



Washington Association of
**SHERIFFS &
POLICE CHIEFS**

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December 1, 2022

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Sarah Bannister
Secretary of the Senate
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Subject: RCW 36.28A.450, Therapeutic Interventions for Certain Criminal Justice System Involved Persons—Annual Report

Chief Clerk Dean and Secretary Bannister:

Pursuant to Chapter 378, Laws of 2019, the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC) is submitting its annual report on Therapeutic Interventions for Certain Criminal Justice System Involved Persons, more commonly known as Arrest and Jail Alternatives (AJA) Law Enforcement Grant Program. This report is submitted in accordance with RCW 43.01.036.

Sincerely,

Steven D. Strachan
Executive Director

ARREST AND JAIL ALTERNATIVES LAW ENFORCEMENT GRANT PROGRAM— 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

In 2019, the Washington State Legislature established the Arrest and Jail Alternatives (AJA) Law Enforcement Grant program. The AJA Grant program is codified in [RCW 36.28A.450](#). The program supports local initiatives to properly identify criminal justice system-involved persons with substance use disorders and other behavioral health needs and engage them with therapeutic interventions and other services. The efficacy of these programs must be demonstrated by experience, peer-reviewed research, or which are credible promising practices, prior to or at the time of jail booking, or while in custody. Since its inception, the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC) has worked closely with the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion National Support Bureau (LEAD NSB) and the Washington Health Care Authority (HCA) to administer the AJA Grant Program.

[RCW 36.28A.450\(9\)](#) requires WASPC to submit an annual report on the AJA Grant Program. This report includes a section highlighting each AJA Grantee; considerations for moving forward with the AJA Grant Program; and an ongoing timeline of major milestones.

WASPC remains excited about the work of the AJA Grant Program recipients and their community-based partner agencies. Community-based partnerships are a cornerstone of the AJA Program. Grantees consistently report that the impacts of their programs have a profound and life-changing impact on the clients they serve. We hope WASPC's enthusiasm for this program and its commitment to expand the AJA Grant Program are evident in the information included in this report.

In late 2020/early 2021, WASPC partnered with AJA sites to create a video highlighting the program. For a visual demonstration of the AJA program, please click [here](#) to view the short video.

AJA Grantees

The enabling legislation for the Arrest and Jail Alternatives Grant Program made clear that funding awarded under [RCW 36.28A.450](#) (AJA) and the Mental Health Field Response Grant Program (MHFR, [RCW 36.28A.440](#)) should remain "... separate and distinct..." from each other. To accomplish this, WASPC required sites that receive dual funds to complete a Separation Plan allowing the sites and WASPC to distinguish which funds are being used for services at the client level.

AJA Grant Program enabling legislation requires that sites receive technical assistance from the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion National Support Bureau. LEAD NSB continues to provide sites with assistance on policy and program development. The technical assistance has been well received by the sites, with each site continually providing positive feedback.

Catholic Community Services (CCS) (July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022)

As previously reported, CCS requested a renewal of the AJA grant previously awarded to the City of Olympia to continue its efforts to provide arrest and jail alternatives within the City of Olympia. CCS now directly operates the AJA program in Olympia. CCS utilizes peer case managers and mental health

professionals to assist Olympia community members who are deeply marginalized based on multiple intersecting identities including homelessness, addiction, disability, and criminal justice involvement. Certified Peer Counselor staff draw upon their shared life experiences to offer empowering, non-judgmental support to individuals who have been traditionally let down by systems of care. CCS utilizes a trauma-responsive and client-directed model based on principles of harm reduction and seeks to improve access to services such as housing and non-emergency treatment for mental health and substance use disorders. There will be fewer interactions with the legal system by addressing these needs. The program's ultimate goal is to support the wellbeing of the clients it serves, and in doing so address each of the other expected outcomes identified by RCW 36.28A.450.

Employing—and empowering—individuals with lived experience of addiction, mental health conditions, homelessness, and incarceration is a significant part of the CCS service model. It allows CCS staff to make genuine connections with community members who may otherwise be difficult to reach. AJA works closely with partners in housing, behavioral health, crisis response, primary and emergency medical care, public defense, and other supportive services. One of the most important features of the work is the close relationship established with local law enforcement and corrections agencies who are also committed to finding innovative solutions. As the Olympia community seeks responsive, holistic alternatives to the “business as usual” model of criminalizing human behavior, many voices are needed at the table. CCS's AJA program stands out from similar efforts through its commitment to serve as a safety net for individuals whose behavioral health challenges may preclude them from participating in other programs—CCS prides itself on setting fair boundaries with clients, while finding ways to continue to serve them when they struggle to self-regulate or adhere to treatment plans.

