

Mission

The mission of the Franklin County Office of Justice Policy & Programs (OJPP) is to provide system-wide comprehensive justice planning and oversight, identify training and technical assistance needs and direct the efficient and effective application of Federal, state and local funds toward developing and sustaining projects and programs that support smart justice, ingrain diversity, equity and inclusion in daily practice, and deliver quality services to the Franklin County community to enhance their health, safety, and welfare in the context of the criminal justice system.

Strategic Focus

Primary Initiative: Office of Justice Policy and Programs Reentry Services - By June 30, 2025, the Franklin County Criminal Justice Planning Board will develop and adopt a comprehensive Blueprint to Reentry to guide collective efforts through CY2028. By December 31, 2025, a minimum of 300 individuals identified as at risk for an opioid use disorder will receive medication assisted treatment pre-release and be linked with a community provider for post release care. OJPP will distribute a minimum of 3000 naloxone kits to justice involved individuals at risk for an opioid related overdose. The Rapid Resource Centers co-located at both Franklin County Correctional Centers will be staffed and operational 24/6. Over 4000 justice involved residents and/or their family members will receive services through the Rapid Resource Center and the Safer Stations program will link 300 individuals directly to detox and/or residential treatment.

Primary Issue: Reentry - Pervasive barriers preventing justice impacted residents and their families from being successful. Barriers include stigma, lack of affordable and accessible housing, substance use and mental health treatment and unemployment/under-employment. Failing to adequately address the needs of justice impacted residents will lead to higher unemployment and poverty rates, lower recovery rates from substance use and mental health, homelessness, jeopardized public safety outcomes, and intergenerational cycles of criminal justice involvement disproportionately impacting Black, Indigenous, and Other People of Color (BIPOC) communities. - The Franklin County Criminal Justice Planning Board and the Franklin County Reentry Advisory Board will adopt coordinated action steps that address barriers facing justice impacted residents and their families. OJPP will continue participation in the Franklin County Health and Human Services (HHS) collaboration to increase access and equity of County based services to all Franklin County residents.

