

Narrative

Purpose Area #2 Narrative (15-page limit including template text; answers should be double-spaced)

- 1. Identify the crime and public safety problem(s) described in the Tribal Community and Justice Profile that the tribe plans to address through the proposed grant funding to develop a comprehensive tribal justice system-wide strategic plan and describe the problems(s) with as much additional detail, including data, as necessary to clearly describe the nature and extend of the problem(s).**

Alcohol and prescription drug Abuse is the number one crime and public safety problem facing our Tribal Community. This problem leads the Tribal members, young and old, into a life of criminal activity and health problems. Pottawatomie County is one of the poorest counties in the State of Oklahoma; where the majority of our Tribal members live. There are five tribes located very close together in the Absentee Shawnee Tribal Service Area. The combined unemployment rate for these Tribes is 39.8%. The poverty rate for this area is 26.3% (2010 U.S. Census). The Native American children are more than twice as likely to be poor than White children.

Rates of current illicit drug use among the major racial/ethnic groups in 2001 were 7.2 percent for whites, 6.4 percent for Hispanics, and 7.4 percent for blacks. The rate was highest is among American Indians at 9.9 percent (U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services 2002).

Pottawatomie County is consistently in the top 7 of 77 counties with juvenile problems. In 2004, the Office of Juvenile Affairs (OJA) for Pottawatomie County received 562 delinquent referrals. 170 (30%), were Indian offenders responsible for 258 offenses.

The 2011 Center for Disease Control Health Disparities & Inequalities Report – notes:

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- In 2007, AI/AN populations (combined) had the second highest death rate due to drugs, (includes illicit, prescription, and over-the-counter) compared with other racial/ethnic populations.
- In 2009, the AI/AN adult were among those with the highest prevalence of binge drinking, one of the highest number of binge drinking episodes per individual, and the highest number of drinks consumed during binge drinking.

The United States 2011 Behavioral Risk indicator surveys have shown the Oklahoma general juvenile population is at equal risk with all other juvenile populations in the United States. We believe the effects of family alcohol and drug abuse, combined with the risk factors just described, have converged to create a youth population at serious risk in our service area.

The Absentee Shawnee Tribal (AST) Police Department, with their Mobile Command Center is planning a curriculum to educate the youth and their parents in prevention and intervention of family members that are involved in Alcohol and Drug Abuse. The Command Center, when not in use for disasters and criminal activity, will be used as a learning center for the youth and their parents. They will be trained in “Healthy Family Lifestyles” and the reduction of “Police Fear Factors”.

The Tribal Youth Program (TYP) will be very active in after school activities and Summer Camps. The use of the 200 Acre ACA Camp Ground will be vital in this effort to reduce the Alcohol and Drug Abuse of the Tribal families, Juvenile Arrest and improve their health. The ACA Camp will be a well-run structured environment.

The Domestic Violence Program will continue to support the court and law enforcement. The majority of the Domestic Violence incidences have a root problem in Alcohol and Drug

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Abuse. The Domestic Violence Program will accept Referrals from the Court, Indian Child Welfare, AST Police Department and the Tribal Youth Program as well.

The Domestic Violence Program will refer the Youth to the Tribal Youth Program and explain to the families the purpose of the AST Police Departments' Mobile Command Center and encourage them to participate in their Learning Program.

The Indian Child Welfare Program will have retreats for the children and families; using the ACA Camp Ground, Tribal Youth Program, Domestic Violence, AST Police Departments Mobile Command Center Learning their culture and team work.

Through Purpose Area #2 proposal the needs of the AST Justice System will be a detailed, strength-based strategy to address all Justice Systems and how they can be improved and work together in a more systemic manner. The programs funded through this effort can serve as a referral source for the court. A Tribal Action Plan will be developed and approved by the Executive Committee that will include each and every department, program and their role in the AST Justice System. Furthermore, with tribal staff being trained by the U. S. Department of Justice, it will give them a better understanding of how the tribal departments can be a referral source for the court system.

2. Describe current or previous strategic planning efforts, if any, to address the problem(s) identified in item #1, and state whether they were effective.

The Tribal Justice System has never made a comprehensive data-informed Tribal Action plan with community partners in the past.

