BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SARPY COUNTY, NEBRASKA

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CHAIRMAN TO SIGN THE APPLICATION, LETTER OF SUPPORT AND OTHER DOCUMENTS RELATED TO THE SUBMISSION OF THE SARPY COUNTY TRUANCY GRANT OFFERED THROUGH THE NEBRASKA CRIME COMMISSION

WHEREAS, pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §23-104(6) (Reissue 2007), the County has the power to do all acts in relation to the concerns of the County necessary to the exercise of its corporate powers; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §23-103 (Reissue 2007), the powers of the County as a body are exercised by the County Board; and,

WHEREAS, a Crime Commission Grant is available to the Sarpy County Juvenile Justice Center; and,

WHEREAS, the Juvenile Justice Center was given permission by the County Board to write a grant application for the Sarpy County Truancy Program; and,

WHEREAS, the grant application must be submitted to the Nebraska Crime Commission; and,

WHEREAS, Sarpy County is committed to and supports a Truancy Program for the Sarpy County Juvenile Justice Center; and;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the Sarpy County Board of Commissioners that the Chairman is hereby authorized to sign the application, letter of support and other documents related to the submission of the Sarpy County Truancy Program grant.

The above Resolution was approved by a vote of the Sarpy County Board of Commissioners at a public meeting duly held in accordance with applicable law on the 4th day of December, 2012.

Sarpy County Board Chairman

DEBRA J. KOSMAN, COUNTY CLERK SEAL SARPY COUNTY, NEBRASKA

ATTEST:

Sarpy County Clerk

Sarpy County Board of Commissioners

1210 GOLDEN GATE DRIVE
PAPILLION, NE 68046-2895
593-4155
www.sarpy.com
ADMINISTRATOR Mark Wayne
DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR Scott Bovick
FISCAL ADMIN./PURCHASING AGT. Brian Hanson

COMMISSIONERS
Rusty Hike District 1
Jim Thompson District 2
Tom Richards District 3
Jim Nekuda District 4
Jim Warren District 5

MEMO

To: Sarpy County Board

From: Lisa A. Haire

Re: Sarpy County Juvenile Justice Center Truancy Grant

On December 4, 2012 the County Board will be asked to authorize the Chairman to sign the application, letter of support and other documents related to the submission of the Sarpy County Juvenile Justice Center's Truancy Grant offered through the Nebraska Crime Commission.

The grant application requests $33,553 for continuation of the Truancy Program. $32,617 will pay salaries for two part-time Truancy Staff at the Sarpy County Juvenile Justice Center and $936 will pay for cell phone usage.

This request is for year three funding. The Sarpy County Education Program (SCEP) Board has indicated support for future sustainability through revenue generated from the Traffic Program. Additionally, funds received from the Learning Community will also help to support employee salary and benefits not covered with grant funding.

There is no County match for this grant, however; a portion of the Juvenile Justice Reporting Center's Supervisor and a portion of the JJC Director's salary and benefits will be used as an in-kind match due to the amount of time spent implementing and supervising the Program.

The goal of the Sarpy County Truancy Program is to implement a comprehensive plan by engaging students in the school culture, developing strategies that will reduce and prevent truancy and the involvement in Juvenile Court.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call myself or Dick Shea.

November 30, 2012

Lisa A. Haire
593-1565

cc: Mark Wayne
Brian Hanson
Scott Bovick
Dick Shea
Michelle Siders
Deb Houghtaling

Grant Number _____
[Crime Commission Use Only]

NEBRASKA CRIME COMMISSION
2012 FEDERAL TITLE II & 2013 STATE JUVENILE SERVICES APPLICATION

SECTION I. APPLICANT INFORMATION

1. Applicant Name: [Agency/Organization] The applicant must be the agency that will receive and disburse the grant funds.	Name: Sarpy County Juvenile Justice Center	Telephone [402] 537-7000 Fax [402] 537-7080
2. Federal Employer ID # of Applicant:	47-600-6504	The Federal Identification Number is the nine digit number of the applicant
3. Address:	9701 Portal Road Papillion, NE 68046-3150 **[Include zip code + 4 digits]**	
4. Project Title: Sarpy County Sheriff Juvenile Services Truancy Program		
5. Project Director: [Receives all correspondence]	Name: Lisa A. Haire Title: Grant Coordinator	Telephone[402]593-1565 Fax [402]593-4304
	Email: lhaire@sarpy.com	
	Address: 1210 Golden Gate Drive Papillion, NE 68046-2845	
6. Project Coordinator: [Cannot be the Project Director]	Name: Michelle Siders Title: Coordinator of Support Services, Juvenile Justice Center	Telephone[402]537-7012 Fax [402]537-7080
	Email: msiders@sarpy.com	
	Address: 9701 Portal Road Papillion, NE 68046-3150	
7. Fiscal Officer: [Cannot be the Project Director]	Name: Brian Hanson Title: Fiscal Administrator/Purchasing Agent	Telephone[402]593-2349 Fax [402]593-4304
	Email: bhanson@sarpy.com	
	Address: 1210 Golden Gate Drive Papillion, NE 68046-2845	
8. Authorized Official: [NOTE: The authorized official includes county board chair, mayor, city administrator, state agency director, chair or vice-chair of non-profit agency.]	Name: Rusty Hike Title: County Board Chairman	Telephone[402]593-4155 Fax [402]593-4360
	Email: rhike@sarpy.com	

	Address: 1210 Golden Gate Drive Papillion, NE 68046-2800
9. Check which funding source your project best fits:	
[X] **Title II [JJ]**	[ ] **Juvenile Services [JS]**

10. Is the proposed program a model, best-practice, evidence based, or promising practice program? (See Page 10 of the Application Kit Instructions)

[ ] **Yes** [X] **No**

What evidence exists that the proposed program is evidence based and/or effective? Sarpy County researched various evidence based and model programs. In this research, Sarpy County concluded, "programs are more likely to survive and thrive when they exist in a supportive context working with the current system rather than against a system or in isolation" (Truancy Prevention in Action: Best Practices and Model Truancy Programs, National Center for School Engagement. July 2005). In 2010, Sarpy County implemented a pilot program which included components from several model programs.

Sarpy County operates a broad-based collaborative approach to juvenile justice, prevention, and intervention which includes Juvenile Court, the Sarpy County Attorney's Office, Superintendents and Counselors from area school districts, area law enforcement representatives, Sarpy County Juvenile Justice Center, and County agencies. In order to work with the established system, Sarpy County utilized facility space, trained staff, current communication among agencies and school districts to jump start a Truancy Program which encompasses strategies that are effective for youth and families in the Sarpy County community. Critical Components of Successful Truancy Programs, outlined by the National Center for School Engagement, the Department of Education, and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention are key aspects of the Sarpy County Truancy Program.

Start up funding was awarded to Sarpy County in July 2011 for the implementation of the Truancy Program. In the first six months, Sarpy County has experienced success in working with several juveniles in the County. The Juvenile Court Judges and County Attorneys have been extremely happy with the results in this short time period. In just the first 6 months of the grant, from July 2011-December 6, 2011, the Sarpy County Truancy Program assisted ten (10) juveniles. In the last year July 1, 2011-June 30, 2012, the Truancy Program assisted 58 youth and families. In August 2012, a new partnership was formed between the County Attorney's Office, Juvenile Diversion, and the Truancy Program. In the three months from August – November, the Sarpy County Truancy Program has already served 50 youth and their families. This partnership has greatly increased the number of youth referred to the Sarpy County Truancy Program.

11. Impact: **Demographic:** List the area[s] served by the project [i.e. counties, cities, neighborhoods, etc.].	Sarpy County, City of Bellevue, City of Papillion, City of LaVista, City of Gretna, City of Springfield.
Youth: List the number of youth, ages 10-17, projected to be served by the project.	Approx. 100 youth per year.

