

Description of Proposed Services

For County Community Safety Investment Fund (SQ781)

Cleveland County is requesting to use the allocated funding in the following ways:

Project 1: Recovery Based Housing with Recovery Support Services: \$110,000

Allowable under 43A O.S. §2-312.4(A)(5)

Timeline: Fire suppression system installation will begin in April, 2026; playground and outdoor furnishings are expected to be installed April – May, 2026; services for family engagement will begin after opening of the facility (awaiting inspection of the fire suppression system).

Number of Individuals Served: 30

Cleveland County is seeking to provide recovery based housing and family reunification support services through Hope Center Ministries. Specifically, Cleveland County would like to provide a code-compliance fire suppression system for the new Hope Center Ministries campus located in east Norman. This necessary infrastructure is required to begin providing housing for residents recovering from addiction. Recovery-based housing promotes recovery from substance use “which leads to long-term sobriety, improved health and wellness, and community involvement.”¹

Cleveland County also seeks to provide Hope Center Ministries with integral tools for recovery support services through family reunification by providing supervised family engagement. Substance Use Disorder can change family dynamics and erode trust. Family and friends can provide a healthy support system which can prevent relapse. Cleveland County seeks to provide Hope Center Ministries with family days, reunification sessions, and safe infrastructure for a playground where residents can engage meaningfully with their children.

Project 2: Treatment Services for Cleveland County Treatment Court Participants and Cleveland County Residents who are Indigent, but do not Qualify for Medicaid: \$200,000

Allowable under 43A O.S. §2-312.4(A)(1)

Timeline: July 1, 2026 or upon award if earlier

Number of Individuals Served: 50 Treatment Court participants; 250 indigent, non-Medicaid-eligible residents

Cleveland County seeks to provide outpatient substance use treatment services through The Virtue Center. The Virtue Center has served as Cleveland County’s Treatment Court provider for more than twenty (20) years. The Virtue Center utilizes evidence-based practice treatment models aligned with ODMHSAS standards and national behavioral health guidelines. Individuals who receive untimely access to treatment face recidivism and probation violations, relapse and overdose, emergency department utilization which create an increased burden on law

¹ Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.

<https://oklahoma.gov/odmhsas/recovery/housing/recovery-based-housing.html>. February 13, 2026.

enforcement, courts, and other critical infrastructure. With proposed ODMHSAS funding cuts, Cleveland County wishes to utilize County Community Safety Investment (SQ 781) funds to continue to provide treatment services for Treatment Court Participants, prevent service interruptions for indigent, non-Medicaid-eligible individuals, and avoid expanded waitlists that will increase relapse, recidivism, and community safety risks to Cleveland County.

Project 3: Provide Up to Six (6) Months of Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) for Cleveland County Residents: \$185,640

Allowable under 43A O.S. §2-312.4(A)(1)

Timeline: Services to begin upon award

Number of Individuals Served: 90 patients utilizing Methadone and 10 patients utilizing Suboxone

Cleveland County seeks to provide one hundred (100) Cleveland County uninsured and underinsured residents with a targeted MAT stabilization program. Medicaid, ODMHSAS contracts, and other third-party reimbursement sources will continue to serve as the primary payers for all eligible patients and services. Cleveland County wishes to utilize County Community Safety Investment (SQ 781) funds to provide MAT for patients who are financially vulnerable and struggle to sustain treatment due to out-of-pocket costs. When treatment becomes financially inaccessible, disengagement often occurs abruptly, increasing the risk of relapses, overdose, and reentry into high-risk behaviors. Even brief treatment disruptions substantially increase overdose risk, particularly in communities impacted by fentanyl, making treatment continuity a core public safety strategy. Cleveland County has experienced sustained overdose-related harm, with a consistent five-year pattern of opioid-involved mortality.² Cleveland County seeks to partner with Mission Treatment Centers. This provider currently serves a defined population of Cleveland County residents and is certified ODMHSAS entity for provision of MAT services.

Project 4: Support and Expand Mobile Crisis Team Services in Cleveland County: \$501,468

Allowable under 43A O.S. §2-312.4(A)(1)

Timeline: Expansion of MCT to begin within 60 days of award

Number of Individuals Served: 100 individuals

Cleveland County seeks to partner with Red Rock Behavioral Health Services in providing Mobile Crisis Team (MCT) services. Red Rock anticipates serving 100 Cleveland County residents annually through this program. MCTs are a SAMHSA-recognized, evidence-based model that provide rapid, community-based behavioral health crisis intervention. Research demonstrates that MCTs reduce law enforcement and jail involvement, decrease unnecessary psychiatric hospitalization, improve engagement in ongoing mental health and substance use treatment, and safely resolve crises in community settings. The 2023 National Mobile Crisis Survey found that funding limitations are barriers for MCTs to achieve the scale, inter-

² Oklahoma State Department of Health. <https://oklahoma.gov/health/health-education/injury-prevention-service/drug-overdose/data/drug-overdose-data-dashboard.html> February 17, 2026.

operability, and reporting capabilities needed to make MCTs successful.³ For this reason, Cleveland County has chosen MCTs as a recipient partner for SQ781 funding.