The total AJA grant award made to CCS was \$436,324.00 with \$145,903.33 of state funds and \$290,420.67 of federal Substance Abuse Block Grant funds. CCS was expected to serve at least 60 unique individuals thru June 30, 2022 in its service area. CCS provided AJA services to 92 unique individuals from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022. It is estimated that CCS AJA staff contacted more than 600 additional individuals on a lighter touch basis via street and camp outreach services, community events, staffing of inclement weather shelters, etc.

CCS maintains a partnership with the Olympia Police Department.

CCS PARTNER PERSPECTIVE

The Olympia Police Department greatly values its relationship with Arrest and Jail Alternatives. Officers being able to partner with AJA's skilled peer case managers has resulted in several positive outcomes for individuals in our community. There are dozens, perhaps over a hundred, of examples OPD has of AJA case managers being responsive to officer's calls for assistance. AJA case managers appear to drop everything they're doing to respond and assist officers with their clients. AJA's clients have an apparent high regard for their case managers and quickly engage with their case managers when they arrive on scene.

AJA peer case managers engage in creative problems solving with the police department. The balance between peer support offered by AJA's case managers and officer's legal authority results in positive outcomes for individual clients and the community. OPD looks forward to partnering with AJA for years to come.

Deputy Chief Shelby Parker
Olympia Police Department



An AJA client signs a Release of Information so that her Peer Case Manager can coordinate with a medical provider.

A Peer Case Manager assists a client and her emotional support animal in completing laundry.

AJA team members pose with other service providers and Lacey Police Officers after an outreach event that reached several camps around Thurston County.

A Peer Case Manager brings outreach supplies and supports a client who lives in an encampment.

CCS PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT

A homeless veteran was referred to AJA by an OPD patrol officer who was frequently responding to him trespassing and panhandling at a local grocery store. With the assistance of CCS staff, the client was referred to a Permanent Supportive Housing program specifically for veterans, started receiving benefits, and successfully completed his Department of Corrections supervision that he had largely avoided. His Peer Case Manager was also able to help him reconnect with his family. Over the course of several months, the client’s health declined, and his Peer Case Manager helped him access appropriate primary, specialist, urgent, and emergency care services, and was guiding him through the process of seeking long-term placement in a more medically supportive environment. The client eventually passed away, but in the comfort of his own home, rather than in the streets or jail.

Olympic Peninsula Community Clinic (OPCC) (July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022)

As previously reported, OPCC requested a renewal of the AJA grant previously awarded to the City of Port Angeles to continue the REDisCOVERY program. OPCC’s REDisCOVERY program employs co-response, outreach and case management teams that respond to behavioral health crises in the field and provide services for community members experiencing both acute and chronic needs. The AJA team utilizes an interdisciplinary approach to deliver a mobile, meet-participants-where-they-are response that includes specially trained intensive case managers, de-escalators, medical professionals, psychiatric providers, and individuals with the treasure of lived experience and recovery. Within this participant-in-the-lead framework, AJA case managers and support staff practice Harm Reduction, Progressive Engagement and Motivational Interviewing to provide the right level of service, at the right time, in the right place.

The AJA program reduces costs to the community by providing participants with intensive case management and supporting services which lead away from behaviors that result in law enforcement intervention and toward self-sufficiency. AJA participants receive access to dedicated case managers, street and shelter medical care, customized mental health care and support, and comprehensive resource clinics, along with fierce advocacy for trauma informed treatment at all levels of care. The AJA

program utilizes several best practices when engaging with our participants to help them achieve self-efficacy, and quality outcomes. It begins with assessing the 5 Stages of Change when identifying the appropriate level of engagement and ends with participants who feel better equipped and empowered to set and reach goals that lead to better outcomes and fewer interactions with law enforcement.

The total AJA grant award made to OPCC was \$380,680.00 with \$145,903.33 of state funds and \$234,776.67 of federal Substance Abuse Block Grant funds. OPCC was expected to serve at least 200 unique individuals with 80 to 90 who received intensive case management for at least one month thru June 30, 2022 in their service area. OPCC provided AJA services to 74 unique individuals from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022. OPCC AJA staff triaged more than 200 individuals. Those who did not receive intensive case management services through AJA were referred to other REdisCOVERY programs, or to outside case management agencies, including the Recovery Navigator Program.

OPCC maintains partnerships with the Port Angeles Police Department, Clallam County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, and the Sequim Police Department.