12. Previous 5-Year Crime Commission Funding for This Project:		**13. Area[s] Served by Project: [Statewide, Counties, Cities]**
Grant #: 11-JJ-0010	**Amount: $33,553**	Sarpy County, Nebraska including the

		cities of Bellevue, Papillion, LaVista, Springfield, Gretna and a small portion of Omaha.
Grant # 10-JJ-0005	**Amount: $50,970**	Sarpy County, Nebraska including the cities of Bellevue, Papillion, LaVista, Springfield, Gretna and a small portion of Omaha.
Grant #:	**Amount:**	
Grant #:	**Amount:**	
Grant #:	**Amount:**	

14. Is the amount of funds requested following the step down policy? **Yes** [X] **No**

If no, clearly justify the need for the Crime Commission to waive the step down policy for this project.

In the first year of the grant, Sarpy County was awarded $50,970. In the second year of the grant, under the step down policy, Sarpy County should have been awarded $50,970 but was awarded $33,553 which was a 34% reduction. Sarpy County is requesting $33,553 in the third year of the grant due to funding having already been cut 34% during the second year of the grant.

15. Previous 5-Year Crime Commission funding for this juvenile justice project.				
Funding Source	**Received in past 5 years**		**Requesting funds this year**	
Title V	[ ] Yes	[X] No	[ ] Yes	[X] No
Joint Accountability Block Grant	[ ] Yes	[X] No	[ ] Yes	[X] No
County Aid	[ ] Yes	[X] No	[ ] Yes	[X] No
County Aid Enhancement	[ ] Yes	[X] No	[ ] Yes	[X] No

16. Comprehensive Juvenile Services Plan

[X]	YES	[ ]	NO	Our community has an approved current Three Year *Comprehensive Juvenile Services Plan* on file with the Nebraska Crime Commission.

List begin and end date of plan:

July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2015

List the 3-5 priorities in the plan:

1. Establish alternatives to detention for juveniles in Sarpy County.
2. Reduce DMC issues throughout the Sarpy County Juvenile Justice System.
3. Improve system operation and coordination.
4. Improve collaboration among members of the community.
5. Expand and enhance existing programs for juveniles in Sarpy County.

SECTION II. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Applicant Name: Sarpy County Sheriff's Office
Agency Responsible for Delivery of Service: Pat Thomas Juvenile Justice Center
Funds Requested: $33,553
Matching Funds: $27,783
Total Cost: $61,336

The problem to be addressed by this proposed grant application is: Absenteeism and truancy contribute to students falling behind in schoolwork, failing grades, and dropping out of school resulting in an increase in criminal behavior, alcohol, and drug usage. An increased dropout rate negatively impacts the community as youth lack the skills to find and maintain employment which contributes to delinquency and welfare dependency. In many cases, truancy from school is the common denominator in crime being committed by youth.

One of the priorities of the 2012-2015 Sarpy County Juvenile Services Plan is to "Expand and enhance existing programs for juveniles in Sarpy County." Priority Three states, "Youth who are not bonded to conventional community institutions such as school, work, religious and recreational organizations are much more likely to engage in criminal behavior." This grant request will enable the Juvenile Justice Center to expand and enhance current truancy efforts. The goal is to interrupt the cycle of isolation and disconnectedness truant youth experience with parents, schools and the community. The Sarpy County Truancy Program will help to create a sense of responsibility, belonging and value while holding youth accountable for their actions. Successful completion of the program will allow the youth's truancy petition to be dismissed.

This grant request will assist Sarpy County with funding three (2) part-time Truancy staff to monitor the program and serve as liaisons with schools and other appropriate individuals by utilizing existing communication tools and relationships. Duties will include: consistent home visits, school visits, evaluating educational needs, tutoring, tracking grades and attendance, transportation, mental health services and program classes as needed.

Youth will be assessed using school records, court referral information, home interviews, and any other educational testing that may have been done. If additional behavioral or mental health screening is required, Truancy staff will utilize the Massachusetts Youth Screening Instrument (MAYSI-2), Simple Screening Instrument for Substance Abuse (SSI), Suicide Risk Inventory, and/or Strength Based Questions for Youth. These screening tools will be utilized by Truancy Staff and a Therapist. The Therapist will meet with youth and families as needed. Truancy staff will develop and manage individualized contracts with juvenile offenders. A comprehensive approach focusing on prevention and intervention will be implemented to respond to truancy issues.

This project will divert youth from entering the Juvenile Court System which results in placement at the Juvenile Justice Center and/or the CARE Program. Critical components identified by the National Center for School Engagement (NCSE) will be key elements of the Sarpy County Truancy Program. These components include; school-community collaboration, family involvement, comprehensive approach, use of incentives and sanctions, and a supportive context.

SECTION III. BUDGET SUMMARY

Category	Requested Amount	Match Share	Total Project Cost
A. Personnel	$32,617	$27,783	$60,400
B. Consultants/Contracts	$0	$0	$0
C. Travel	$0	$0	$0
D. Supplies/ Operating Expenses	$936	$0	$936
E. Equipment	$0	$0	$0
F. Other Costs	$0	$0	$0
TOTAL AMOUNT	$33,553	$27,783	$61,336
% Contribution	55%	45%	100%

CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify the information in this application is accurate and, as the Authorized Official for the project, hereby agree to comply with all provisions of the grant program and all other applicable state and federal laws.

Name of Authorized Official: Rusty Hike
Title: Sarpy County Board of Commissioners Chairman
Address: 1210 Golden Gate Drive
City, State, Zip+4: Papillion, NE 68046-2800
Telephone: 402-593-4155
Signature:
Date: December 4, 2012

[NOTE: The authorized official includes county board chair, mayor, city administrator, state agency director, chair or vice-chair of non-profit agency.]

SECTION IV. COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

A. Complete the following table.

Gender, Race & Ethnicity	Total Population of Grant Area		Total Juvenile Population of Grant Area	
	Number	% of total #	Number	% of total #
Male	78,886	49.7%	22,593	51.6%
Female	79,954	50.3%	23,925	48.3%
White	127,310	80.1%	38,060	76.9%
Black	6,321	4.0%	1,888	3.8%
American Indian and Alaska Native	733	0.5%	240	0.5%
Asian	3,353	2.1%	812	1.6%
Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander	168	0.1%	NA*	NA*
Other	4,426	2.8%	1,687	3.4
Two or more races	4,960	3.1%	1,995	4.0%
Hispanic or Latino	11,569	7.3%	4,836	9.8%
Not Hispanic or Latino	147,271	92.7%	44,682	90.2%
Total	158,840	100%	49,518	100%

Cities, Counties, Towns included above: Sarpy County, Springfield, Gretna, Papillion, LaVista, Bellevue

Source of data: 2009 Data U.S. Census website & OJJDP website.

B. Sarpy County is where Nebraska's origins began. Located in the southeast area of Nebraska, Sarpy County is directly adjacent to the greater Omaha metropolitan area to the north. Sarpy County is composed of a rural population in the Gretna and Springfield area to the west, Offutt Air Force Base to the southeast, the cities of Papillion and LaVista in the center, and the city of Bellevue to the east.

The Department of Health and Human Services, the Sarpy County Juvenile Probation Office, the Sarpy County Juvenile Court System, the Sarpy County Juvenile Diversion program, the Sarpy County Drug Court, the Office of Juvenile Services, and the Staff Secure Hold Over work together to ensure that juvenile offenders are properly evaluated when they enter the Sarpy County Juvenile Justice System. The agencies provide youth involved in the juvenile justice system access to quality, thorough assessments and substance abuse treatment. Eligible youth involved in the juvenile justice system receive assessment screening that includes, but not limited to risk assessment screening, medical/mental health screen, family history, and academic profile. When appropriate, court ordered evaluations may include, but are not limited to, a thorough psychological, and in some cases a psychiatric, profile report.