Until recently, Red Rock was not in Cleveland and McClain counties in Solari's 988 Dispatch. Now that this has been corrected, dispatches are expected to increase. Cleveland County wishes to be prepared for this increase and provide our citizens with this immediate, in-person care. In anticipation of the increase in calls, Cleveland County wishes to provide Red Rock with necessary funds to purchase a Mobile Crisis Team response vehicle. This will be a one-time cost, and it is anticipated the annual Mobile Crisis cost will decrease to \$353,307 in future years. Funding will also supplement (not supplant) Medicaid and ODMHSAS funds which shall remain the primary payers for eligible treatment services. In addition to the mobile medical vehicle, Cleveland County proposes to utilize County Community Safety Investment (SQ 781) funds to provide for personnel and fringe benefits, supplies, advertising and outreach and maintenance and repairs to the mobile medical vehicle.

Project 5: Civil Legal Services for Treatment and Wellness Court Participants: \$100,000 Allowable under 43A O.S. §2-312.4(A)(2), (3), and (4)

Timeline: Legal Aid Services of Oklahoma (LASO) will have staff in place within 15-20 days of award. Within the first month, LASO will reach out to all partners to provide training and protocols on LASO priorities and referrals for full implementation of services and begins serving clients. After 6 months, LASO will meet with partners to review LASO performance and any unmet partner/client needs. LASO will complete another review at the end of the year.

Number of Individuals Served:

Participants in diversion courts often have many legal issues, any one of which can sabotage the best treatment plan. These issues include loss of their home, unhealthy living conditions, the risk of child removal, domestic violence, illegal debt collection, denial of public benefits and loss of health care. One predominant issue for many participants is lack of having a form of identification and/or a driver's license. An article published in the National Library of Medicine noted, "Individuals considered for and enrolled in drug courts often present with myriad needs that extend beyond substance misuse and criminal behavior. While drug courts must attend to these primary objectives, programs must also consider treatments and services for needs that could interfere with successfully engaging in, and completing, treatment and supervision requirements."⁴ Cleveland County seeks to break these barriers and provide its participants with the best possible chance of success.

³ Goldman, Matthew L., MD, MS; Looper, Preston, MS, LPC-S; Odes, Rachel, PhD, RN; *National Survey of Mobile Crisis Teams*; [https://988crisisystemshelp.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/2024-11/National%20Mobile%20Crisis%20Survey%20ReportvFINAL.pdf#:~:text=The%20most%20frequently%20reported%20field%20safety%20strategies,with%20the%20client%20\(76%25\)%2C%20requiring%202%2Dperson%20teams](https://988crisisystemshelp.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/2024-11/National%20Mobile%20Crisis%20Survey%20ReportvFINAL.pdf#:~:text=The%20most%20frequently%20reported%20field%20safety%20strategies,with%20the%20client%20(76%25)%2C%20requiring%202%2Dperson%20teams)

⁴ Guastaferrero K, Guastaferrero WP, Brown JR, Holleran D, Whitaker DJ. Drug Court as an Intervention Point to Affect the Well-Being of Families of Parents with Substance Use Disorders. *Subst Use Misuse*. 2020;55(7):1068-1078. doi: 10.1080/10826084.2020.1726394. Epub 2020 Feb 24. PMID: 32091939; PMCID: PMC7180132.

The Oklahoma Indigent Defense System (OIDS) is statutorily prohibited from assisting with civil matters⁵, and having an attorney trained in these specific areas will promote successful outcomes. Cleveland County wishes to partner with Legal Aid Services of Oklahoma (LASO) through Cleveland County District Court to provide an attorney to work with treatment and wellness court participants. LASO is a non-profit law firm specializing in civil legal assistance that includes assistance with access to basic necessities (e.g. housing, employment, healthcare, social security benefits); economic security (e.g., consumer fraud, employment, taxes, garnishments, bankruptcy); ensure personal safety (e.g., preventing child and elder abuse and neglect, domestic violence, human trafficking, stalking harassment); support for family stability (e.g., guardianships, power of attorney assistance); and, much more.

Project 6: Treatment and Wellness Court Participant Assistance: \$45,000
Allowable under 43A O.S. §2-312.4(A)(5)

Timeline: Services to begin upon award, with the exception of drug and alcohol testing and IID monitoring which will begin 1/1/2027.