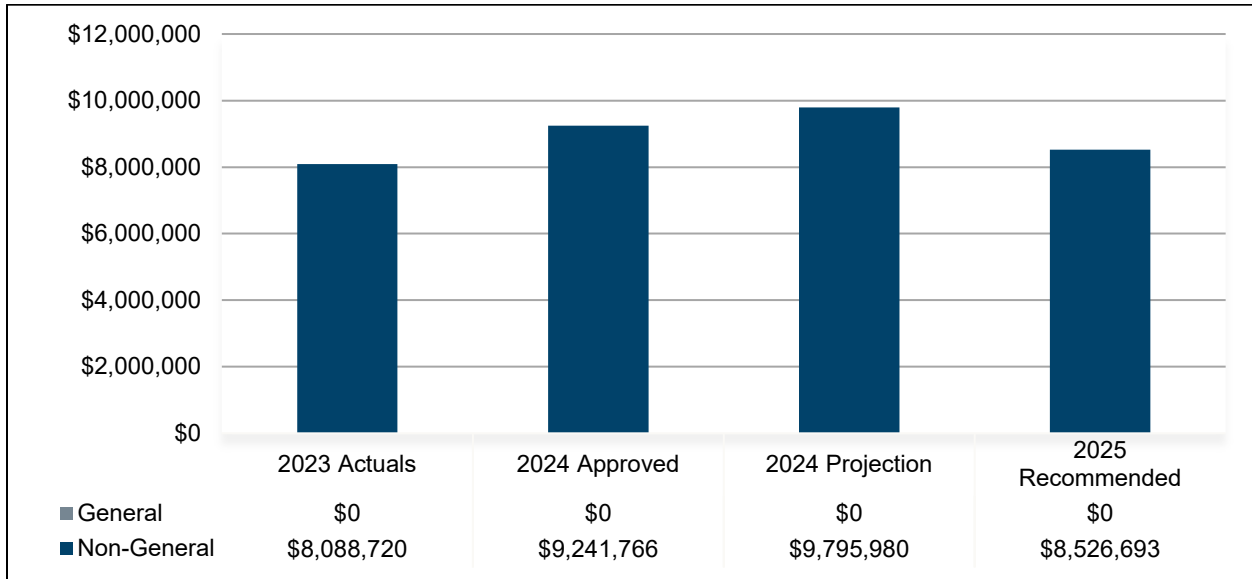
Performance Spotlight

Measure: Number of children served by CASA

Program: Court Appointed Special Advocates

About this measure		Why it is important	
This measure tracks the number of youth identified and receiving services through the Youth of Incarcerated Parents pilot initiative operating in the Common Pleas Court.		Youth exposed to parental incarceration experience 3x's as many adverse childhood experiences (ACE) as children without an incarcerated parent.	
What is being done			
Increased identification of families experiencing the impact of a parental incarceration. Increased number of caregivers and children screened for assistance and offered supportive services.			
2023 Actual	2024 Budget	2024 Projected	2025 Budget
767	815	800	800

Budget Summary – Revenues



Primary Revenue Sources by Fund Type

Fund Type	Fund Name (Number)	Primary Revenue Sources
General	None	N/A
Special	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Justice Programs Fund (2083) Justice Assistance Grants Fund (2127) TCAP Fund (2147) CASA Operations (2153) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transfers from the General Fund Federal Grants State Grants
Debt	None	N/A
Capital	None	N/A
Enterprise /Internal	None	N/A

Comparison: 2024 Approved to 2024 Projection

	2024 Approved	2024 Projection	Variance	
			\$	%
General Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
Non-General Fund	\$9,241,766	\$9,795,980	\$554,214	6.0%
Total	\$9,241,766	\$9,795,980	\$554,214	6.0%

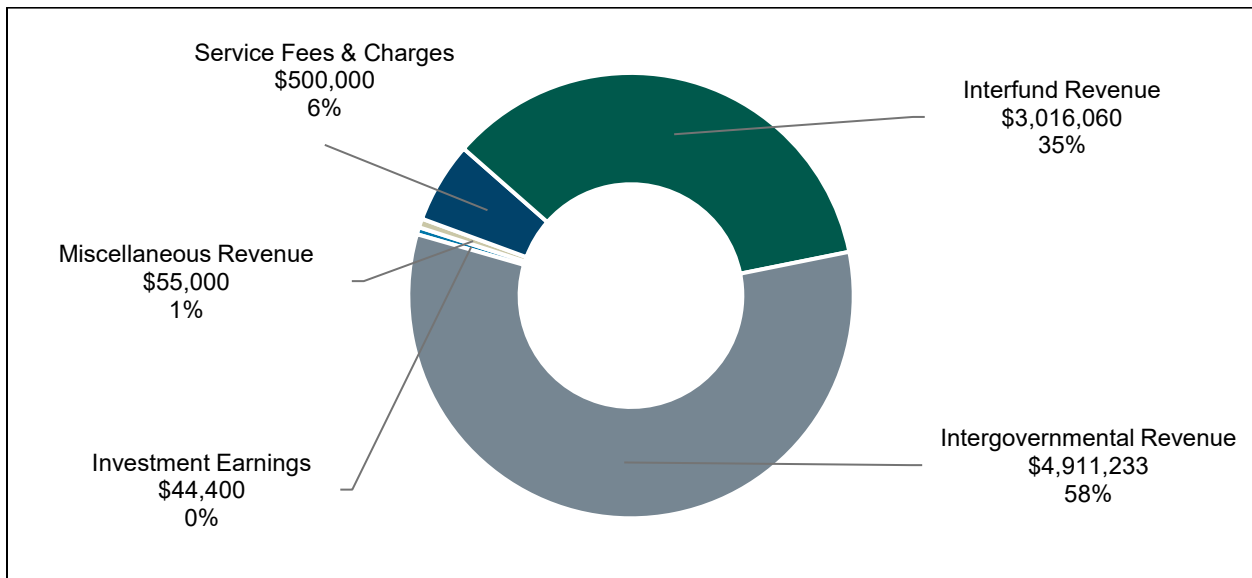
The variance from the 2024 Approved Budget to the 2024 Projection is primarily attributed to timing in the reimbursement of various reentry grants.

