

## **U. S. Department of Justice**

Lawrence Keefe United States Attorney Northern District of Florida

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, October 1, 2020

For more information, contact:
U.S. Attorney's Office
Northern District of Florida
(850) 216-3829
USAFLN.Press.Office@usdoj.gov
Follow us on Twitter @NDFLnews

## U.S. ATTORNEY LAWRENCE KEEFE ANNOUNCES OVER \$2.6 MILLION TO SUPPORT OFFENDERS RETURNING TO AREA COMMUNITIES

**TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA** – Lawrence Keefe, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Florida, today announced \$2,662,713 in Department of Justice grants to area programs to reduce recidivism among adults and juvenile offenders returning to their communities after confinement. The grants, awarded by the Department's Office of Justice Programs (OJP), are part of more than \$92 million in funding to support reentry efforts throughout the United States.

These awards represent the Justice Department's commitment to assisting people in America's prisons and detention facilities who have earned the opportunity to take their places back in society.

"I am proud that we are able to make more than \$2.6 million available within Northern Florida to help offenders fully reintegrate into their communities," said U.S. Attorney Keefe. "The key to reducing crime is preventing offenders from committing further crimes, and the best way we can do that is by helping them succeed as they return to their communities and establish law-abiding lives."

The reentry and recidivism reduction grant awards will help communities develop and implement comprehensive strategies to address the challenges posed by reentry and recidivism; support reentry services for detained juveniles and incarcerated parents with children under the age of 18; and support research and evaluation programs to advance understanding about reoffending.

"Former offenders are ultimately responsible for their own successes and failures, but our criminal and juvenile justice systems have an important role to play in preparing them for the obstacles that lie before them," said OJP Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General Katharine T. Sullivan. "I'm very pleased to make these resources available to help them get back on their feet and contribute to the prosperity of their communities and the betterment of our nation."

The following organizations received funding in the Northern District of Florida:

- DISC Village, Incorporated \$899,995
  - Improving Reentry for Adults with Substance Use Disorders Program
- Florida Department of Corrections \$500,000
  - Adult Reentry and Employment Strategic Planning Program
- Florida Department of Juvenile Justice \$750,000
  - Second Chance Act, Youth Offender Reentry Program
- Florida State University \$512,718
  - Research on Juvenile Reoffending Program

For a complete national list of individual grant programs, award amounts, and jurisdictions that will receive funding, visit:

https://www.ojp.gov/sites/g/files/xyckuh241/files/media/document/reentryfactsheet.pdf

Additional information about FY 2020 grant awards made by the Office of Justice Programs can be found online at the OJP Awards Data Webpage.

The Office of Justice Programs provides federal leadership, grants, training, technical assistance and other resources to improve the nation's capacity to prevent and reduce crime, assist victims and enhance the rule of law by strengthening the criminal and juvenile justice systems. More information about OJP and its components can be found at www.ojp.gov.

The United States Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Florida is one of 94 offices that serve as the nation's principal litigators under the direction of the Attorney General. To access available public court documents online, please visit the <u>U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Florida</u> website. For more information about the United States Attorney's Office, Northern District of Florida, visit <a href="http://www.justice.gov/usao/fln/index.html">http://www.justice.gov/usao/fln/index.html</a>.

The year 2020 marks the 150th anniversary of the Department of Justice. Learn more about the history of our agency at <a href="https://www.Justice.gov/Celebrating150Years">www.Justice.gov/Celebrating150Years</a>.

###