

Sole-source Special Community Initiatives Grant Application Form



This form is to be used to apply for non-competitive funds from the Escambia Children's Trust (ECT). Sole-source Special Community Initiatives requests for funding may be submitted by a community organization based solely upon the applicant's initiative and not in response to a formal solicitation or procurement process of the ECT. Applications will be considered for funding on a case-by-case basis. Please allow up to eight (8) weeks for a funding decision.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Contact Person: Paul Polk

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Phone Number: 850-436-9573

Organization: Escambia County Sheriff's Office

Program Address: 1700 West Leonard Street
Pensacola, FL 32501

Administrative Address (if different):

REQUEST INFORMATION

Need Statement: What priority need(s) identified in the ECT Needs Assessment will this project address in Escambia County?

PSAs – Escambia County Sheriff's Office understands that children and families need support to help them avoid risky behaviors. In Escambia County, juvenile-related gun arrests and drug-related deaths have increased over the last two years. Not to mention a child died from co-sleeping once every four weeks in the previous three years. A unified public awareness campaign in targeted service areas will help develop an annual communications plan to combat juvenile drug-related deaths and arrests, including gun-related juvenile arrests and co-sleeping mortality.

Virtual Reality – Valuable police training needs to be as realistic as possible. Virtual reality can provide the type of training required by law enforcement officers by allowing trainees to immerse their senses in a three-dimensional computer-generated environment. This training will enable our deputies to explore and interact (with virtual surroundings) in a way that approximates reality as the deputies perceive it. Interactive scenario-based exercises will help deputies increase their knowledge and gain experience in incidents in a safe environment without risk to themselves or our citizens. Types of training can include active shooter scenarios, de-escalation training with our

youth, teens, and young adults, crisis intervention, domestic violence, mental illness, emotionally disturbed persons, and many more.

Utilizing this safe and controlled training method allows deputies to train on how to best interact with our citizens, including children and families, and incorporate their diverse backgrounds into a positive outcome for everyone. This training allows us to integrate statutory requirements or policy changes seamlessly to keep our deputies knowledgeable.

With deputies adequately trained in these scenarios and situations, our children and young adults will be more likely to have a positive outcome when interacting with deputies. Increased training opportunities for our deputies to learn how to react to the diverse situations in our children's lives produce community-wide benefits. This training will allow our children, young adults, and law enforcement to establish and maintain open communication while building positive relationships in our community.

Sheriff's Movie Night – Our youth need a safe environment to be children and play. So far, in 2022, risky behaviors such as juvenile-related gun charges have resulted in 145 arrests, with 802 overall arrests involving juveniles. We understand our children need safe zones, such as our community-inspired movie night. This program is a unique opportunity for a high-quality out-of-school time program. This community engagement program establishes relationships with our community members and opens the lines of communication in our neighborhoods for children and families. The focus of this community-inspired event is to provide a safe and educational environment for our community and youth. The emphasis is to provide educational materials that foster better relationships with our youth and deputies. In addition, building trust with the community is fundamental to effective policing, which improves community interactions with our children and families. This program will encourage community members to help fight crime and lower crime rates throughout our community.

The Escambia County Sheriff Foundation has invested over \$200,000 in this educational event so that it can be vibrant and thriving within our community. This program allows us to interact with as many youths and families as possible. During our inaugural year, this highly successful program reached over 250 children and families during each Sheriff's Movie Night outreach event. These events allowed us to engage these children in a non-threatening, fun environment while allowing us to educate, communicate and provide a safe environment to learn for each of our children.

Real-Time Crime Center – With an increase in youth arrests over last year, there is now a need for a Real Time Crime Center (RTCC). A Real-Time Crime Center (RTCC) can allow our law enforcement agency to capitalize on a comprehensive and expanding range of technology for efficient and effective policing. Such efforts will enable law enforcement deputies to respond quickly, or even proactively, to crimes in progress or to those that recently occurred. A partnership with the Escambia County School District will provide additional safety for our children during and after school activities with additional security cameras within the schools. The RTCC will allow immediate monitoring, intervention, and response to a juvenile crisis. This technology will allow law enforcement agencies in Northwest Florida to respond to crime events more efficiently and deliberately, with improved operational intelligence with a bold emphasis on our children's safety.

Program Description: What services will be offered to children? How many children will be served? How and where? By whom? Please list all project partners and their roles.

PSAs – Our overarching goal is to inform the public about our concerns with avoiding risky behaviors. Such problems as drug-related deaths, gun-related juvenile arrests, and co-sleeping are some of our concerns. Through billboards, radio programs, and video streaming, our PSA campaign will decrease our children's risky behaviors by demonstrating positive support from role models who care about the quality of life of our children. PSAs on juvenile arrests, including gun crimes, drug use, and co-sleeping, will provide awareness to our children and families throughout the community about the dangers of drug use, gun violence, and co-sleeping. Children and families will see and hear these critical announcements and discover strategies to deal with these compounding issues. The Escambia County Sheriff's Office will be the county's lead voice of universal concerns about youth arrests, including gun crimes, drug use, and co-sleeping, impacting high school graduation of all backgrounds and economic statuses. Our children and families will have the support to help them avoid these risky behaviors.

Virtual Reality – Virtual Reality training utilizes a safe and controlled training method for numerous scenarios and situations with our citizens, including children and youth.