Comparison: 2024 Approved to 2025 Recommended

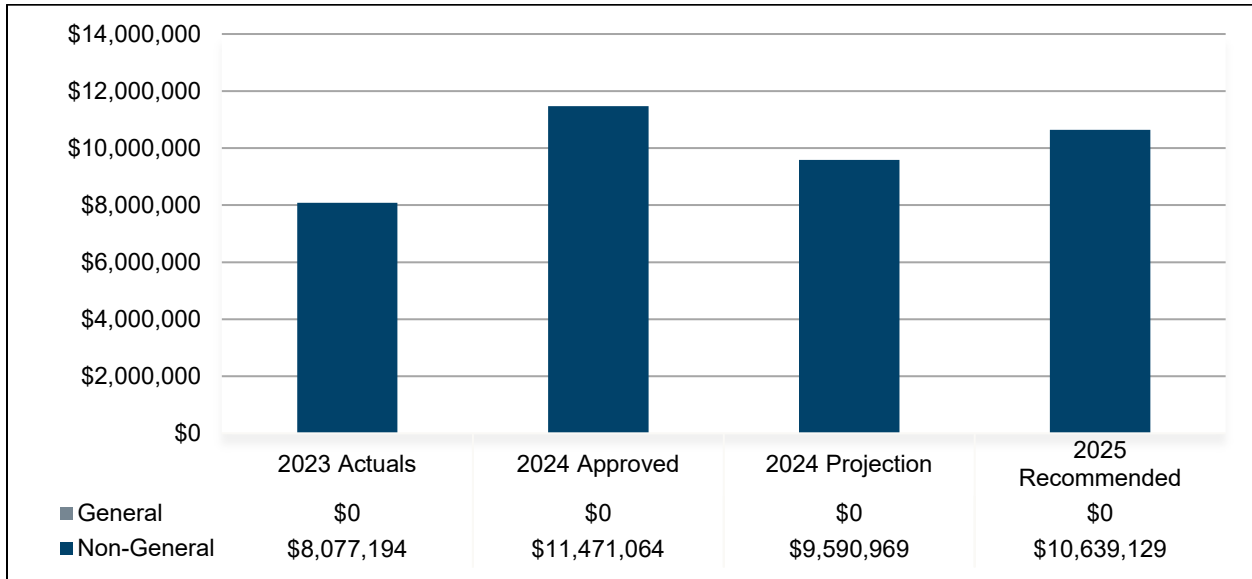
	2024 Approved	2025 Recommended	Variance	
			\$	%
General Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
Non-General Fund	\$9,241,766	\$8,526,693	(\$715,073)	-7.7%
Total	\$9,241,766	\$8,526,693	(\$715,073)	-7.7%

The variance from the 2024 Approved Budget to the 2025 Recommended Budget is primarily attributed to timing in the reimbursement of various Justice reentry programs.

2025 Recommended Budget Revenues by Category



Budget Summary – Expenditures



Significant items in the 2025 Recommended Budget

Object Code	Budgeted Amount	% of Budget
PERSONAL SERVICES & FRINGE	\$3,813,776	35.8%
GRANTS	\$3,434,621	32.3%
GRANTS TO OTHER GOVTS	\$1,386,953	13.0%
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES-OTHER	\$805,801	7.6%
GRANTS TO NON-PROFITS	\$772,196	7.3%
OFFICE MATERIALS & SUPPLIES	\$58,637	0.6%
GRANTS TO COUNTY AGENCIES	\$54,625	0.5%
IT MICROSOFT LICENSES	\$47,520	0.4%
ADVERTISING & PROMOTION	\$46,500	0.4%
TRAVEL & TRAINING	\$39,450	0.4%
<i>Other</i>	\$179,050	1.7%
Total	\$10,639,129	100.0%