C. According to DMC data from 2010, a DMC concern for Sarpy County exists in the higher incidence of arrests of Black and Hispanic youth. Additionally, the data indicates a lower incidence of cases being diverted for Black youth.

D. For applicants from Douglas, Lancaster, Sarpy, Cherry, Colfax, Dakota, Dawes, Dawson, Hall, Madison, Platte, Saunders, Scottsbluff, and Thurston counties, provide the 2010 RRI's for the contact point[s] the programming will address. Discuss the contact points impacted by the proposed project.

Relative Rate Index Compared with White Juveniles

State : Nebraska
County : Sarpy

Reporting Period 1/1/2010 through 12/31/2010

	Black or African-American	Hispanic or Latino	Asian	Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islanders	American Indian or Alaska Native	Other/ Mixed	All Minorities
2. Juvenile Arrests	**2.78**	**2.30**	**	*	*	*	**2.14**
3. Refer to Juvenile Court	1.19	**0.10**	**	*	*	*	**0.66**
4. Cases Diverted	**0.61**	**	**	*	*	*	**1.45**
5. Cases Involving Secure Detention	1.01	**	**	*	*	*	**1.52**
6. Cases Petitioned	1.00	**	**	*	*	*	1.00
7. Cases Resulting in Delinquent Findings	1.17	**	**	*	*	*	**1.37**
8. Cases resulting in Probation Placement	.68	1.39	**	*	*	*	1.08
9. Cases Resulting in Confinement in Secure Juvenile Correctional Facilities	**	**	**	*	*	*	1.20
10. Cases Transferred to Adult Court	**	**	**	*	*	*	**
Group meets 1% threshold?	**Yes**	**Yes**	**Yes**	**No**	**No**	**No**	

Data provided by Nebraska DMC Coordinator

Key: Statistically significant results: **Bold Font**
Results that are not statistically significant: Regular Font
Group is less than 1% of the youth population: *
Insufficient number of cases for analysis: **
Missing data for some element of calculation: --

According to the data above, a DMC issue exists at the point of arrest; the Juvenile Justice Center Truancy Project could have an impact at that contact point as youth may be involved in the program as opposed to engaging in delinquent activities. Additionally, implementation of the program will positively impact the number of youth being referred to Juvenile Court.

In the past, the County collaborated on a grant request with Douglas and Lancaster Counties to hire a DMC Coordinator to assess DMC issues in Sarpy County and begin planning to mitigate those issues. The request was not approved. Sarpy County is currently working with the JDAI Site Coordinator and the State DMC Coordinator to take steps to address DMC issues.

SECTION V. PROBLEM STATEMENT

A. The problem to be addressed by this application is: School absenteeism and truancy contribute to students falling behind in schoolwork, failing grades and, dropping out of school resulting in an increase in criminal behavior, alcohol, and drug usage.

Sarpy County is the fastest growing county in Nebraska. Approximately one-third of the total population in the County is made up of juveniles between the ages of 0-17. The juvenile population in Sarpy County is projected to grow by 2% per year through 2020. This rapid increase in population has placed a strain on the current juvenile justice system's ability to keep up with the demand for services and to provide the necessary services youth need.

An increase in the juvenile population of Sarpy County combined with unstructured time outside of school has factored into an increase of youth crimes in the County. Initial encounters with law enforcement often begin with status offenses such as running away and truancy. The results of school absenteeism and truancy have been shown to increase youth participation in risky behaviors such as: substance abuse, gang activity, assaults, and other criminal mischief.

According to the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), "Truancy may be the beginning of a lifetime of problems for students who routinely skip school" *(http://www2.ed.gov).* A low commitment to school is linked to all problem behaviors during the adolescent years. Truant behavior as an adolescent has been shown to have a direct connection to problems in adulthood such as: violence, marital troubles, job problems, criminal behavior, and incarceration.

Truancy is a community problem and truancy programs require partnerships with schools, families, law enforcement, courts and other community institutions to help youth overcome the obstacles that interfere with school attendance.

> Because truancy often indicates bigger problems in a child's life, many communities are designing truancy reduction programs that involve schools, law enforcement, families, businesses, judicial and social service agencies, and community and youth service organizations – OJJDP, *(http://www2.ed.gov/admins/lead/safety/training/truancy_pg3.html).*

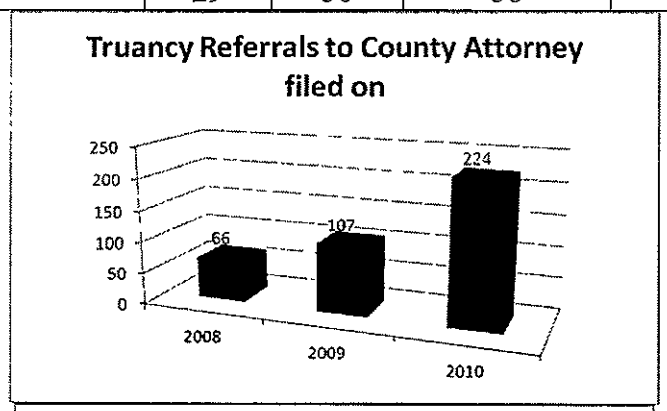
There has been a significant increase of school absenteeism and truancy in Sarpy County. During 2009, the County Attorney received 78 referrals for truancy and filed on 66. In 2010, the County Attorney received 196 referrals for truancy and filed on 107. In 2011, the Sarpy County Attorney's Office received 665 truancy cases and filed on 224 which was an increase of 109% from 2010.

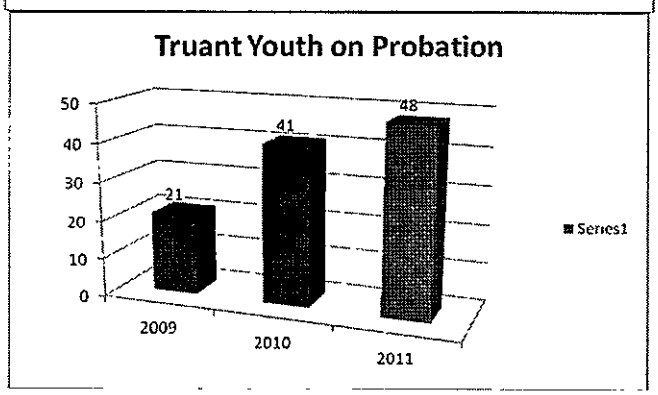
In 2008, 27 juveniles in Probation were identified as truant with eight placed at the Office of Juvenile Services (OJS). In 2009, Probation identified 21 juveniles as truant with two (2) being placed at OJS. In 2010, Probation identified 41 juveniles as truant with five (5) being placed at OJS. From 2009 to 2010, the number of juveniles placed on Probation for truancy increased 95%.

Truancy is an indication youth may be headed for problems including, isolation, educational failure, and dropping out of school. Research shows that approximately 80% of dropouts were truant the year before leaving school *(www2.ed.gov).* An increased dropout rate impacts the community as these young people lack the skills to find and maintain employment successfully which can contribute to delinquency due to unstructured time and an increase in welfare dependency. According to the 2000 census, 83 percent of College graduates and 71 percent of high school graduates were employed. High school dropouts have an employment rate of only 52 percent.

B. Provide statistical documentation of the problem, including local data from three years.

	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	% Of Change
Total juvenile population between the ages of 0-17 in Sarpy County	42,319	42,924	45,875	46,259	+9.3
Total number of Juvenile offenders involved in the Sarpy County Juvenile Justice System	1,908	1,854	1,764	1,864	-2.3%
Number of juveniles involved in District #2 juvenile probation	344	421	448	449	+30.5%
Number of juveniles in Sarpy County Diversion involved in alcohol and drug abuse	90	64	125	195	+116.6%
Number of juveniles participating in Juvenile Drug Treatment Court	29	36	38	41	+41.4%





**Data provided by OJJDP, Sarpy County Attorney's Office, Sarpy County Probation and Sarpy County Juvenile Justice Center.

