



The Eighth Judicial Circuit of Florida
Serving Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Gilchrist, Levy, and Union Counties

Alachua, Bradford, and Meridian CJMHSAG Reinvestment Grant

Partnerships

The Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Grant (CJMHSAG) has allowed a collaborative partnership between key stakeholders such as Alachua County and its Department of Court Services, Alachua County Sheriff's Office, the 8th Judicial Circuit of Florida, and Meridian Behavioral Healthcare. This partnership has created an innovative, local continuum of services for those in the criminal justice system in need of mental health treatment and/or substance abuse treatment.

652

Active Participants

23

Successful Competency Restorations

Mission

To promote a system of identification, assessment, and negotiation to effectively divert those with mental illness, co-occurring substance abuse, homelessness, and involvement in the criminal justice system from the jail to appropriate services and housing.

Goals

- Increase Public Safety
- Increase Assessment and Treatment Options
- Avert Spending on Jail Incarceration and State Hospital Beds

Funding

The new three year grant cycle of \$1.5 million, awarded by the Florida Department of Children and Families, began on April 1st, 2017 and now includes Alachua and Bradford Counties. Alachua County, Bradford County, and Meridian Behavioral Healthcare match the grant with \$1.6 million through cash and in-kind contributions, with Alachua County contributing the largest share historically and under the current grant program. The current commitment from Alachua County is \$1.35 million.

Services Provided

- Case Management
- Mental Health and Substance Abuse Treatment
- Representation in Court
- Evidence-based Practices
- Peer Specialists
- Transportation Vouchers
- Benefits Coordination
- Emergency Housing
- Access to Employment

59

Participants in Mental Health First Aid Training

33

Law Enforcement Officers Completed Crisis Intervention Training

*The data provided above is recorded from April 1st, 2017 to December 31st, 2017