Comparison: 2024 Approved to 2024 Projection

	2024 Approved	2024 Projection	Variance \$	%
General Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
Non-General Fund	\$11,471,064	\$9,590,969	(\$1,880,095)	-16.4%
Total	\$11,471,064	\$9,590,969	(\$1,880,095)	-16.4%

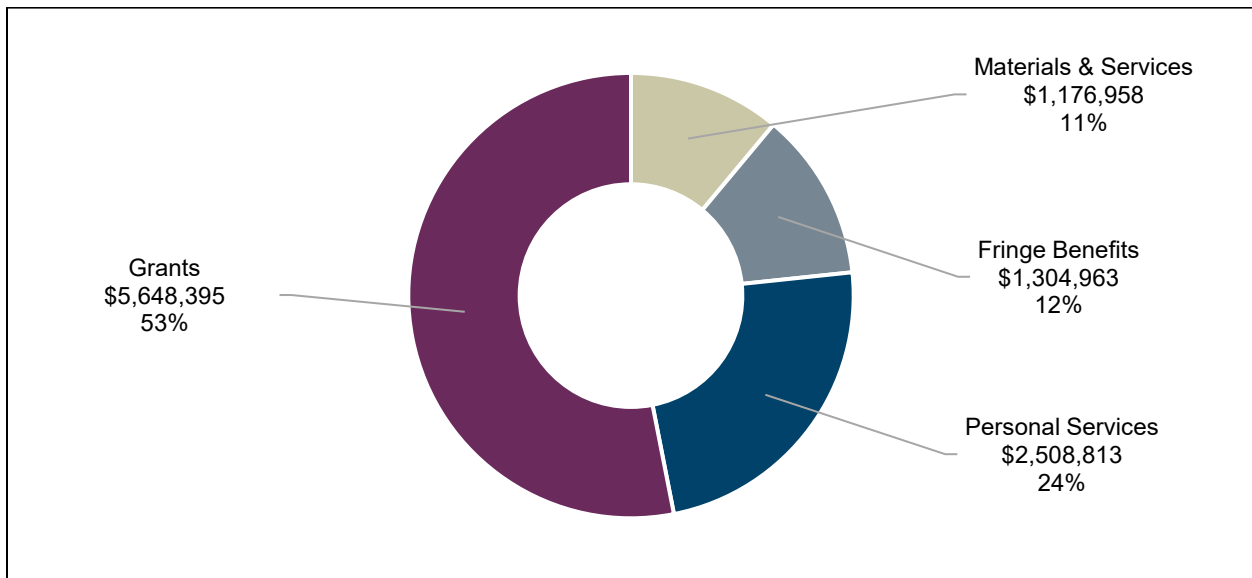
The variance from the 2024 Approved Budget to the 2024 Projection is primarily attributed to higher than anticipated vacancies and lower than anticipated Materials & Services and Grants.

Comparison: 2024 Approved to 2025 Recommended

	2024 Approved	2025 Recommended	Variance \$	%
General Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
Non-General Fund	\$11,471,064	\$10,639,129	(\$831,935)	-7.3%
Total	\$11,471,064	\$10,639,129	(\$831,935)	-7.3%

The variance from the 2024 Approved Budget to the 2025 Recommended Budget is primarily attributed to the timing of reentry grants and the expansion of the Smart Justice initiatives.