Although Sarpy County is an affluent county compared to others in Nebraska, there are a substantial number of youth experiencing risk factors for delinquency. These factors include, but are not limited to, poverty, mental illness, alcohol/substance abuse, school truancy/dropout, family/living instability, child abuse and neglect, family conflict, and learning disorders. The Sarpy County juvenile population is projected to grow by 2% per year through 2020, compared to the 1% growth per year experienced between 1980 and 2000 (2004 Chinn Study).

C. The SAFE Committee developed and adopted the 2012-2015 Sarpy County Comprehensive Juvenile Services Plan. The purpose of the Plan is to: reduce juvenile delinquency, and enhance public safety by 1) identifying the risk factors related to delinquency and abuse/neglect; 2) developing appropriate prevention and intervention programs for delinquency and abuse/neglect; and 3) fostering system communication, coordination, and cooperation across agencies and with the public to strengthen system effectiveness.

The Plan identifies five prioritized needs: 1) Establish alternatives to detention for juveniles in Sarpy County; 2) Reduce DMC issues throughout the Sarpy County Juvenile Justice System; 3) Improve system operation and coordination; 4) Improve collaboration among members of the community; 5) Expand and enhance existing programs for juveniles in Sarpy County. It is imperative that programming be continued and enhanced to ensure proper service provision to Sarpy County youth and their families.

The top three priority problems include:

1. Establish alternatives to detention for juveniles in Sarpy County. Sarpy County has been approved by the Annie E. Casey Foundation as a JDAI site. Through the JDAI process, Sarpy County will collaborate with the Casey Foundation to analyze the ineffective and inefficient policies and practices within the juvenile justice systems in Sarpy County that result in inappropriate sanctions, disparities for minority youth, and unnecessary transfers to secure detention.
2. Improve system operation and coordination by developing an integrated information sharing system. The integration of agency information is crucial to assisting youth and their families in receiving the help they need. Increased coordination among agencies and the development of an information management system are vital in overcoming the current duplication of services occurring in the Sarpy County juvenile justice system. In addition, enhancements to system information collection and sharing will lead to a greater understanding of the trends and profile of juvenile offender service requirements.
3. Expand and enhance existing programs and services for juvenile offenders by implementing prevention/intervention programs. Sarpy County currently operates several programs that either divert youth from formal court processing or provide an alternative to residential placements. As part of this priority, Sarpy County will focus on the continuation of existing programs as well as enhancement. Efforts to continue programs will include securing funding that enables them to operate at their current level of service. Using the balanced mission and restorative justice framework, Sarpy County Juvenile Justice agencies are working to interrupt the cycle of isolation and disconnectedness youth experience. Efforts to enhance programs and implement new projects will provide Sarpy County youth and their families with necessary resources and programming to meet their needs at all levels of service.

D. The Search Institute has defined ***40 Developmental Assets for Adolescents*** as building blocks to help young people grow up healthy, caring, and responsible. Sarpy County has identified five Developmental Assets the Truancy Program will target.

1. Support: Parent Involvement in Schooling
   Parent involvement is a key asset in helping youth succeed in school. Parents must take an active role in a child's learning and education. Research has shown increased parental involvement in school enables students to achieve higher grades and test scores, improves student attendance, improves student conduct and attitude, and increases the chance of a child going on to higher education. The Sarpy County Truancy Program will instruct and implement a plan that assists families in providing a supportive environment that encourages youth to attend and succeed in school. The Truancy Program involves parents at every level

through the incorporation of weekly visits with parents to discuss school progress and the development of a service plan to increase parent involvement and responsibility regarding youth's truancy.

2. Commitment to Learning: Achievement Motivation
   In order for youth to be successful in school, there must be a commitment to learning and the motivation to want to learn. The Sarpy County Truancy Program makes school attendance the responsibility of the youth and the parents through a signed contract that requires communication in the event a youth plans to be absent from school. This Contract also provides daily access to school attendance, homework and grades. Through monitoring, students are encouraged to turn in assignments; make-up missed work, and attend classes daily. Monitoring of student's progress will decrease as students demonstrate appropriate progress in school. Various incentives and sanctions will be utilized to help achieve motivation and responsibility. Goals and objectives will be written and re-visited frequently to assess the student's progress. According to the Search Institute, "setting goals together will motivate youth." Communicating the importance of school and making the most out of attendance is a key component in achieving motivation in youth.

3. Positive Values: Responsibility.
   Youth must learn to accept and take personal responsibility for their actions including accepting consequences and realizing rewards in the educational process. Positive values will be reinforced to provide necessary structure and guidance helping students to develop the skills to interact appropriately within the school setting. This may include adult mentoring, tutorial services, and/or involvement in school activities. The Sarpy County Truancy Program will model a positive learning environment to equip students with the necessary knowledge, skills and abilities to succeed in the classroom setting.

4. Social Competencies: Planning and Decision Making.
   According to the Search Institute, young people need to know how to plan ahead and make good choices. The Sarpy County Truancy Program will provide classes and individual instruction in decision-making, peer-pressure, cultural diversity, conflict management, and interpersonal relationships. Empowering youth to make decisions helps self-esteem and an understanding of how their actions affect others in the community.

5. Positive Identity: Personal Power.
   The purpose of the Truancy Program is to provide youth with the knowledge and skills to become successful in school. Youth need to feel that they are in control of what happens to them. It is important for youth to learn that if they want control over their life, they must accept responsibility for decisions, actions, and consequences. The Sarpy County Truancy Program will help youth to brainstorm possible solutions to problems helping them feel empowered to succeed.

Incorporating these five Assets, the Sarpy County Truancy Program has helped to engage youth in their education process, empowering them with the tools necessary to succeed in the school setting. These Assets will assist youth in reconnecting to the school giving them a sense of accomplishment, responsibility, and motivation. Parents will take an active role in learning and education providing a supportive environment which will encourage students to succeed in school.

SECTION VI. CURRENT EFFORTS

Describe similar services currently being provided in the community[s]. Explain how the proposed project enhances or strengthens existing services instead of duplicating existing services.

Sarpy County's Juvenile Justice Center, with the permission of Sheriff Jeff Davis began researching Truancy Programs in 2009. After a year of research and meeting with Sarpy County Juvenile Court professionals, staff at the Juvenile Justice Center implemented a Truancy Pilot Program in August 2010. The goal of the Sarpy County Truancy Pilot Program was to implement a comprehensive plan which holds parents, students, and schools accountable for school attendance by engaging students in the school culture, successfully developing strategies that will reduce and prevent truancy and ultimately delinquency and involvement of the Juvenile Courts.

Due to the passage of Nebraska Law LB800, students absent from school 20 or more days per year, 5 days in a quarter, will be referred to the County Attorney's office for evaluation. During the initial research phase, Sarpy County reviewed several evidence based model programs and put together components from different approaches. The Sarpy County Sheriff's Office, Juvenile Court and County Attorney researched ways to implement a successful truancy program which would work with the current system and agreed that the Juvenile Justice Center would be an ideal setting to begin such a project.

Truancy statistics in Sarpy County showed a significant increase in youth referred to the County Attorney's Office. The Juvenile Justice Center staff increased their work load and responsibilities to provide services such as: evening home visits, transportation to and from school, school visits and, monitoring of student grades.

In 2011, Sarpy County applied for and received funding from the Nebraska Crime Commission to further implement the Truancy Program. Funding was awarded for three part-time Truancy staff that would be housed at the Juvenile Justice Reporting Center. During the first six months of grant funding, the Truancy Program worked with fifteen (15) juveniles.