Currently, we were awarded a Tribal Court Assistance Program grant FY12. We are using new software that allows for collecting data that will be used for future planning for the

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Justice System. Scanning the old records from 1982 to date, the software is capturing information that was not financially feasible to retrieve until now. The grant provides funds to pay for Drug and Alcohol Assessments and Level of Service Inventories that measure Risk of Recidivism that assists the Judge in his/her mandates from the court.

The Police Department pursued a grant to develop a Probation Department and failed in their effort for funding. The need for a structured Probation Department is exceedingly important to the efforts of the Tribal Justice Systems success.

3. Describe any current gaps in services related to the problem(s) identified in items #1 and #2 that will be addressed through this grant application and/or explain how the requested funding would help identify current gaps in service.

The AST Justice System and the Behavioral Health Program has not worked together to mandate offenders into Substance Abuse Treatment. Behavioral Health does not have a treatment program for adults and/or youth. The Court does not have an organized Probation or Reentry program. These two issues; Alcohol and Drug Abuse and Criminal activity are never addressed as a cause and effect.

The lack of data to assist in strategic planning for the AST Justice System is now being collected through the new software the Tribal Court Assistance Program grant has funded and will soon be available for the well-trained Planning Team to access.

The Tribal Youth, Indian Child Welfare and Domestic Violence programs have no software to do data collection. All data is collected by hand.

Through, Purpose Area #2, the training and technical assistance the strategic planning team will receive from the Department of Justice and a BJA Technical Assistance Provider, the team will develop a Tribal Action Plan to close the gaps in services they will soon recognize.

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4. Explain how your Tribe identified and prioritized the problem(s) described above to be addressed through this grant funding.

The CTAS grant application in 2010; there were discussions with the Judges, the Attorney Generals' Office and the AST Police Department staff regarding needs of the Justice System. This year, after the CTAS application came out again, a committee of five was formed to develop the various purpose areas to fill the needs of the Justice System. Through the process, the need for Referrals for the court became apparent. Prevention and Intervention came to the forefront of the conversations and how would that be done. By addressing the Number one problem; Alcohol and Drug Abuse, followed by the Number two problem; Crime that stems from the Number one problem in our community, such as Domestic Violence, Rape, Break-ins, Child Neglect, Truancy, Teen pregnancy, accidental deaths, and etc.; will create a more healthy and safe environment in our tribal communities.

5. Describe how the proposed grant-funded program will address the identified problems.

The Comprehensive Tribal Justice Systems Strategic Planning Program will break down each area of concern. Goals and objectives will be written with tasks and timelines. An Action Plan will be developed to begin the process of reducing the use of Alcohol and Drugs in our Native families. Referrals will be outlined for the Judges of our Court and the various programs will develop and increase their services for the court.

Prevention and intervention strategies will be put into action. The AST Police Department with their Mobile Command Center will begin their training in family interventions. (Assist the families in losing their 'fear factor' of the Police.); and the Police Chief and/or his designee will begin work in developing a program that will be presented through the Mobile Command Center for the Native families. The Tribal Youth Program will begin their after

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school program and using the new ACA Camp Ground for their Summer Camps. Indian Child Welfare will begin planning Retreats for their children and families. The Domestic Violence Program will take Referrals and send Referrals to the two program areas described above and provide Counseling to those in need of it. The two primary goals; one is to prevent the youth from joining the cycle of Alcohol and Drug Abuse and keeping their interest in school, school activities and learning about their own culture; and two is to intervene into the adults/parents behavioral patterns of Alcohol and Drug Abuse that have long been practiced in our community.

The ACA campground will allow the space to model behaviors that do not include drinking and abusive behaviors that occur within the Native families who use Alcohol and Drugs.

6. Identify the specific goals and objectives of the proposal that will be accomplished in 18 months. Provide details about the specific tasks and activities necessary to accomplish each goal and objective.

Problem No: #1 Alcohol and Drug Abuse

GOAL: The Tribal Justice System will have a Department of Justice approved Strategic Plan that will strengthen it and promote community wellness and safety for the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of OK.

Objective one: The Project Manager will be hired and attend the Grantee Conference along with the Grants Administrator. Through their leadership, the Alcohol and Drug Abuse issues that plague the tribal families will be brought to the public forum.

Objective two: The BJA Technical Assistance Provider will be contacted by the Project Manager and ask for assistance to the Executive Committee in identifying the Four (4)

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Member Planning Team, to include one Tribal Member Volunteer to receive a stipend, and setting up any future meetings necessary to begin the DOJ approved training of the Team.