2025 Recommended Budget Expenditures by Category



Budget Summary – FTEs

	2024 Budget	2025 Recommended	Recommended Budget as % of Total FTEs
General Fund	0.00	0.00	0.0%
Non-General Fund	38.75	41.75	100.0%
Total Agency FTEs	38.75	41.75	100.0%

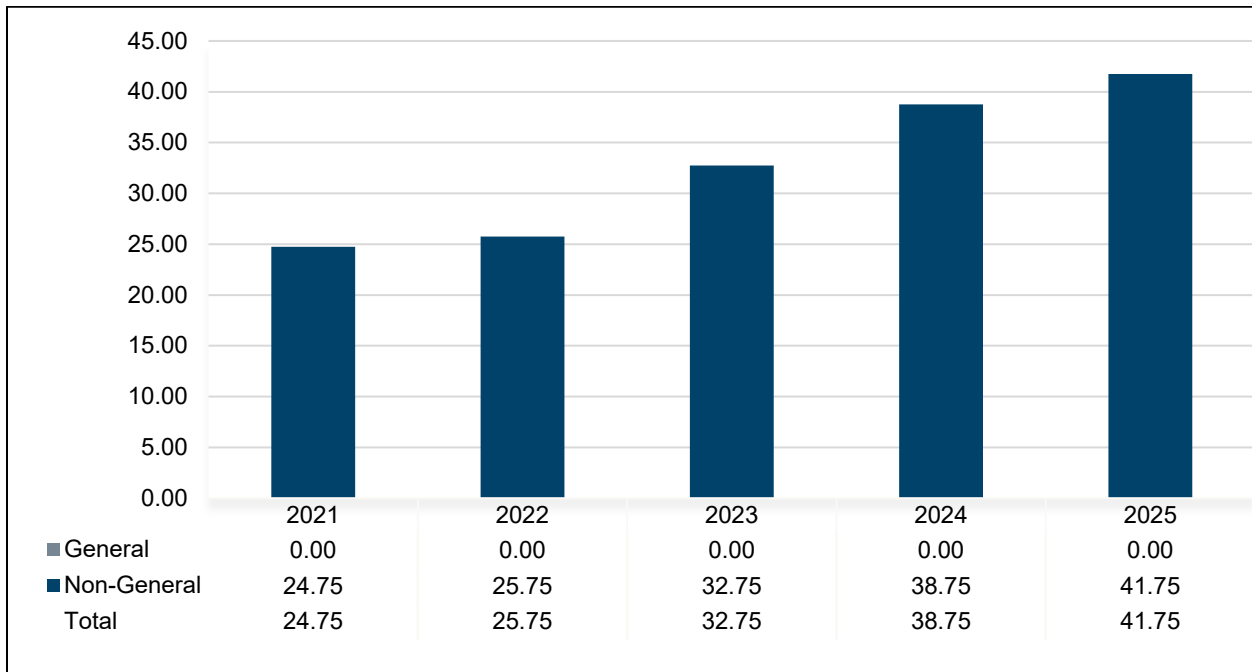
There is an increase of 3.00 FTEs from the 2024 Budget to the 2025 Recommended Budget.

New Positions

Position Title	# of Positions	Annual Salary	Source
Peer Support Specialist Supervisor	1	\$61,651	Res #148-24
Peer Support Specialist	1	\$56,181	Res #148-24
ODRC MAT Specialist	1	\$50,627	Res #148-24

Details regarding FTEs requested via RFR are available in the Request for Results section.

Budgeted FTE History



Vacancy Credit

The vacancy credit process is designed to more accurately reflect the expenditures for Salaries & Wages and Fringe Benefits within the agency budget request. The calculations for the budget process begin with funding all approved positions for the entire year excluding new positions contained in a Request for Results. Vacancy credits take into account that not all approved positions will be filled for the entire year. The methodology historically used to estimate an agency’s vacancy credit utilizes a four-year history of unused personnel budgets to determine an appropriate percentage of Salaries & Wages and Fringe Benefits that will likely remain unspent at the end of the year. However, vacancy credits may vary from the four-year average due to staffing trends or the number of positions supported within a fund. Vacancy Credits may also differ between Salaries & Wages and Fringe Benefits due to the timing and fixed amount charged for healthcare.

