

Clearwater Police Department Mental Health Co-Responder Program

Proposed Recipient: City of Clearwater, FL

Address of Recipient: 645 Pierce St, Clearwater, FL 33756

Amount of the Request: \$144,000

Explanation of Request: This funding would be used by the Clearwater Police Department for a pilot program that pairs a police officer with a mental health professional to respond to calls for persons in crisis and conduct follow-up with persons experiencing mental health challenges in order to connect that person to the appropriate services. This will reduce the number of mental health cases that enter the criminal justice system, help diffuse potential confrontations that result from 911 calls, and validate programs like this for use by other local law enforcement agencies across the country.