Problem No: #2 Crimes in our Community

GOAL: The Absentee Shawnee Tribe of OK will have a cohesive Tribal Justice System that includes partnerships throughout the departments of the tribe that support the court system with excellent referral sources that will address the Victims and Perpetrators.

Objective one: The BJA Technical Assistance Provider and Project Manager will assist the Strategic Planning Team in conducting a comprehensive needs assessment and identifying community strengths and resources.

Objective two: The Strategic Planning Team will develop strategies to strengthen the Tribal Justice System and promote community safety plans; such as a Neighborhood Watch.

Objective three: Members of the Planning Team will attend specific training events that will assist them in developing a Tribal Action Plan that addresses the Justice System and set in motion a plan to address the Alcohol and Drug Abuse and the crime that is associated with it. The Plan will include directions for annual updates.

7. Describe the management structure, staffing, capacity to complete the proposed projects, and any organizational changes that may result if funding is awarded. Include detailed information about existing resources within the Tribe and the community that will help make this project a success.

The Governor of the tribe is the authority over the AST Police Department. The Police Chief will administer the Purpose Area #2 grant. A part time employee will act as the Project Manager to facilitate the planning process and coordinate daily activities. The Project Manager will use an existing office in the Police Department and will attend local meetings, using a tribal car. No other organizational changes will be necessary. The Planning Team

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will consist of four members; one volunteer and three current staff who are involved in the Absentee Shawnee Tribal Justice Systems various departments. The travel and training will be paid from the Purpose Area #2 grant and the U. S. Department of Justice (DOJ) will provide BJA Technical Assistance Providers.

The Tribe has set up two after school programs and has another planned. These programs are being funded through tribal and donated funds from other tribes where their children are being served too.

The Tribe has been granted an Indian Community Block Grant (ICDBG) to develop 200 acres into an ACA Youth Camp. It will consist of a 14 acre lake with swimming, canoeing, and fishing; Cafeteria, 8 large Cabins, Archery Range, Play Ground, Wildlife habitat and etc. This will be the home for the Tribal Youth Program. Phase One cost is \$1,050,000 that includes the 20% tribal match. The work on the infrastructure has begun.

The AST Court is in the process of scanning in all old records (1982 to current) into new software that is funded through the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA). It will provide data to the Planning Team as they develop their Tribal Action Plan.

8. Identify current government and community initiatives that complement or coordinate with the proposal and any partnerships that will be created or enhanced as a result of funding. Describe the roles of each identified partner. *Examples may be advisory boards, Tribal leaders, nonprofits, private organizations, and regional relationships, etc.*

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe of OK has recognized the root problem of the Native families in the service area as Alcohol and Drug Abuse. The youth are drinking and using drugs at a very young age and it is contributing to their dropping out of school and getting involved in illegal activities. The tribal government has dedicated 200 acres of land to build an ACA Youth Camp. They received a HUD FY-13 Indian Community Development Grant (ICDBG) for \$800,000

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with the match of the land at \$250,000. They have begun Phase One of three Phases with plans of completing the entire project in the next 3 years. They have two After School Programs and have plans to begin the third one soon. There are different age groups and help with their homework. The tribe has received a “Methamphetamine/Suicide Prevention Initiative” from Indian Health Services. It provides substance abuse treatment and screens for suicidal ideations. It provides Summer Camp, cultural activities, and a Music Program that targets Native Youth from age 6-18. There are 2 educational age groups to name a few of the activities. These seven grant applications, if funded will enhance or be enhanced by working with the established projects and programs.

The ACA Camp, when completed and fully staffed, will provide a home for the Tribal Youth Program that will be funded through CTAS and the Methamphetamine/Suicide Prevention Intervention that is funded through Indian Health Services. The AST Police Department will move their Mobile Command Center to the Camp Ground when the children and families are there to provide Substance Abuse prevention and intervention strategies with them. Domestic Violence and Indian Child Welfare will provide Retreats for their families too.

9. Describe how the applicant will know if the program works and how success will be determined and measured. Describe how data will be collected and assessed to measure the impact of proposed efforts.

i. What will be measured?

Number of youth involved in our After School programs & Camp Attendance.