OPCC PARTNER PERSPECTIVE

From a City Council perspective, we view this service as extremely valuable, as it gives our law enforcement professionals more tools to respond to really difficult situations they encounter on a daily basis. And more importantly, it's taking some of the load that traditionally has been carried by law enforcement and placing it in much more appropriate hands, where social workers and case managers can really shine and have a huge positive impact on an at-risk, vulnerable population.

Council Member Mike French
City of Port Angeles



AJA case manager Kayla Mead and SUDP Leddie Rubalcava consult with a participant.



OPCC Medical Director Dr. Gerald Stephanz provides medical care to a participant during a clinic at the Serenity House of Clallam County shelter.



AJA Case Manager Viola Ware and Medical Case Manager Michael Salyer meet with a participant.

OPCC PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT

OPCC and REdisCOVERY had worked tirelessly over the last two years with Participant F. I began my contact with F when he was in the hospital in 2021 when complications from frost bite landed him in the hospital and resulted in the removal of part of his foot. Participant F reports he fled California from a group of people that have followed him to Port Angeles. Per F, they burrow underground and attack his feet, burning them with a salve and lasers. Originating from legitimate health concerns, F translates the pain into a delusion that had led him to sleep in a vehicle with his bare foot out the window in the dead of winter causing a portion of his foot to be amputated. Due to a hefty mistrust of the medical community, it was a challenge to get Participant F to accept and appropriately manage any type of medication, including his antibiotics for infections in his feet. He also self-medicated with methamphetamines furthering his delusional and paranoid thinking. He would often weld metal plates to the bottom of his vehicles, pile nails and barbed wire beneath and otherwise tear apart his cars to prevent further injury, but in doing so rendered the vehicles unusable. Over time, and through developing a relationship and building trust with medical, psych, and case management, F began to stabilize on his medication. All conversations focused on his goal of his physical well-being and wanting to be out of pain. At one point, I had a map that the outreach team would mark with spots in which they had seen F so that I could connect with him and remind him to take his medication. These relationships were necessary in monitoring F's physical health and transporting him to medical care, but also initiate ongoing discussions of sobriety, vaccination education and continuing discussion on anti-psychotic medication. Three Wednesdays ago, I met with F and our Psych Nurse during a shelter clinic, who had a discussion with him regarding taking psych meds. In an attempt to make sure that he always has access to his medications, I carry a bridge amount of his medication in my backpack in the off chance he is banned from or otherwise leaves the shelter. The more I connected with him in the last few weeks the more I was able to point out that although he was reticent to take medication, he could acknowledge that he was rating his discomfort in decreasing degrees until he was reporting feeling well with no discomfort. During the last shelter clinic of the month, F agreed to his first haloperidol shot. Now agreeing to meet and talk about housing. This is a huge success and a testament to the importance of building trust over time with multiple entities focused on Participant F's goal of physical well-being.

Comprehensive Healthcare (Walla Walla LEAD) (July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022)

Comprehensive requested a renewal of the AJA grant to continue their efforts to provide arrest and jail alternatives to the Walla Walla community. The total award made to Comprehensive was \$419,990.00 with \$149,903.33 of state funds and \$274,086.67 of federal Substance Abuse Block Grant funds. The Walla Walla LEAD program was expected to serve at least 100 individuals thru June 30, 2022.

The Walla Walla Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) program is a partnership between local law enforcement, legal system, community service providers, and assertive case managers. It supports individuals who commit low-level offenses, struggle with an unmet behavioral health need and/or extreme poverty gain access to supports to address problems they are facing. Comprehensive Healthcare and Blue Mountain Heart to Heart have partnered together to build a team of case managers to work with participants to identify their needs and connect them with community supports to address needs such as legal issues, behavioral health treatment, medication assisted treatment, education and employment training, housing and so much more. Walla Walla LEAD is a voluntary, referral-based program free of time constraints that meets the participant where they're at to support them get on track and out of the legal system. The majority of participant engagement is in the field rather than in the office which builds trust and cultivates a relationship—the most powerful agent of transformation.

The Walla Walla LEAD program maintains partnerships with the Walla Walla Police Department, the College Place Police Department, and the Walla Walla County Sheriff's office, and both city and county Prosecutor's offices.

COMPREHENSIVE PARTNER PERSPECTIVE

The Walla Walla LEAD program has been pivotal for many Defendants. It is a well-organized program, particularly considering the many aspects of the diversion process. LEAD conducts regular outreach and maintains good contact with clients. LEAD case managers appear regularly for pre-trial hearings to see if there may be difficult to contact but amenable defendants. Every two weeks, we hold meetings to review progress and new intakes. This all done with exceptional collaboration and is always with approach to the betterment of those we service.