Salaries & Wages

	2024 Budget	Four-year Average	2025 Recommended	2025 Credit	2025 FTEs
Justice Programs Fund	8.0%	22.7%	5.0%	(\$87,828)	27.00
CASA Operations	1.0%	7.3%	0.0%	\$0	14.75

Fringe Benefits

	2024 Budget	Four-year Average	2025 Recommended	2025 Credit	2025 FTEs
Justice Programs Fund	8.0%	26.1%	5.0%	(\$47,632)	27.00
CASA Operations	1.0%	16.7%	0.0%	\$0	14.75

The four-year average in the Justice Programs Fund is skewed by various grant supported positions.

Request for Results

A Request for Results is a request for additional appropriations to support a new initiative or expand existing services. A Request for Results contains a detailed description of the new initiative, justification for why the increase in appropriations is necessary, and the expected outcomes. In addition to the amount of additional appropriations, a Request for Results should identify any new revenue or savings expected to be achieved from the new initiative. The Office of Management & Budget reviews each Request for Results to determine if adequate justification is provided and sufficient resources are available. The County Administrator makes a recommendation based on this review, with the Board of Commissioners making the final decision on whether the item is included in the budget.

Response to Domestic Violence		
Fund Type	New Positions	Amount
Non-General Fund	N/A	\$580,278
<p>Description: This request includes support of the Batterer’s Intervention Program within the Franklin County Municipal Court. Historically, the Court has outsourced this type of programming but has determined bringing the program in-house may improve the quality-of-service provision for the two-thousand individuals participating annually. In addition, this request also supports ongoing support of the Blueprint to Safety Initiative, which is also in partnership with the City of Columbus, to implement the recommendations of the multi-year planning initiative.</p>		

Project Development and Administration

Program Purpose

The purpose of the Project Development and Administration Program is to provide project development, grants management, technical assistance and training services supporting public safety, corrections, the courts, community corrections, victim services and community-based organizations so they can implement successful justice and community-based programs that address social determinants of health, improves public safety, and embraces diversity, equity and inclusion.

Primary Services

- Administration of justice grants in accordance with local, state, and federal requirements.
- Provision of technical assistance and training to support system-wide justice responses that are fair, equitable, and responsive to current justice trends.
- Utilizing a data-driven approach, convene stakeholders regularly to identify and address justice system gaps and deficits, inequities, and opportunities for improvement.

Program Budget Overview

	2024	2025	Variance	
	Approved	Recommended	\$	%
Personal Services	\$464,717	\$475,227	\$10,510	2.3%
Fringe Benefits	\$212,949	\$216,999	\$4,050	1.9%
Materials & Services	\$102,828	\$245,928	\$143,100	139.2%
Total Expenditures	\$780,494	\$938,154	\$157,660	20.2%

Funding Source

- Justice Programs Fund

Core Principle and Linkage

Provide Community Safety, Security & Effective Justice

Through collaboration with government and non-government partners as well as the Franklin County Criminal Justice Planning Board, public safety is enhanced through community planning and involvement. OJPP is committed to providing accountability, transparency, and responsiveness to the public and providing quality, customer service to residents through efficient and effective grants management, planning, training and technical assistance services. OJPP staff are dedicated to long-range planning and organizational stability as demonstrated by planning and research documents created and routinely updated to ensure emerging trends and conditions are addressed. OJPP regularly engages in collaborative partnerships and stays abreast of evidence based best practices intended to improve service delivery and management of County resources.

Title II Grant

Program Purpose

The purpose of the Title II Program is to provide grant funding to community-based agencies implementing projects that deliver evidence informed juvenile justice services that meet or exceed performance objectives.

Primary Services

- Administration of the Title II Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention grant program in accordance with local, state, and federal guidelines.
- Monitoring of juvenile justice programs intended to increase public safety, support families, and reduce the number of youths engaged in the juvenile justice system.

