



Aitkin County Health & Human Services

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PTACC Conference Opportunity Request

October 14, 2019

To The Aitkin County Board,

With the help of the Region V+ Adult Mental Health Initiative, the region's Comprehensive Reentry Social Workers have an opportunity to attend the second annual Police, Treatment, and Community Collaborative (PTACC) Conference. The conference focuses on the emerging idea of pre-arrest diversion and or deflection.

The conference takes place at the Sawgrass Marriot Resort in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, from November 10th, through November 13th, 2019. The cost of registration and travel will be entirely funded through the Sourcewell Innovation Grant that was awarded to the Region V+ Adult Mental Health Initiative for further advancement and innovation in the area of Comprehensive Reentry Programming.

Pre-arrest diversion refers to the idea of addressing those with mental health concerns, Substance Use Disorders, and those faced with poverty. The idea is that when individuals encounter law enforcement due to these challenges, there are often few resources made available to them, other than county jails or hospitals. It is my hope that I can attend this conference and broaden my knowledge on how to better bridge the gaps between Law Enforcement, Corrections, Social Services and Community Resources. I hope to return with knowledge on how to create solutions to these concerns that are unique to Region V+ and the Aitkin County Communities.

The conference consists of 4 days full of esteemed presenters, and experts in the fields of Human Services, Law Enforcement, Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder. The conference includes information on 5 different models of Prearrest Diversion, making it possible for attendees to explore a model that might best fit their unique community. The conference further consists of multiple tracks, which offer attendees the ability to choose the track that best suits their level of experience or readiness to implement a Prearrest Diversion Strategy. Below is an excerpt from the Collaborative. More information can also be found at <https://ptaccollaborative.org/>

“The PTAC Collaborative encourages individuals, organizations, and community leaders to come together through cross-sector collaboration to learn about, develop, and enhance pre-arrest diversion initiatives that best address the needs of their communities and citizens. Given the deadly nature of the opioid crisis, there has never been a more essential time for law enforcement, behavioral health, and the community to work together to ensure access to treatment for individuals affected by substance use disorders (SUD), and mental illness (MI). With approximately 850,000 police officers in 18,000 departments across the country, pre-arrest diversion (PAD) interventions may offer a potential referral source to mental health and substance use treatment unmatched by any other effort, justice related or otherwise. This initiative aims to divert people whose infractions are driven mainly by Substance Use Disorders, Mental Illness, and poverty, out of the justice system and toward social services where their needs can be addressed.”

Sincerely,

Nick Anderson