With our relatively small community, LEAD has become integral to pre-trial diversion and prosecutorial efficacy, but more importantly, crime recidivism. I believe it to be an essential part of our prosecutorial approach in keeping our community safe and healthy as a whole and individually.

Assistant City Attorney Alex Biel
City of Wala Walla

COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT

For years, this individual struggled with on again off again substance use while trying to meet their basic needs. They had expressed concerns over their volatile behaviors secondary to their substance use and mental health. As a result of a Law Enforcement referral, LEAD helped them get connected to a treatment facility in California, where they completed a treatment program, stabilized on medication and are now over 90 days into their recovery journey.

This individual who was being seen for a behavioral health crisis was referred to the LEAD program as they had struggled for years with mental health and substance use. They had charges of DWLS, and LEAD worked with them to meet their basic needs and help them stay engaged in treatment. They completed a residential treatment program and secured housing. They soon relapsed and found themselves back in an abusive situation. They continued to use LEAD as a resource and source of support, where they were connected to resources to help stabilize them and get back on track. They are now engaged in treatment and in a sober living environment.

They had multiple charges of DWLS 3 and were referred to LEAD for assistance with license reinstatement and housing help. They were referred to a local housing assistance program where they were assigned a Case Manager and continued to work with LEAD. LEAD Case Managers worked with them to reinstate their license, connect to housing assistance, provide immediate assistance with clothing, and give resources for first time parents. They continued to use LEAD for resources and support and were able to reinstate their license. All cases of DWLS were dropped due to their engagement and their license reinstatement. They have not had any known Law Enforcement contact or additional charges since reinstating their license.

Moving Forward

WASPC remains excited about the work of the AJA grantees, and their community partners, in each of their respective communities. We are pleased to have received funding to support an evaluation of the AJA Program as established in [RCW 36.28A.450\(8\)\(a\)](#). WASPC contracted with Washington State University's Department of Governmental and Services (DGSS) and the Department of Health and Social Service's Research and Data Division (RDD) for an evaluation plan and subsequent evaluation of the AJA Program. A mixed-methods program Evaluation Plan was delivered to WASPC on June 30, 2022. The final evaluation is due to be completed by June 30, 2023. WASPC looks forward to sharing the final evaluation with the 2023 AJA Annual Report. Although research professionals have expressed concern with the timing of an evaluation given the myriad of external factors, we are optimistic that an evaluation of the AJA Grant Program will demonstrate the value of the program and its impacts to the expected outcomes as outlined in statute.

The AJA Grant Program is funded through the 2021-2023 biennium at a rate of \$500,000 general fund for state fiscal years 2022 and 2023 and \$1,000,000 federal appropriation thru September 30, 2023. As reported last year, **there is a distant gap between available and needed funding to support and expand the AJA Grant Program**. WASPC respectfully requests an additional general fund appropriation to support and expand the AJA Grant Program. WASPC understands the Health Care Authority has submitted a [decision package](#) to provide \$1.8 million in funding to support the AJA program each year in the 2023-2025 biennium. While WASPC, and AJA grantees appreciate this request, the request is not sufficient to fully fund the existing AJA sites or expand the AJA program to additional communities.

In the 2021 AJA Annual Report, WASPC outlined external factors affecting each of the AJA sites. In addition to the COVID pandemic, [legislation](#) following the [State v. Blake](#) decision impacted AJA programs. WASPC hopes these concerns will be addressed in the 2023 Legislative Session.

AJA Major Milestones

July 2019-Early December 2019

- WASPC hired a contract coordinator for the AJA Grant Program. The contract coordinator worked to understand Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) and LEAD-like programs. The contract coordinator gathered information on law enforcement agencies engaged in or interested in LEAD or LEAD-like programs.
- A memorandum of understanding (MOU) was presented to LEAD NSB for its provision of technical assistance to WASPC.
- WASPC worked closely with the HCA to develop a timeline for the release of solicitations for LEAD pilot programs and the AJA Grant Program. It is important to note that the HCA was not bound to the same timeline for the release of solicitations as WASPC. The WASPC solicitation was ready for release in October 2019.
- In December 2019, WASPC submitted the [2019 AJA Annual Report](#) as required by [RCW 36.28A.450\(9\)](#), with the considerations outlined in [RCW 36.28A.450\(8\)\(b\)](#).
 - A copy of the report was forwarded to the Washington State Institute for Public Policy (WSIPP) and the Department of Social and Health Services Research and Data Division (RDD) for feedback on performance-based contracting and evidence-based evaluation framework. Without funding, WSIPP and RDD were not able to offer significant assistance in this area.