Program Budget Overview

	2024	2025	Variance	
	Approved	Recommended	\$	%
Grants	\$205,000	\$150,000	(\$55,000)	-26.8%
Total Expenditures	\$205,000	\$150,000	(\$55,000)	-26.8%

Funding Source

- Justice Programs Fund

Core Principle and Linkage

Provide Community Safety, Security & Effective Justice

The Title II Grant is linked to the core principles by providing comprehensive and effective programs for juvenile crime prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation. The Title II program is able to support the goal of improved public safety through the use of community planning and involvement and other means to protect the quality of life. Title II directly impacts the intent to reduce juvenile behavioral health problems.

VAWA Grant

Program Purpose

The purpose of the VAWA Program is to provide grant funding to local government and community-based agencies so they can implement projects that deliver victim services that meet or exceed their performance objectives.

Primary Services

- Provision of grants administration of the S.T.O.P. Violence Against Women Act block grant in accordance with local, state, and federal guidelines.
- Identification of systemwide deficiencies and support of effective solutions intended to enhance prosecution, law enforcement, courts, and victim services responses to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and/or stalking.

Program Budget Overview

	2024	2025	Variance	
	Approved	Recommended	\$	%
Materials & Services	\$0	\$83,325	\$83,325	N/A
Grants	\$1,425,168	\$1,301,041	(\$124,127)	-8.7%
Total Expenditures	\$1,425,168	\$1,384,366	(\$40,802)	-2.9%

Funding Source

- Justice Programs Fund

Core Principle and Linkage

Provide Community Safety, Security & Effective Justice

The Violence Against Women Act Program is linked to the core principles through support of comprehensive and effective programs aimed at reducing violent crime and providing treatment and advocacy services for victims of domestic violence and other forms of abuse. VAWA supports the County goal of improved public safety and emphasizes the importance of community planning involving law enforcement, prosecution, and victim services to ensure a comprehensive response to DV and other forms of abuse. Further, VAWA supports the County goals of improved public safety through commitment to ongoing employee training and the provision of assistance to underserved (vulnerable) populations as demonstrated through targeted outreach to victims who may be hearing impaired and/or Limited English Proficient.

Justice Assistance Grants

Program Purpose

The purpose of the Justice Assistance Grants (JAG) Program is to support public safety efforts intended to reduce and prevent crime, violence, and drug abuse and improve the way in which the local criminal justice system functions.

Primary Services

- Provision of grants administration of the Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) in accordance with local, state, and federal guidelines.
- Support of government and community-based programs intended to improve public safety, increase the capacity of justice system partners and improve responsiveness to justice system trends and conditions in a manner that is fair, equitable, and just.
- Serve as a repository for data collection and analysis efforts.

Program Budget Overview

	2024 Approved	2025 Recommended	Variance \$	%
Grants	\$726,021	\$744,750	\$18,729	2.6%
Total Expenditures	\$726,021	\$744,750	\$18,729	2.6%

Funding Source

- Justice Assistance Grants Fund

Core Principle and Linkage

Provide Community Safety, Security & Effective Justice

The JAG Program is linked to the core principles through provision of comprehensive and effective programs targeting emerging community conditions that support crime prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation programs for both youth and adults. JAG funding promotes the bond between the public safety offices, courts, and the community through support of a broad range of justice disciplines and is overseen by a cross representation of public, safety offices, court officials, and community-based organizations via the Criminal Justice Planning Board. JAG directly supports improvement of public safety through the use of community planning and involvement and other means to protect the quality of life through implementation of outcomes directly impacting public safety and the protection of quality of life. JAG supports the successful reentry of ex-offenders into the community through programming that links the skills of the unemployed and underemployed with the workforce needs of local business and industry and promoting affordable housing, shelters, and supportive/transitional housing for ex-offenders in need. JAG directly supports programs that provide outreach and advocacy services to underserved and/or vulnerable populations as demonstrated by targeted outreach and provision of services to immigrant, populations, LEP, and victims of domestic violence.