Number of Families that attend the Mobile Command Center activities.

Number of Children in Indian Child Welfare’s foster care.

Number of Domestic Violence cases and Protective Orders filed in the Court.

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Number of court cases and Referrals to the programs that will be set up.

Number of children and families involved in the Tribal Youth Program.

Number of children and families involved in the MSPI Program.

ii. How will data be collected?

Pencil & Paper surveys will be used for the youth programs and families attending the AST Police Mobile Command Center activities.

Databases will be used to capture the AST Court activities.

iii. Who is responsible for collecting the data?

The Project Manager will work with each Program Director to develop surveys for each program. Pencil & paper or databases will be used in the data collection process.

iv. How is success defined?

Baseline data will be collected at the beginning of the project.

One interim data collection will be done at the nine (9) month time period to take any corrective action.

At closing of the project; the data will be collected again in the same manner.

With Technical Assistance from the DOJ provider; the Planning Team will analyze the data for the final time to determine the success of the project.

Success defined; if the reduction of alcohol and substance use has been reduced by 10% in the families and youth in 18 months that has been active in the program.

10. Describe how evaluation, collaborative partnerships, or other methods will be used to leverage ongoing resources and facilitate a long-term strategy to sustain the project when the federal grant ends.

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The Absentee Shawnee Tribe had a five year Feasibility Study (3years to build) done regarding the plan for the ACA Youth Camp. As the site is being created, staff will get certified in the various areas of the programs. Once the camp is in operation it will be leased out for outside Youth Programs, such as, Boy and Girl Scouts, other tribes youth programs. The University of Oklahoma, less than 20 miles from the Camp Site, has stated they will be interested in leasing for Retreats for their staff. In the winter, the tribal elderly will have retreats and it will be closed two weeks for the annual tribal hunting season. Many of the municipal associations will be able to lease it for day or weekend retreats. (It is 20 miles to City of Norman).

The funds from leasing will cover salaries, maintaining of the grounds and structures. The AST Justice System program referrals will have full access to the camp as well.

a. Describe any challenges you anticipate in sustaining the program beyond the grant funding.

The cost of liability Insurance could impede the growth of the Youth Camp. However, the cost will be figured into each lease and based on how many people will be in the group.

Building of the ACA Youth Camp depends on the ICDBG grant funding.

11. Address the Tribe's need for financial assistance and the inability of the agency to implement the proposed plan without federal funding. This should be linked to the issues identified in the Tribal Narrative Profile.

The Tribe's need for financial assistance is critical to the project. The AST Police Mobile Command Center is needed for the Emergencies the tribe finds itself in from natural causes. Over the past 3 years we have experienced Tornadoes, Wildfires and Ice Storms. Our tribal members live in wooded rural areas that are hard to get into. Other Police Departments

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come to the aide of the tribe and the officers are unable to communicate with each other because of different radio frequencies. The Mobile Command Center will be equipped with a frequency that all departments will be able to switch to for a more smooth emergency operation.

The Tribal Youth Program funds are needed to provide the program for our ACA Camp Ground until such time the leasing process begins. The Tribal Youth Program provides vital services to the youth after school, spring and summer breaks.

The Domestic Violence Program funds are critical to addressing the substance abuse issues that plague our families. Getting the cases into the court and victim services are extremely important to get the victims into counseling and getting the court to mandate them into family counseling.

The Indian Child Welfare (ICW) Program is in vital need of additional funding to operate a quality program on behalf of the children and families finding themselves' involved with the legal justice system as well. The ICW Program will use the ACA Camp Ground and interact with the other programs.

The tribe has no funds to pay for Strategic Planning or the expertise necessary to develop Action Plans to address the AST Justice System and how it can be used to reduce the alcohol and drug Abuse issues in our families.

11. If you are requesting funding in multiple Purpose Areas, is the receipt of BJA Purpose Area #2 funding required for the implementation of any other Purpose Area being requested? If so, explain. Examples of this may be requesting an officer from BJA Purpose Area #3 and equipment for that officer from COPS Purpose Area #1.

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe of OK is requesting funds in multiple Purpose Areas.

While the programs will support each other, the funds from Purpose Area #2 will not be

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required for the implementation of other Purpose Areas. Our community is centering on a multi-faceted approach to protect our people and create a healthier environment for our future generations.