December 2019

- Changes in staffing for the AJA Grant Program occurred.
- In coordination with the release of the HCA solicitation for similar programs under [SB 5380](#), WASPC released a [request for proposals](#) (RFP) for the AJA Grant Program on December 19, 2019. The grant program is aimed at supporting local initiatives to properly identify criminal justice system-involved persons with substance use disorders and other behavioral health needs and engage those persons with therapeutic interventions and other services. As outlined in [RCW 36.28A.450\(8\)\(a\)](#), the initial expected outcomes of the grant program include:
 - To reduce arrests, time spent in custody, and/or recidivism for clients served by the program;
 - To increase access to and utilization of non-emergency community behavioral health services;
 - To reduce utilization of emergency services;
 - To increase resilience, stability, and well-being for clients served; and
 - To reduce costs for the justice system compared to processing cases as usual through the justice system.
- WASPC re-engaged the Washington State Institute for Public Policy (WSIPP) and the Department of Social and Health Services Research and Data Division (RDD) to discuss program evaluation. Again, without funding, WSIPP and RDD were not able to offer significant assistance in this area.

January 2020

- WASPC received AJA applications from the Olympia Police Department, Port Angeles Police Department, Snohomish County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, Mason County Board of Commissioners, and Thurston County Prosecuting Attorney's Office.
- WASPC reviewed AJA applications with LEAD NSB to determine eligibility for grant funding.
- LEAD NSB assisted WASPC in establishing a peer review panel in accordance with [RCW 36.28A.450\(2\)](#). Panel members* included:
 - Sheriff Jim Raymond, Franklin County
 - Sheriff Mark Howie, Wahkiakum County
 - Representative John Lovick, 44th Legislative District
 - Jeanne McMinds, Director of Tribal Relations, Coordinated Care
 - Ahney King, Criminal Justice Liaison, Coordinated Care
 - Darya Farivar, Disability Rights Washington
 - Mitchell Riese, Assistant Attorney General, WA Attorney General's Office
 - Chief James Schrimpsheer, Algona Police Department
 - Chief Keven Dresker, Oak Harbor Police Department

**Not all panel members were able to participate in the review and scoring of applications.*

February 2020

- WASPC convened the review panel to score applications.
- WASPC and LEAD NSB conducted applicant interviews.
- WASPC and HCA met to discuss those applicants requesting funding under the AJA Grant Program and the HCA grant program established under [RCW 71.24.589](#). It was decided that HCA would fund those agencies that applied for funding from both grant programs and that WASPC would fund those agencies that applied for AJA funds.

March 2020

- WASPC awarded grants to the Olympia Police Department (partnering with Catholic Community Services (CCS)) and the Port Angeles Police Department (partnering with the Olympic Peninsula Community Clinic (OPCC)).

April 2020

- WASPC entered a memorandum of understanding with LEAD NSB for grantee technical assistance.
- The Port Angeles and Olympia Police Department Agreements for the Arrest and Jail Alternatives Grant Program were effective April 22, 2020. The grant agreements follow a traditional contract format with performance-based considerations. Funds for the AJA Grant Program come from a combination of state and federal Substance Abuse Block Grant (SABG) funds. Attention to allowable expenses and grant monitoring is demonstrated throughout each agreement.
 - WASPC confirmed that a case management system would be procured to track client engagement and metrics to be used in a performance evaluation.

May 2020

- WASPC requested price information, using internal procurement procedures, to purchase and implement a social service case management system for AJA grantees.
- WASPC released a [second request for proposals](#) for the AJA Grant Program on May 1, 2020. The second RFP was directed at eligible applicants in Eastern Washington to comply with the requirement that awards be geographically distributed on both the east and west sides of the crest of the Cascade mountain range per [RCW 36.28A.450\(7\)](#).
- LEAD NSB requested modifications to the draft memorandum of understanding for LEAD NSB's provision of technical assistance to WASPC. Upon implementation of the requested modifications, WASPC and LEAD NSB entered a memorandum of understanding for LEAD NSB's provision of technical assistance to WASPC.

