



Request for Proposal: Reset Jefferson County Office of the District Attorney – Birmingham Division

Statement of Purpose

Reset Jefferson County is seeking community-based programming providers in Birmingham, AL, to conduct ~four-hour restorative justice workshops for young adults in Jefferson County who have been arrested for certain Class C and D Felonies.

A. Program Background

Through [Reset Jefferson County](#), the Jefferson County District Attorney's Office--Birmingham Division (JCDA) will implement innovative strategies for reducing crime, improving community safety, and strengthening justice system outcomes in Jefferson County, Alabama. Reset Jefferson County is a pretrial, prosecutor-led diversion program wherein eligible participants are diverted from the court system and are required to complete community-based programming requirements. The program is a new approach to diverting young people, historically Black residents who collectively have historically been underserved in Birmingham, away from the criminal legal system through a proportionate, effective, and meaningful response to low-level felony offending. The approach used holds people accountable for their actions, strengthens public trust in the justice system, and creates opportunities for young, low-level offenders to move forward without the life-altering punishment of a felony conviction and financial burden of court or program costs. Detailed information about the Reset model and its history can be found [here](#).

Once a participant has successfully completed the program, the District Attorney's Office will decline to prosecute them, and they won't have to appear in court. Participants who do not complete programming are sent back to the court system.

Reset currently enrolls young adults aged 18-26 but has received federal funding to expand the reach of the program and document strategies for implementation and replication. The program will incrementally begin enrolling eligible participants over the age of 26. Proposed programming may require modification to address the specific needs of participant age ranges.

The three project goals include:

1. Meaningfully address identified inequities by employing developmentally appropriate interventions as an alternative to incarceration and felony convictions
2. Reduce the likelihood of rearrests for enrolled participants and reduce the number of Black people in Jefferson County who become entrenched in the criminal justice system
3. Create a replicable model diversion program that is supported by research, documentation of implementation, and tools to support replication

Key outcomes for participants include:

- Improved perceptions of procedural justice and outcome fairness
- reduction of time in court
- avoidance of conviction
- avoidance of the possibility of jail through sentence or warrant
- increased access to community services
- quicker case resolution

Additional outcomes include reduced recidivism, improved public safety, and improved community perceptions of the justice system.

B. Project Features

Reset Jefferson County program providers will:

- Develop engaging curriculum appropriate for young adults for four-hour workshops with the goals of:
 - Guide conversations where young people can express themselves and be provided with tools to make better decisions in the future and set goals for themselves
 - Create a welcoming, non-judgmental space where communication is encouraged for participants, especially concerning issues they may be having that might affect their decision-making and what led to their arrest
 - Educate participants on developing healthy outlets for dealing with the problems they face and subsequent emotions
 - Incorporate empathy and listening exercises to help participants understand how decision-making impacts them personally, their families, friends, and community
 - Use creativity, such as art, music, writing, drama, and storytelling to encourage participation
- Commit to leading workshops periodically when needed

- Modify curriculum as needed depending on the needs and characteristics of the workshop participants

C. Contract Details

The selected program provider will be required to commit to occasional programming as needed, typically once every 6-8 weeks for small groups of no more than 12 participants. Programming will ideally commence in September 2025, and workshops will occur through August 30th, 2026. The workshops shall accommodate participants' schedules, will occur in the evenings and/or weekends, and may be subject to change depending on the availability of the participants and Reset staff. The provider will have flexibility to schedule workshops within these parameters. Space will be provided at a location conducive to the goals of this program within Birmingham by Reset Jefferson County. Programming will not be provided at the courthouse.

This project is supported by Grant No. 15PBJA-24-GK-05457-JAGP awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. Contract employment subject to the availability of funds. The providers will be paid per workshop.

Funding permitted, there will be an option for renewal of this contract in September 2026.

The Jefferson County District Attorney's Office is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer. It is the policy of our office to provide equal employment opportunities to qualified applicants and/or employees without regard to race, gender, age, religion, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, or veteran status.

D. How to Submit a Proposal

Please submit the following and any questions you may have no later than September 15th via email to reset@jccal.org.

1. A technical approach which describes how you will conduct the workshop within the goals outlined above
2. A brief summary of your recent and relevant projects and how you believe your personal and/or professional history can positively impact participants
3. Existing written curriculum from similar programs or workshops you have conducted
4. An estimate of fees/rates to be charged for services provided
5. Resumes of all involved in your proposed approach if applicable

The provider selected for 2025-26 programming will be informed no later than September 30th.