From July 2011 to June 2012, the Sarpy County Truancy Program served a total of 58 youth and their families, 30 completed the program successful in May 2012. One youth was referred to the court due to long term behavioral and mental health services that are needed, 18 youth remained with the program to receive Summer School assistance or mentoring for a successful start to the new 2012-2013 school year.

In the summer of 2012, Truancy Program staff attended meetings with the Sarpy County Attorney's Office and Juvenile Diversion. A partnership was formed and the Truancy Program now works with all referred truancy cases that flow through the County Attorney's Juvenile Diversion Program. Due to this change, the Truancy Program has already served 50 youth and families in the short time from July 2012-November 2012. With this new change, it is estimated that the Sarpy County Truancy Program will serve over 100 youth in 2012.

Funding secured through this grant request will allow the Sarpy County Truancy Program to continue to enhance current truancy efforts. Funding assists Sarpy County to specifically target the needs of youth participating in the program and provide services to a greater number of youth. Additionally, funding will alleviate court costs and time constraints on the County Attorney's Office allowing a more personal, one-on-one evaluation process between Truancy staff, youth, school, and the family.

SECTION VII. PROJECT OPERATION

The Sarpy County Truancy Program is a comprehensive, individualized approach which develops strategies to reduce and prevent truancy within the County. Critical components identified by the National Center for School Engagement are key elements of the Sarpy County Truancy Program. These critical components include; family involvement, a comprehensive approach focusing on prevention and intervention, use of incentives and sanctions, collaboration with the community, and support.

By decision of a Juvenile Court Judge or County Attorney the student is referred to the County Truancy Program. A Truancy staff member serves as a liaison with the schools and other appropriate individuals involved with the student. Truancy staff makes contact with the referred family and arranges to meet the youth and family in their home. Family involvement is one of the Critical Components identified by the National Center for School Engagement for successful truancy programs. Sarpy County has made it a priority to have the family involved in every step of the student's progress.

A meeting time is scheduled around school attendance and family work schedules. During this meeting, a family and youth interview takes place to assist in gathering information and reasons for truancy. Upon completion of the initial interview, a date is set within a week for a second meeting with Truancy Staff and the family. This meeting takes place at the family home or the Sarpy County Juvenile Reporting Center. Truancy staff collaborates with the schools to attain all needed contacts to gather class schedule, grades, attendance, IEP information and any additional information needed to assist in an appropriate attendance plan for the youth and family. According to the National Center for School Engagement, "school-community collaboration is an effective strategy for dropout prevention." Truancy Program staff review all information provided at the interview, by the Juvenile Court, and the youth's school. An action plan to work with the family is put into place.

Truancy Assessment

1. Student intake form/Truancy plan
2. Parent intake form/Service Plan

School Records

1. Discipline history
2. Attendance
3. Transcript
4. Educational testing

Results regarding the student's educational status is then discussed with parents/guardians. The meeting includes services in which the youth and parent(s) may attend in order to address the truancy issue. Family is made aware that program length is determined by the youth's successful school attendance.

If the family agrees to the program conditions, the Truancy Program Contract is signed. The contract is provided to the Juvenile Court and communication between the school, parents, and student is established for monitoring the truancy problem. The Court is provided a status report regarding youth's progress on a bi-weekly basis. If parents do not agree to the Program Contract, Juvenile Court is advised and the family is referred back to the Juvenile Court for further intervention.

Monitoring of youth's progress may consist of weekly visits to the family home, school visits and phone contact with both family and school officials. The amount of contact and visits is determined by family request, youth needs and overall program success.

Daily check of youth's attendance takes place. Truancy Program staff maintain current information regarding progress. Youth provide program staff a completed progress report signed by all teachers at the end of each week. Truancy staff provides the Juvenile Court, County Attorney and youth's attorney with a

memorandum detailing youth's performance every two weeks. If needed, cooperation memorandums may be sent requesting the courts attention and intervention. The following are incentives and sanctions which focus on prevention and interventions identified by the National Center for School Engagement as Critical Components for successful Truancy Programs.

Recommendations and Incentives for Truancy Reduction Programs

Parent Involvement –

1. Common Sense Parenting Classes
2. Referral for Community Services if necessary
3. Parent Support Group
4. Consistent family support from Truancy Program

Students- (Proposed possibilities)

1. Programs to reconnect student (extra-curricular/community activities)
2. Therapy
3. Training –
   - Assertiveness/Communication
   - Decision/Goal Setting
   - Anger/Conflict Management
   - Surviving High School
   - Resiliency and Character Education
4. Mentors
5. Tutoring Services
6. Recovery Credit for high school students
7. Monitor Compliance and Progress
8. Referral for alternative educational setting if needed
9. Academic/education specific testing services as needed
10. Supplies as needed such as: shoes to participate in school sports, alarm clocks, school supplies, back-packs.

All youth will be required to provide three reasonable goals they plan to accomplish within six months. Staff will assist the youth in coming up with an appropriate plan to achieve these goals.

Sanctions that may be issued for not attending School

1) Truancy staff will come to the home and escort youth to school.
2) Truancy staff will come to home and escort youth to the Juvenile Reporting Center for the day. Youth's school and parents will be notified. Youth will work with teaching staff during this day on homework and issues regarding truancy problem for that day.
3) Youth will have to call a designated answering machine daily for five days upon leaving for school.
4) Youth will attend a four hour Saturday School session with teaching staff or Reporting Center Staff. Youth will work on homework and reasons for truancy.
5) Youth will write brief paper regarding why education is important.
6) Youth will lose gaming system or cell phone.
7) Memo written to the Juvenile Court advising youth's status as unsuccessful.

Successful completion is accomplished upon one academic semester of positive school attendance. Documentation is provided to the Sarpy County Juvenile Court, County Attorney and youth's attorney. Documentation includes: youth attendance record, current grades in scheduled classes, completion certificates for program classes completed and any additional information pertinent to the completion of the program. Upon review of documentation and recommendation by Truancy Program staff, Sarpy County Juvenile Court determines the final decision on dismissing the truancy charge.

SECTION VIII. ACTIVITY/TIMELINE

Complete the following table with the requested information for significant activities, not day to day operations.

Activity	Position Responsible	Time Frame	Projected Outcome
Complete Quarterly Report	Grant Coordinator, Juvenile Reporting Center Supervisor, Truancy Staff	October, January, April, July	Complete reports sent to Crime Commission on time.
Prepare Future Grant Application	Grant Coordinator, Juvenile Reporting Center Staff, Truancy Staff	November-December	Successful completion of grant application sent to Crime Commission on time.

SECTION IX. SUSTAINABILITY

New Applicants: N/A

Continuation Applicants:

The Sarpy County Truancy Program has the support of Sarpy County and the Sarpy County Education Program (SCEP) Board which consists of Superintendants from the five area school districts, the Sarpy County Sheriff, Sarpy County Attorney's Office, Sarpy County Probation, Sarpy County SAFE Chairman, and non-voting members which include the Sarpy County Juvenile Justice Center (JJC) Director, Sarpy County JJC Programs Supervisor, Sarpy County JJC Head Teacher and the SCEP Program Head Teacher. The SCEP Board has committed to support the program on a long term basis through funding secured from revenue generated in the Traffic Program.

Upon completion of the five year grant, the SCEP Board has indicated full support for the Program. The Sarpy County Sheriff's Office fully supports the Sarpy County Juvenile Justice Truancy Program. The Sarpy County Sheriff's Office, Sarpy County Juvenile Court, Sarpy County Attorney's Office, and the SCEP Board understand that juvenile crime will ultimately be reduced with the implementation of a successful Truancy Program. Research from the National Center for School Engagement (NCSE) shows that successful Truancy Programs operate within a supportive context which includes: an umbrella agency, neighborhoods, schools, and laws and policies.