June 2020

- In addition to grantee technical assistance, LEAD NSB provided limited technical assistance to interested applicants in the development of their program application for the second RFP.
 - WASPC received AJA applications from Comprehensive Healthcare (Walla Walla) and the Spokane County Regional Law and Justice Council.
 - WASPC reviewed AJA applications with LEAD NSB to determine eligibility for grant funds.
 - WASPC re-convened the review panel to score applications. Panel members* included:
 - Sheriff Jim Raymond, Franklin County
 - Sheriff Mark Howie, Wahkiakum County
 - Representative John Lovick, 44th Legislative District
 - Jeanne McMinds, Director of Tribal Relations, Coordinated Care
 - Ahney King, Criminal Justice Liaison, Coordinated Care
 - Darya Farivar, Disability Rights Washington
 - Mitchell Riese, Assistant Attorney General, WA Attorney General's Office
 - Chief James Schrimpsheer, Algona Police Department
 - Chief Keven Dresker, Oak Harbor Police Department
- *Not all panel members were able to participate in the review and scoring of applications.*
- WASPC and LEAD NSB conducted applicant interviews.
 - LEAD NSB provided baseline recommendations for performance metrics to be measured.
 - WASPC entered an agreement with a vendor for the implementation of a case management system on behalf of the Olympia and Port Angeles sites. The product was launched with training environments available to each site while customizations occurred.
 - WASPC understands the HCA subsequently adopted the use of the same case management system by LEAD pilot sites.

July 2020

- WASPC awarded grant funds to Comprehensive Healthcare (partnering with local law enforcement and prosecutor agencies and Blue Mountain Heart to Heart (BMHTH)).

August 2020

- The Comprehensive Healthcare Agreement for the AJA Grant Program was effective August 1, 2020. The grant agreement follows a traditional contract format with performance-based considerations. Funds for the AJA Grant Program come from a combination of state and federal Substance Abuse Block Grant funds, and attention to allowable expenses and grant monitoring is demonstrated throughout the agreement.
 - Funds were provided to Comprehensive Healthcare for the procurement of the AJA case management system. This change in contract design is in line with performance-based contracting.
- WASPC coordinated a discussion with HCA, LEAD NSB, RDD, and the case management vendor to discuss performance metrics across AJA and LEAD pilot sites and data collection.
 - It is important to note that no funding has been allocated or secured to support a formal evaluation of the AJA Grant Program. Should funds be allocated for this purpose in the future, AJA sites have collected the necessary metrics required for the evaluation.
 - WASPC understood that the HCA may have had funding available to support a multi-site, cross-program evaluation of AJA and LEAD pilot sites. Ongoing discussions on the potential to collaborate with HCA continued in this regard.

September 2020

- WASPC finalized the performance metrics to be collected by AJA sites. Performance metrics are as follows:
 - Participant Criminal Legal System Contacts
 - Number of police contacts related to criminal behavior/suspected criminal behavior
 - Number of arrests-categorize by type
 - Number of warrants
 - Number of criminal charges-categorize by type
 - Number of jail bookings
 - Number of jail bed days
 - Participant Emergency Medical System Contacts
 - Number of visits to an emergency room
 - Number of in-patient admits to hospital care
 - Number of contacts with fire/EMS
 - Participant Services received
 - Number of times the team meets with participants-categorized by type: case management, peer counseling, and brief outreach
 - Number of referrals to services categorized by type: mental health, substance use disorder, medical, housing, insurance, benefits, food/shelter, employment, etc.
 - Number of connections to services categorized by type: mental health, substance use disorder, medical, housing, insurance, benefits, food/shelter, employment, etc.
 - Readiness and progress toward goals
 - Percentage of all clients that receive a [URICA](#) score
 - Surveys (participant, community stakeholder, and public safety stakeholder)
 - All surveys at baseline, six months, and termination.

- WASPC understood that the HCA has adopted similar performance metrics for the LEAD pilot sites. This will be helpful in a multi-site, cross-program evaluation.
- WASPC coordinated a multi-site meeting of AJA grantees and the LEAD NSB technical assistance team to facilitate communication and information sharing.
- WASPC submitted funding requests to support the continuation of the AJA Grant Program and to support an evaluation of the AJA Grant Program.

October 2020—Ongoing

- WASPC works with AJA sites and case management vendor to customize the AJA case management system.
- WASPC continues to meet with AJA sites monthly and as needed, provide support.

December 2020

- In December 2020, WASPC submitted the [2020 AJA Annual Report](#) as required by [RCW 36.28A.450\(9\)](#).

January 2021

- WASPC released a statement in advance of the 2021 Legislative Session supporting balanced and meaningful law enforcement [reforms](#), including the recommendation to: "Study and establish clear expectations for investments and expansions of programs that support social services to address mental illness, substance use, and other adverse events that are shown to increase the likelihood of future criminal justice involvement." Within this recommendation, WASPC requested a \$2.8 million general fund appropriation for the biennium to support and expand the AJA Grant Program.

February 2021

- WASPC worked with AJA sites to develop a video highlighting the AJA Grant Program in the Olympia, Port Angeles, and Walla Walla communities. Please click [here](#) to view the final video.