Sheriff's Movie Night – The Sheriff's Movie Night is a fun, safe environment allowing us to provide a family-appropriate movie, food, gifts, and games. This program allows our children to engage with our different departments and personnel. Our deputies demonstrate how alcohol affects response times while driving a vehicle, the many stages of a crime scene, and how our team could use crime scene personnel to solve the crimes.

The children and families will be able to meet the ECSO K-9 unit and Mounted Posse Unit. Most importantly, our young people will have an opportunity to ask questions and have one-on-one experience with the deputies and members from these different units. Using these educational tools, children and families can see how law enforcement interacts with the public daily.

Real-Time Crime Center - The RTCC is focused on monitoring, deterring, and evaluating criminal activity in real-time through surveillance cameras, fixed and mobile license plate recognition (LPR) systems, crime analysis, and other law enforcement software and databases. The RTCC provides investigative support to the first responders arriving on the scene and the investigators handling follow-up investigations. This technology will enhance the deputy's preparedness to address sensitive and unique issues involving youth.

The RTCC will support public safety efforts to prevent and reduce crime and provide effective and efficient interaction with children to avoid being incarcerated. The RTCC will be located at the Escambia County Sheriff's Office and maintained by the Criminal Intelligence Unit.

Anticipated Outcomes: What will the outcomes of your project be? How will you measure success for the project? Which ECT indicators will the project address?

PSAs – The anticipated outcomes will be a statistical decrease in youth drug-related deaths and juvenile arrests, including gun-related juvenile arrests, and an increase in awareness of these risky behaviors through our billboards, radio programs, and video streaming campaign. The campaign's impact is to provide children and families with messaging on decreased youth arrests, including gun crimes, drug use, and co-sleeping. The success of this goal is to see our children safely enter adulthood and reduce youth incarceration, drug mortality, and co-sleeping deaths. At the same time, it ensures our community is prepared to combat gun crimes, drug use, and the importance of high school graduation. This campaign will allow our children to progress into adulthood safely and ready to succeed in school and life.

Virtual Reality – Police force training utilizing virtual reality has reported the following police officer performance improvements:

- 194% Increase in Training Effectiveness
- 282% Increase in Hours Spent Training
- 327% Increase in Use of Force Decision
- 1000% Increase in Police Officer Willingness to Train

As a direct result of increased training opportunities in these scenarios and situations for our deputies, we can expect an increase in safe, positive outcomes involving our children, young adults, and law enforcement.

Sheriff's Movie Night – The Sheriff's Movie Night allows interactions between law enforcement and youth in an environment not limited to enforcement actions resulting from crime or other violations. This program provides ways for the two groups to interact in a nonconfrontational, enjoyable, educational, and safe setting. Movie Nights are a social setting that allows our youth and law enforcement to retreat honestly. Through these interactions, deputies and youth will get to know one another personally, not just by a uniform or a clothing style but by a personal relationship, thus providing children and families the support to help them avoid risky behaviors. Engagement with our children is crucial to forming a favorable opinion of law enforcement, establishing long-term relationships with deputies, and viewing deputies as trusted community service members while helping them build community support bonds.

Real-Time Crime Center – The RTCC will be able to provide time-sensitive information to responding deputies so that they are better prepared to deal with at-risk youth. This unit will also help provide background information on the child, such as what school they attend or if they have had violent tendencies in the past, so our deputies can be better prepared to deal with the situation. Our RTCC will assist in preventing and stopping crimes that our youth commit.

The ultimate goal is to ensure accountability of all parties while helping to prevent youth violence and lower youth incarceration.

FUNDING INFORMATION

Is your agency currently receiving other funding from the ECT? Yes No

Have you spoken to an ECT team member regarding your request? Yes No

Other Funding Source(s):	<u>N/A</u>
Other Funding Amount:	<u>\$ 0</u>
Total Project Budget:	<u>\$ 1,166,903.42</u>
Amount Requested from ECT:	<u>\$ 1,166,903.42</u>

- Attach a Detailed Project Budget (please use one of the following file formats: DOC, DOCX, XLS, XLSX, TXT)
- Attach any Additional Information that you would like to be considered by ECT.

The undersigned confirms that the proposed project:

- Addresses identified gaps in services or community needs identified in the Trust’s needs assessment
- Is typically administered in Escambia County solely by the applicant(s)
- Provides a specialized or unique service or product that does not lend itself to a competitive proposal process

Chip W. Simmons
Name of Authorized Official

Sheriff
Title


Signature of Authorized Official

11-2-22
Date Signed

Escambia County Sheriff's Office Childrens Trust

ECSO Movie Night	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
ECSO Movie Night				
TOTAL	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00	
	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00	\$120,000.00
PSA-				
W, WMEX, WXBM, WCOA Endorsement Plan 4 flight weeks / 15 per station x 4				
Cat County 98.7 News Radio				
Lamar Billboards				
Choice WRNE 106.9 Radio (\$816 X12 months)				
Cox Streaming				
TOTAL	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$150,000.00
VR				
AXON - Simulator	\$152,201.14	\$152,201.14	\$152,201.14	\$456,603.42
TOTAL				\$456,603.42
Real Time Crime Center				
Real Time Crime Center	\$125,000.00	\$125,000.00	\$125,000.00	\$375,000.00
One time fee-Hardware	\$40,300.00			\$40,300.00
6 Workstations / monitors	\$25,000.00			\$25,000.00
TOTAL				\$440,300.00
GRAND TOTAL				\$1,166,903.42