Sarpy County has a successful record of sustaining programs which were initially awarded with start-up funding from the Nebraska Crime Commission. The Juvenile Justice Reporting Center, Juvenile Justice Center Assessment Center, Pre-trial Juvenile Assessment Center, and The CARE Program are all examples of programs which were implemented with funding from the Nebraska Crime Commission and are currently being sustained by Sarpy County. With full support from the Sarpy County Sheriff's Office, Sarpy County Juvenile Court, Sarpy County Attorney's Office, and the SCEP Board, the Sarpy County Truancy Program will continue to operate to serve the youth of Sarpy County.

SECTION X. BUDGET

CATEGORY A – PERSONNEL WORKSHEET

Position	Annual Salary	% Time Devoted	Amount Requested	Match	Subtotal	Requested Fringe	Match Fringe	TOTAL COSTS
PT Truancy Officer	$15,080	100%	$15,080	$0	$15,080	$2,337	$0	$17,417
PT Truancy Officer	$15,080	100%	$15,080	$0	$15,080	$120	$2,217	$17,417
Juvenile Justice Reporting Center Supervisor	$55,992	25%	$0	$13,998	$13,998	$0	$6,180	$20,178
Juvenile Justice Center Director	$87,420	5%	$0	$4,371	$4,371	$0	$1,017	$5,388
	$	%	$	$	$	$	$	$
	$	%	$	$	$	$	$	$
	$	%	$	$	$	$	$	$
	$	%	$	$	$	$	$	$

PERSONNEL TOTAL	Amount Requested	Match	Subtotal	Fringe Requested	Fringe Match	TOTAL COSTS
	$30,160	$18,369	$48,529	$2,457	$9,414	$60,400

CATEGORY A – PERSONNEL NARRATIVE:

Funding is being requested for three part time Truancy Officers to provide comprehensive needs assessments and support to youth participating in the Sarpy County Truancy Program. Additionally, a portion of the salary for the Juvenile Justice Reporting Center Supervisor and the Juvenile Justice Center Director will be used as in-kind match and will be provided by the Sarpy County General Budget.

Juvenile Truancy Officers at $14.50 x 1,040 hours = $15,080 + $ 2,337 for benefits ($1,154 social security, $1,018 retirement and $165 uniforms) = $17,417 X 2 = $34,834. These positions provide direct service to youths participating in the Truancy Program through comprehensive assessment intakes of youth and their families. Duties will include home visits, school visits, transportation, monitoring of grades and attendance. These positions will submit results and written recommendations to the Sarpy County Attorney's Office and Sarpy County Juvenile Court. These positions will be housed at the Juvenile Justice Reporting Center. Hours will consist of M-F 6:00 am-12:00 pm and 3:00 pm-9:00 pm. Sarpy County will contribute $2,217 in benefits for one staff member.

Total Request: $32,617
$17,417 X 2 = $34,834 - $2,217 (benefits in-kind contribution) =$32,617

The Juvenile Justice Reporting Center Supervisor will manage and oversee the duties of the Truancy Officers providing direct service to youths participating in the Truancy Program as needed. The Juvenile Justice Reporting Center Supervisor will spend 25% of the time working with the Truancy Program and this salary ($20,178) will be used as in-kind matching funds for this grant. Additionally, the Juvenile Justice Center Director will spend 5% time working on the Truancy Program posting job openings, interviewing, training and overall management. This salary ($5,388) will be used as in-kind matching funds.

Total In-Kind Match Contribution: $27,783
$20,178 + $5,388 + $2,217 (benefits in-kind from one Truancy Staff member) = $27,783

CATEGORY D – SUPPLIES AND OPERATING EXPENSES WORKSHEET

1. SUPPLIES:

Item	Quantity	Unit Price	Amount Requested	Applicant's Match	Total Cost
Various School Supplies		$	$0	$0	$0
		$	$	$	$
		$	$	$	$
		$	$	$	$
		$	$	$	$
SUPPLIES SUBTOTAL			$0	$0	$0

2. OPERATING EXPENSES – [Note Special Instructions]:

	Rate[per month]	Amount Requested	Applicant's Match	Total Cost
Rent – Equipment		$	$	$
Rent – Facilities		$	$	$
Telephone –Cell Phone	$78/mo	$936	$0	$936
Utilities		$	$	$
Auto Lease		$	$	$
Photo Copying		$	$	$
Printing		$	$	$
Non-consultant Contract Help				
Bookkeeping/Audit		$	$	$
Other:		$	$	$
		$	$	$
OPERATING EXPENSES SUBTOTAL		$936	$0	$936

SUPPLIES/OPERATING TOTAL	$936	$0	$936

CATEGORY D - SUPPLIES AND OPERATING EXPENSES NARRATIVE:

Truancy Staff Officers will require access to a cell phone in order to be contacted as needed by the Juvenile Justice Center and/or youth, school officials, counselors and therapists. Youth will be required to call the Truancy staff if they are ill or cannot make it to school for any reason. School officials will need to have a way to contact the Truancy staff if situations arise during school hours. Parents of youth will need to have a way to contact the staff to schedule appointments and discuss their child's progress. Two cell phones will be shared between the three staff. Only two Truancy staff will be working at a time, therefore requiring just two phones.

Request: $78/month usage fee x 12 months = $936

Total Request for Supplies/Operating Expenses: $936

SECTION XI. CONTINUATION INFORMATION

[Page limit = 3 pages for B-D]

A. Complete the table provided for youth served for the past three years.

	2010	2011(Jan-Dec)	2012(Jan-Dec)**
Youth Referred	N/A	15	80
Youth Accepted into Program		15	80
Youth Completed Program [unduplicated]		3	35
Youth Continuing in Program [unduplicated]		12	40
Youth not completing the program, and why A. New Law Violation B. Drop Out C. Moved D. Other: _____ TOTAL not completing the program		0	5 2 0 1 2 5
RACE			
White		13	68
American Indian or Alaskan Native		1	1
Asian		0	1
Black or African American		1	8
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander		0	2
Total		15	80
ETHNICITY			
Hispanic		3	17
Non Hispanic		12	63
Total		15	80
GENDER			
Male		12	48
Female		3	32
Total		15	80
AGE			
9 and under		0	0
10		0	0
11		0	0
12		1	4
13		2	2
14		0	6
15		3	21
16		5	22
17		4	24
18 and over		0	1
Total		15	80

****2012 data does not accurately reflect referrals due to having only 11 months of data from Jan-November 16, 2012 to report. Referrals increase significantly as the school year progresses.**

B. Describe the impact of the project on the community, agency, and client/family.

The project has brought school professionals, family and truancy staff together for the greater good of the youth we serve. Daily communication with school attendance professionals has provided new relationships between court professionals and school officials. Communication among the Truancy Program, school discipline officials and families have been of a positive nature. It has been apparent that school officials have tried harder to be patient with the youth participating in the program by utilizing alternative discipline techniques that allow youth to remain in school. Previously, youth were given out of school suspension which further distances the youth from school. School professionals are now working with the program to keep the youth in the school setting, such as utilizing in-school suspension or after school detention for inappropriate behaviors.

Truancy Program staff members are currently working on a transition plan that can be utilized by local schools, Justice Center Education Staff, Justice Center Therapist, youth, and their families. Staff will work with schools assisting with the transition of youth participants of the Truancy Program.

C. Provide a success story about the project.

The Truancy Program worked well with several families this past year making 1305 personal contacts with families and 4330 phone contacts with families or professionals in regards to truancy youth. The Program has a new official name; Sarpy County PASS Program- Prevention Achieves School Success Program.