March 2021

- WASPC worked with AJA sites and LEAD NSB to develop [service standards and definitions](#) to encompass the range of eligible services under the AJA Grant Program.

April 2021

- The Washington State Legislature allocated \$500,000 in general fund dollars for state fiscal years 2022 and 2023 and \$1,000,000 in general fund federal appropriation to maintain the AJA Grant Program (see Sec. 215 (28) of [ESSB 5092](#)).
- The Washington State Legislature allocated \$200,000 in general fund dollars for state fiscal years 2022 and 2023 to implement the AJA Grant Program (see Sec. 218 (9)(a) of [ESSB 5092](#)).
- The Washington State Legislature allocated \$300,000 in general fund dollars for state fiscal years 2022 and 2023 solely for evaluation of the AJA Grant Program (see Sec. 218 (9)(b) of [ESSB 5092](#)).

May 2021

- Without an increase in funding for the AJA Grant Program, WASPC opted to focus solely on renewal awards to existing AJA sites for the grant period from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2022.
 - After discussions with the cities of Olympia and Port Angeles, it was determined the Community Based Partner Organizations would submit renewal applications.
 - Catholic Community Services (CCS) (Olympia), the Olympic Peninsula Community Clinic (OPCC) (Port Angeles), and Comprehensive Healthcare (Walla Walla) submitted renewal applications.

- The three AJA site renewal applications requested \$1,896,710 in grant funds to sustain and expand their programs.

June 2021

- Walla Walla AJA site began using the AJA case management system, to include uploading previous data on metrics collected.
- WASPC worked with LEAD NSB and HCA to transition the contracting format for the AJA Grant Program from reimbursement to performance based. Deliverables for payment include:

Deliverable	Description	Due Date
4.1	Sign agreement for Case Management and Data Collection Software platform for period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022.	Within thirty (30) days of the Date of Execution
4.2	Minutes detailing all local AJA advisory board and operational workgroup meetings. A minimum of 12 meetings throughout the duration of this Contract. This includes meetings that fulfill the requirements of RCW 36.28A.450(2) regarding governing involvement of community-based organizations, local government, and law enforcement.	Meeting minutes, where appropriate. If minutes are not appropriate, WASPC will accept other documentation that the meeting occurred and an attendance roster. Due no more than thirty (30) days after each meeting is conducted.
4.3	Monthly Technical Assistance (TA) calls with the LEAD NSB Technical Assistance Team.	No less than one (1) call per month.
4.4	Monthly Data Collection and WASPC Reporting.	Due each month on or before the 10 th day of each month.
4.5	Monthly Check-In Calls with WASPC team.	No less than one (1) call per month.
4.6	Provide AJA Services as defined in Exhibit B to a number of clients equal to or greater than 75% of the program's stated client capacity as projected in the prior month's report.	Ongoing.
4.7	Indirect (administrative) costs: Only 10% of direct costs.	Monthly, and no later than 14 days following the Contract end date.

July 2021

- WASPC, CJTC, and HCA extended the existing Interagency Agreement for the AJA Grant Program thru June 30, 2022.
- LEAD NSB graciously waived technical assistance fees for AJA grantee technical assistance, freeing up funds to support AJA sites. WASPC entered into a memorandum of understanding with LEAD NSB for grantee technical assistance thru June 30, 2022.

- A memorandum of understanding (MOU) was presented to LEAD NSB for its provision of technical assistance to WASPC thru June 30, 2022.
- WASPC awarded renewal contracts to CCS, OPCC, and Comprehensive Healthcare to continue the AJA Grant Program in the Olympia, Port Angeles, and Walla Walla Communities thru June 30, 2022. AJA sites were directed to seek additional funding to sustain and expand their programs beyond June 30, 2022.

August 2021

- WASPC issued amendments to contracts with CCS, OPCC, and Comprehensive Healthcare to reallocate unspent SABG funds. The reallocation did not increase award amounts; however, it preserved the availability of federal funds for the 2022-2023 AJA Grant period.

September 2021

- LEAD NSB coordinated, and WASPC funded a multi-site "In the Trenches: Training in Behavioral Health Crisis" opportunity for AJA grantees.
- WASPC coordinated a discussion with HCA, LEAD NSB, WSIPP, and RDD to revisit earlier discussions on the concept of a multi-site, cross-program evaluation of AJA and LEAD pilot sites.
 - Research professionals expressed concern with the timing of an evaluation of intervention/diversion programs during the ongoing global pandemic and amidst significant law enforcement reforms. Specific concerns regarding the ability to show reduced criminal legal system involvement correlate solely to AJA program participation.

