to client homes and placement facilities, and the travel expenses for the Clinical Director for bi-annual program reviews (airfare, rental car, hotel) (\$1400 per trip x 2 trips annually). The</p>						
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		<p>Clinical Director will travel from Liberty Resources Regional home office located in Corpus Christi, TX to DFW Metroplex and rent a car from DFW to Bonham, Texas for annual review. The Clinical Director supervises the Treatment Specialist. Trainings: Total - \$875 This includes the development and presentation of bi-annual trainings for the Probation Department consisting of Training Development (\$340 x 2 Trainings / \$56 obtaining credits from TJJJ (2 hours Clinical Director) / \$280 researching, preparing, and presenting the training (10 hours Clinical Director; Presentation Supplies for Experiential Activities (\$100 x 2 Trainings). Three Fannin County probation staff attend these training. Program</p>						
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		<p>Equipment: Total - \$450 This includes cell phone expense of \$400 and office supplies expense of \$50 for paper, pens, and postage.</p> <p>Program Administration: Total - \$4,682.50</p> <p>Liberty Resources charges a flat fee of 10% - 12% of the program cost to cover the administrative functions that support the program including Human Resources, Information Technology, and Finance. In an effort to reduce program costs, this fee has been set at 10% of the program cost listed above (\$46,825) and = \$4682.50. Full Total = \$51,507.50 (in- kind from Liberty Resources of \$1507.50)</p>						
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Source of Match Information

Detail Source of Match/GPI:

DESCRIPTION	MATCH TYPE	AMOUNT
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Summary Source of Match/GPI:

Total Report	Cash Match	In Kind	GPI Federal Share	GPI State Share
\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

Budget Summary Information

Budget Summary Information by Budget Category:

CATEGORY	OOG	CASH MATCH	IN-KIND MATCH	GPI	TOTAL
Contractual and Professional Services	\$50,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50,000.00

Budget Grand Total Information:

OOG	CASH MATCH	IN-KIND MATCH	GPI	TOTAL
\$50,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50,000.00