During the current 2012-2013 school year, the program assisted a youth that was struggling with peers at school and only needed a few credits to graduate. When first meeting this youth, his goal was to be suspended from school as much as possible to eventually age out of the Program and drop out of school. The Program worked with the Sarpy County Alternative Education Program and obtained the needed court and school permission for his reassignment to this program. This youth attended the new school setting daily with no issues and completed all credits needed for high school successfully. He will graduate will his class in May 2013. He is now working and making plans to attend a trade school. The Program will support efforts to assist this youth with college scholarships and plans to recommend him for a $500.00 scholarship at the end of the educational year.

D. Describe any unanticipated challenges in implementation or operation of the project. How were these challenges addressed?

Originally, the project did not receive the funding needed in order to provide for a mental health therapist to assist with families served by the Program. This was a challenge that was worked on during the previous grant year and continued into the new grant year. Many professionals continue to collaborate in the best interest of youth in Sarpy County and the outcome was successful. In February 2012, the Pat Thomas Juvenile Justice Center secured funding through Region 6 for mental health services. Due to this funding, the Center now has a partnership with Heartland Family Service, which provides two therapists, a psychologist and a psychiatrist to be on staff. These new mental health professionals and the Program staff have worked well together developing positive approaches to evaluate families when needed. The Program is grateful for this resource, as several youth and families have received requested triage services and referrals for long term treatment and services.

SECTION XII. LETTERS OF COMMITMENT/SUPPORT

All letters of commitment and support are to be submitted as part of this application. Letters submitted separately from the application will NOT be considered. Submit no more than five [5] letters. Letters may be addressed to:

Michael E. Behm, Executive Director c/o Nebraska Crime Commission

Please see the enclosed letters from:

1. Sarpy County Board of Commissioners
2. Sheriff Jeff Davis on behalf of the SCEP (Sarpy County Educational Program) Board
3. Judge Robert B. O'Neal, Sarpy County Separate Juvenile Court
4. Judge Lawrence D. Gendler, Sarpy County Separate Juvenile Court
5. Sandra Markley, Sarpy County Attorney

SECTION XIII. REQUIRED FORMS

Read the following required forms and have them signed by the Authorized Official for the grant application.

1. CERTIFIED ASSURANCES
2. EEOP SHORT FORM
3. CERTIFICATIONS REGARDING LOBBYING; DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION AND OTHER RESPONSIBILITY MATTER; AND DRUG-FREE WORPLACE REQUIREMENTS

The Authorized Official is:

Counties:	County Board Chair
Cities:	Mayor, City Administrator
Non-Profit:	Board Chair or Vice-Chair [not agency director].
State:	State Agency Director

CERTIFIED ASSURANCES

Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act Grant Funds

(e) THE HATCH ACT: Federal law prohibits certain partisan political activity by an officer or employee of the state or local agency if his or her principal employment is in connection with an activity which is financed in whole or part by loans or grants made by the United States or a federal agency. The law is enforced by the United States Civil Service Commission.

(f) UNIFORM RELOCATION: Pursuant to the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policy Act of 1970, P.L. 91-646, 84 Stat. 1984, and Guideline G 4061.1A, as amended any program which uses federal financial assistance to pay all or part of the cost of any program or project which will result in the displacement of any person shall provide that:

a. Fair and reasonable relocation payments and assistance shall be provided to or for displaced persons as are required in such regulations as are issued by the U.S. Attorney General.

b. Relocation or assistance programs shall be provided for such persons in accordance with such regulations issued by the U.S Attorney General.

c. Within a reasonable period of time prior to displacement, decent, safe and sanitary replacement must be available to the displaced person in accordance with such regulations as issued by the U.S. Attorney General.

(g) ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT: No portion of any grant which might have an affect on the environment will be approved until an environmental evaluation form has been submitted and a determination made that the project will not have an adverse affect on the environment. An environmental evaluation will be required with the grant application if the applicant's project involves any of the following:

a. New construction projects;
b. The renovation or modification of a facility which leads to an occupancy of more than 25 persons;
c. The implementation of programs involving the use of pesticides or other harmful chemicals.
d. The implementation of programs involving the use of microwaves or radiation
e. Research and technology whose anticipated or intended future application could be expected to have a potential effect on the environment.
f. Other actions which require the substantial commitment of resources or trigger such a substantial commitment by another as determined by the responsible federal official to possibly have a significant effect on the quality of the environment.

(h) PROCUREMENT OF SPECIAL EQUIPMENT: The Juvenile Justice Advisory Group expects that the subgrantee will procure such special equipment being purchased in whole or in part with grant funds by that method, authorized by state law or local ordinance, which results in the lowest price for goods of the kinds or type required.

(i) NON-SUPPLANTING REQUIREMENT: The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act contains a non-supplanting requirement. This requirement stipulates that federal funds under Title II may not be used to supplant state and local funds that would have been available in the absence of federal aid. In complying with this requirement, the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice will rely on written certification by state agencies and local government units to the effect that federal funds have been used to increase state or local funds available for law enforcement.

(j) BUILDING ACCESSIBILITY AND USE BY PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED. Any construction, design or alteration of a building or facility which will be used by the public or which may result in the employment or residence of physically handicapped persons shall provide for accessibility and use to physically handicapped persons through appropriate items such as ramps, handrails, guardrails as required by 42 U.S.C. 4152 1970 and 34 Fed. Ref. 12828 1969.

(k) CONFLICT OF INTEREST: Requests for proposals or invitations for bid issued by the grantee or subgrantee to implement the grant or subgrant project are to provide notice to prospective bidders that the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention organizational conflict of interest provision is applicable in that contractors that develop or draft specifications, requirements, statements of work and/or RFP's for a proposed procurement, shall be excluded from bidding or submitting a proposal to compete for the award of such procurement.

(l) ACCOUNTING: The applicant assures that fund accounting, auditing, monitoring, and such evaluation procedures as may be necessary will be maintained to assure fiscal control, proper management, and efficient disbursement of received funds.

(m) RECORD KEEPING: The applicant assures that it shall maintain required data and information and shall submit required reports deemed necessary by the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice.

(n) CERTIFICATION: The applicant certifies that the programs contained in its application meet all the requirements, that all the information is correct, that there has been appropriate coordination with affected agencies, and that the applicant will comply with all provisions of applicable federal and state laws.

(o) COMPLIANCE: The applicant assures that it will comply and all of its contractors will comply, with the non-discrimination requirements of the Juvenile Services Act; Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975; and the Department of Justice Non-Discrimination Regulations 28 CFR Part 42, Subparts C, D, E, and G and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

(p) REPORTING OF LEGAL ACTION: The applicant assures that in the event a federal or state court, or federal or state administrative agency makes a finding of discrimination after a due process hearing on the grounds of race, color, religion, national origin or sex against a recipient of funds, the recipient will forward a copy of the finding to the Crime Commission and the Office of Civil Rights Compliance [OCRC] of the Office of Justice Programs.

(q) EQUAL EMPLOYMENT: The applicant assures that, if required, it will formulate an equal employment opportunity program [EEOP] in accordance with 28 CFR 42.301 et.seq., and submit a certification to the state that it has a current EEOP on file which meets the requirements therein.

(r) SINGLE AUDIT REQUIREMENT: Pursuant to Office of Management and Budget Circular A-128, A Audits of state and Local Governments: and A-133, A Private Non-Profit@ agencies, each applicant must comply with the Single Audit Act. A copy of the audit is to be submitted to the Crime Commission.

(s) CONFIDENTIALITY OF INFORMATION· No recipient of monies under the Juvenile Services Act shall use or reveal any research or statistical information or other type of information acquired or furnished under this program by any person/juvenile and identifiable to any specific private person/juvenile for any purpose other than the purpose for which such information was obtained in accordance with the Act

(t) FINANCIAL REPORTING: The applicant agrees to submit financial reports and progress reports indicating activities undertaken, expenditures, and general progress of the project. A final report [using the same report forms] is required to be submitted at the end of the project period. The final report will include data necessary to verify the success or failure of the project.