Stepping Up/Reentry Initiative

Program Purpose

The purpose of the Stepping Up/Reentry Initiative program is to enhance public safety, reduce recidivism and support justice involved individuals by removing or reducing barriers to their successful reintegration with a targeted focus on addressing social determinants of health, reducing the over-representation of individuals incarcerated with a diagnosed severe mental illness and reducing the number of individuals at risk for an unintentional overdose and death.

Primary Services

- Development and implementation of responsive programs intended to support the successful reentry of individuals released from a carceral setting to the community.
- The day-to-day operation of the Franklin County Rapid Resource Center and implementation of the male and female Pathways to Healthy Living programs.
- Day-to-day coordination and project management of multiple initiatives including Safer Stations 2.0 and the jail-based pre-release medication-assisted treatment program intended to reduce the number of overdose deaths in Franklin County.
- Coordination of the countywide Justice Counts and Stepping Up initiative efforts including the development of a data repository intended to monitor Tier 1 Justice Counts metrics

Program Budget Overview

	2024 Approved	2025 Recommended	Variance	
			\$	%
Personal Services	\$964,211	\$1,193,503	\$229,292	23.8%
Fringe Benefits	\$540,419	\$656,813	\$116,394	21.5%
Materials & Services	\$911,267	\$683,950	(\$227,317)	-24.9%
Grants	\$4,510,852	\$3,452,604	(\$1,058,248)	-23.5%
Total Expenditures	\$6,926,749	\$5,986,870	(\$939,879)	-13.6%

Funding Source

- Justice Programs Fund
- TCAP

Core Principle and Linkage

Provide Community Safety, Security & Effective Justice

The Stepping Up/Reentry Initiative Program is linked to the core principles through provision of comprehensive and effective services that promote public safety and improve the outcomes of individuals being released from the Franklin County Jail and/or Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections and returning to Franklin County. The Stepping Up Initiative encourages Counties across the country to develop effective strategies for addressing justice involved individuals with a severe mental illness.

Court Appointed Special Advocates

Program Purpose

The purpose of Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Franklin County is the recruitment, training and support of volunteers for service as Guardians ad Litem to abused and neglected children in the Franklin County Domestic and Juvenile Court.

Primary Services

- Recruit, train, and support new volunteer Guardians ad Litem.
- Provision of continuing education and support to existing volunteers.
- Conduct monthly visits with children and provide fact-based report to the Court.
- Make recommendations to the Court advocating for the best interests of the child.

Program Budget Overview

	2024	2025	Variance	
	Approved	Recommended	\$	%
Personal Services	\$797,203	\$840,083	\$42,880	5.4%
Fringe Benefits	\$448,980	\$431,151	(\$17,829)	-4.0%
Materials & Services	\$161,449	\$163,755	\$2,306	1.4%
Total Expenditures	\$1,407,632	\$1,434,989	\$27,357	1.9%

Funding Source

- CASA Operations

Core Principle and Linkage

Provide Community Safety, Security & Effective Justice

CASA of Franklin County links to this core principle by training community volunteers to become Guardians ad Litem (GALs), who then advocate in court for the best interests of abused and neglected children. Through consistent visits with the child, CASA volunteers get to know the child's circumstances and wishes well enough to make fact-based recommendations to the Juvenile Court about custody, placement, visitation, and services. GALs gather information by making monthly visits with the child, interviewing important figures in the child's life, attending meetings about the child's welfare, writing monthly reports, and appearing in court as the child's advocate. According to data compiled by the Ohio Colleges of Medicine Government Resource Center for the Ohio CASA/GAL Association, children who have a Franklin County Court Appointed Special Advocate are more likely to find a safe and stable permanent home, are more likely to succeed in school and are less likely to re-enter the foster care system. CASA of Franklin County is the only organization in Franklin County that provides volunteer GALs.