Number of Individuals Served: Housing Assistance: 15-20 participants; Transportation Assistance: 25-35 participants; Educational/Vocational Assistance: 15-20 participants; Driver's License Reinstatement Assistance: 15-20 participants. Actual numbers may vary based on individual need and cost per service.

Funding for Cleveland County Treatment and Wellness Courts would be used to provide direct, non-duplicative participant assistance that removes barriers to recovery, employment, and lawful community reintegration. Cleveland County expects the assistance outlined below to increase treatment retention and program completion, reduce relapse and recidivism, improve housing stability during early recovery, increase employment and job retention, improve lawful mobility and compliance through license reinstatement and enhance long-term financial stability for participants and their families.

Housing and Transportation: Housing for a newly sober person is often incredibly difficult. It's tremendously difficult to get sober if you don't have a sober environment to go home to. Cleveland County District Court's treatment courts promote harm reduction which includes, "equitable access to key health factors such as housing, healthcare, and income security."⁶ Cleveland County seeks to partner with our treatment courts to assist with the participants' housing needs. This would be not only for sober living rental assistance but also provide financial assistance for housing when a participant is married and/or has minor children to care for.

⁵ 22 O.S. §1355.6

⁶ Garcia, A., & Lucas, D. (2021). Bridging the Gap: A practitioner's Guide to Harm Reduction in Drug Courts. Center for Court Innovation. https://www.innovatingjustice.org/sites/default/files/media/document/2021/Guide_TA_BridgingtheGap_08102021.pdf

An additional barrier for participants is lack of reliable transportation to treatment appointments and court appearances. Lack of identification and/or driver's license contributes to lack of employment, and lack of employment contributes to the inability to transport oneself to the required appointments and appearances of treatment and wellness court. Cleveland County seeks to provide participants with ride-share services for court appearances, treatment, employment, and recovery meetings. We also wish to provide transportation assistance when public transit or personal transportation is unavailable and basic vehicle repairs and maintenance.

Educational and Vocational Training Assistance: This assistance targets participants who are stable in treatment and ready to advance toward sustainable employment, aligning recovery with long-term economic self-sufficiency. SQ781 funds will be used for tuition or fees for short-term vocational or certification programs, educational materials, or required course-related expenses (including GED/HISET), and workforce development or skills-based training directly tied to employment.

Driver's License Reinstatement Assistance: For many justice-involved individuals, accumulated reinstatement fees present a significant financial barrier, even after all legal and eligibility requirements have been satisfied. Financial assistance will be provided to select participants so that they may have their driving privileges restored.

Drug and Alcohol Testing and Ignition Interlock Device Monitoring: Compliance monitoring is a significant part of treatment court. Participants need testing through the entire treatment court process. Unfortunately, the cost of testing and monitoring make treatment court a barrier for many participants. Cleveland County wishes to reduce this barrier and make treatment court accessible to those who qualify.

Project 7: Expanded Education, Employment, and Housing Opportunities: \$159,835.75 Allowable under 43A O.S. §2-312.4(A)(5)

Timeline: Expansion of services to begin upon award

Number of Individuals Served: Thunderbird Clubhouse provided support for a daily average of 43 members and 374 unique individuals with the assistance of prior SQ781 funds. This year, Thunderbird would like to increase daily average support to 48 members and serve at least 450 unique individuals in Cleveland County.

Cleveland County seeks to partner with Thunderbird Clubhouse to provide additional Program Staff Generalists. Thunderbird Clubhouse serves individuals living with mental illness. Additional staff would increase the level of engagement for opportunities for education, employment, housing, social interaction, and so much more. Clubhouse members cost the criminal justice system \$4,974.00 annually, while non-clubhouse members cost the criminal justice system \$8,523.00 annually.⁷ Because of the social support Thunderbird Clubhouse

⁷ Usman, M. & Seidman, J. (2024). Beyond Treatment: How Clubhouses for People Living with Serious Mental Illness Transform Lives and Save Money. <https://www.fountainhouse.org/reports/beyond-treatment>

provides, members are more likely to have increased economic productivity, fewer hospitalizations, and lower homelessness rates.

Summary

Cleveland County is committed to public safety and serving our communities through partnerships with the above listed programs, and we respectfully submit this proposal to the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (ODMHSAS). With the assistance of our partners, we are prepared to comply with reporting to ODMHSAS. Thank you for your time in considering this proposal.

APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 2026.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, FOR CLEVELAND COUNTY.

Rod Cleveland, District #1 Commissioner

Paul Meyer, District #2 Commissioner

Rusty Grissom, District #3 Commissioner

ATTEST:

County Clerk

Approved as to form and legality:

Assistant District Attorney