October 2021

- WASPC entered a memorandum of understanding with LEAD NSB for the provision of technical assistance to WASPC thru June 30, 2022.
- Olympia and Port Angeles AJA sites began using the AJA case management system, to include uploading previous data on metrics collected.

January 2022

- Representatives from the HCA and WASPC came together to discuss collaboration between HCA's diversion programs and WASPC's AJA program. The group also discussed areas of overlap and differences between the programs.

February 2022

- WASPC contracted with the Department of Social and Health Services Research and Data Division (RDD) to serve as a consultant in Washington State University's Department of Governmental Studies and Services (DGSS) evaluation plan and subsequent evaluation of the AJA Program.
- WASPC started the contract process with Washington State University's Department of Governmental Studies and Services (DGSS) to develop an evaluation plan of the Arrest and Jail Alternatives Grant Program. DGSS started pre-award work to develop the plan by the due date of June 30, 2023.

April 2022

- WASPC hosted a virtual Diversion Programs webinar for law enforcement across the state. Agency representatives were introduced to the various state-funded diversion programs:
 - Mental Health Field Response (RCW 36.28A.440),
 - Arrest and Jail Alternatives (RCW 36.28A.450),

- LEAD - Let Everyone Advance with Dignity (formerly “Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion” RCW 71.24.589),
- Recovery Navigator Program (RCW 71.24.115).
- WASPC convened a multi-site meeting with AJA grantees to discuss funding for the 2023 state fiscal year and progress on selecting an evaluator for the program.

May 2022

- WASPC implemented a streamlined reporting and invoicing process for all grantees.
- AJA sites were notified there will be a 36% reduction in funding from prior years. This is due to the targeted use of additional federal funds in the prior fiscal year for budget stabilization.
- WASPC contracted with DGSS to develop an evaluation plan of the AJA Grant Program.

June 2022

- DGSS delivered a plan detailing a mixed-methods evaluation of the AJA program.

July 2022

- A memorandum of understanding (MOU) was presented to LEAD NSB for its provision of technical assistance to WASPC thru June 30, 2023.
- A memorandum of understanding (MOU) was presented to LEAD NSB for its provision of technical assistance to grantees thru June 30, 2023.
- WASPC started the contract process with DGSS for the evaluation of the Arrest and Jail Alternatives Grant Program. DGSS started pre-award work to complete the evaluation by the due date of June 30, 2023.

August 2022

- WASPC awarded renewal contracts to CCS, OPCC, and Comprehensive Healthcare to continue the AJA Grant Program in the Olympia, Port Angeles, and Walla Walla Communities thru June 30, 2023. AJA sites were again directed to seek additional funding to sustain and expand their programs beyond June 30, 2023. Renewal Contracts include the following deliverables:

Deliverable	Description	Due Date
4.1	Sign/maintain agreement for Julota Case Management and Data Collection Software platform for period of July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023.	Within thirty (30) days of the Date of Execution of Contract AJA-22-002.
4.2	Minutes detailing all local AJA advisory board and operational workgroup meetings. A minimum of 12 meetings throughout the duration of this Contract. This includes meetings that fulfill the requirements of RCW 36.28A.450(2) regarding governing involvement of community-based organizations, local government, and law enforcement.	Meeting minutes, where appropriate. If minutes are not appropriate, WASPC will accept other documentation that the meeting occurred and an attendance roster. Due no more than thirty (30) days after each meeting is conducted.
4.3	Monthly Technical Assistance (TA) calls with the LEAD NSB Technical Assistance Team.	Due each month on or before the 10 th day of each month.
4.4	Monthly Data Collection and WASPC	Due each month on or before the

	Reporting.	10 th day of each month.
4.5	Monthly Check-In Calls with WASPC team.	No less than one (1) call per month.
4.6	Provide AJA Services as defined in Exhibit B to a number of clients equal to or greater than 75% of the program’s stated client capacity as projected in the prior month’s report.	Monthly.
4.7	Cooperate with and provide the staffing, resources, and data necessary to aid in the evaluation of this grant program pursuant to RCW 36.28A.450. This includes access to data that is relevant to this evaluation to the Washington State University – Division of Governmental Studies and Services.	Quarterly
4.8	Indirect (administrative) costs: Only 10% of direct costs.	Monthly, and no later than 14 days following the Contract end date.

- AJA sites were introduced to the evaluation team at DGSS and collaboration between the sites and DGSS on the evaluation begins.

October 2022

- WASPC contracted with DGSS for the evaluation of the AJA grant program.