(u) ADHERENCE TO LAWS, RULES AND REGULATIONS: The applicant also understands and agrees: [1] that funds received are to be expended only for the purposes and activities covered by the applicant's approved application and budget, [2] that the grant may be terminated by the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice if the applicant fails to comply with the provisions of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act and all amendments thereto, any of the certified assurances listed above, or any other requirements of the Crime Commission.

(v) OTHER CONDITIONS: The applicant also understands and agrees: [1] that any grant received as a result of this application shall be subject to the grant conditions and other policies, regulations, and rules issued by the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention for the administration of grant projects under the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act and any other applicable Federal Acts, Executive Orders, and Guidelines; [2] that funds awarded are to be expended only for the purposes and activities covered by the applicant's approved application and budget; [3] that the grant may be terminated in whole or in part by the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice at any time that the Commission finds a substantial failure to comply with the provisions of the Act or regulations promulgated there under including these grant conditions, or plan or application obligations but only after notice and hearing and pursuant to Juvenile Justice Advisory Group and Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention procedures; [4] that appropriate grant records and accounts will be maintained and made available for audit as prescribed by the Commission; and [5] that the appropriate share of the total costs of this project shall be contributed by the Applicant from non-federal funds which are not being used in connection with any other program which is receiving federal financial assistance.

CERTIFICATION

I certify that I have read and reviewed the above assurances and the applicant will comply with all provisions and requirements of the Crime Commission, the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 [as amended] and all other applicable federal and state laws.

[SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL]		
[DATE] December 4, 2012		
[TYPED NAME] Rusty Hike		[TITLE] Chairman, Board of Commissioners
[TELEPHONE NUMBER] 402-593-4155		

EEOP SHORT FORM

STEP 1: INTRODUCTORY INFORMATION

Grant Title: Sarpy County Truancy Program

Grantee Name: Sarpy County

Address: 9701 Portal Road, Papillion, NE 68046 Contact Person: Michelle Siders

Phone Number: 402-537-7012

Grant Number: TBD Award Amount: TBD

Date and effective duration of EEOP:

Policy Statement:

****CERTIFICATION [EEOP ON FILE]**

A. I, Rusty Hike, certify that the Sarpy County, Nebraska has formulated an Equal Employment Opportunity Plan in accordance with 28 CFR 42.301, et. seq., subpart E, that it has been signed into effect by the proper agency authority and disseminated to all employees, and that it is on file in the Office of, Debra J. Houghtaling, 1210 Golden Gate Drive, Papillion, NE 68046, Sarpy County Clerk, for review or audit by officials of the cognizant State planning agency or the Office for Civil Rights, Office of Justice Programs as required by relevant laws and regulations.

		December 4, 2012
[signature]		[date]

CERTIFICATION [NO EEOP REQUIRED]

B. I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FUNDED AGENCY HAS **LESS THAN 50 EMPLOYEES** AND THEREFORE IS **NOT REQUIRED TO MAINTAIN AN EEOP,** PURSUANT TO 28 CFR 42.301, ET. SEQ.

[signature]		[date]

OMB Approval No. 1121-0140
Expiration Date: 12/31/98

Revised 9/20/95

** Sarpy County is in the process of updating the current EEOP. The current plan has not been updated in the last two years. Per Federal Regulations, the plan must be updated every two years; this process does involve extensive preparation and research prior to updating. Sarpy County understands the importance of the EEOP and is therefore working diligently to bring the plan current per Federal Regulations.

CERTIFICATIONS REGARDING LOBBYING; DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION AND OTHER RESPONSIBILITY MATTER; AND DRUG-FREE WORPLACE REQUIREMENTS

Applicants should refer to the regulations cited below to determine the certification to which they are required to attest. Applicants should also review the instructions for certification included in the regulations before completing this form. Signature of this form provides for compliance with certification requirements under 28 CFR Part 69, "New Restrictions on Lobbying" and 28 CFR Part 67, "Government-wide Debarment and Suspension [Non procurement] and Government-wide Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace [Grants]." The certifications shall be treated as a material representation of fact upon which reliance will be placed when the Department of Justice determines to award the covered transaction, grant, or cooperative agreement.

1. LOBBYING

As required by Section 1352, Title 31 of the U.S. Code, and implemented at 28 CFR Part 69, for persons entering into a grant or cooperative agreement over $100,000, as defined at 28 CFR Part 69, the applicant certifies that:

[a] No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the making of any Federal grant, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal grant or cooperative agreement;

[b] If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal grant or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form – LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities," in accordance with its instructions;

[c] The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers [including subgrants, contracts under grants and cooperative agreements, and subcontracts] and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

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2. DEBARTMENT, SUSPENSION, AND OTHER RESPONSIBILITY MATTERS [DIRECT RECIPIENT]

As required by Executive Order 12549, Debarment and Suspension, and implemented at 28 CFR Part 67, for prospective participants in primary covered transaction, as defined at 28 CFR Part 67, Section 67.510-

A. The applicant certifies that it and its principals:

[a] Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, sentenced to a denial of Federal benefits by a State of Federal court, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any Federal department of agency;

[b] Have not within a three-year period preceding this application been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public [Federal, State, or local] transaction or contract under a public transaction; violation of Federal or State antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;

[c] Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity [Federal, State, or local] with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph [1][b] of this certification; and

[d] Have not within a three-year period preceding this application had one or more public transactions [Federal, State or local] terminated for cause or default; and

B. Where the applicant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, he or she shall attach an explanation to this application.

3. DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE [GRANTEES OTHER THAN INDIVIUALS]

The applicant certifies that it will or will continue to provide a drug-free workplace by:

A. Publishing a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the grantee's workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violation of such prohibition·

B. Establishing an on-going drug-free awareness program to inform employees about—

[a] The dangers of drug abuse in the workplace;

[b] The grantee's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace,

[c] Any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs; and

[d] The penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug abuse violation occurring in the workplace;

C. Notifying the employee in the statement that the employee will:

[a] Abide by the terms of the statement; and

[b] Notify the employer in writing of his or her conviction of a criminal drug statute occurring in the workplace no later than five calendar days after such convictions;

The subgrantee shall notify the Crime Commission in writing of any conviction for a violation of a criminal drug statute occurring in the workplace no later than five calendar days after such conviction.

The subgrantee certifies that it will take one or more of the following actions within 30 calendar days of receiving notice of the conviction:

A. Taking appropriate personnel action against such an employee, up to and including termination, consistent with the requirements of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; or

B. Requiring such employee to participate satisfactorily in a drug abuse assistance of rehabilitation program approved for such purpose by a Federal, State or local health, law enforcement, or other appropriate agency;

The subgrantee certifies that it will make a good faith effort to continue to maintain a drug-free workplace.

Sarpy County, 1210 Golden Gate Drive, Papillion, NE 68046
Organization Name and Address:

Rusty Hike, Chairman, Sarpy County Board of Commissioners
Typed Name and Title of Authorized Representative

Signature 12/4/12 Date

Sarpy County Board of Commissioners

1210 GOLDEN GATE DRIVE
PAPILLION, NE 68046-2895
593-4155
www.sarpy.com
ADMINISTRATOR Mark Wayne
DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR Scott Bovick
FISCAL ADMIN./PURCHASING AGT. Brian Hanson

COMMISSIONERS
Rusty Hike District 1
Jim Thompson District 2
Tom Richards District 3
Jim Nekuda District 4
Jim Warren District 5

December 4, 2012

Michael E. Behm
Executive Director
Nebraska Crime Commission
PO Box 94946
Lincoln, NE. 68508

Dear Mr. Behm,

The Sarpy County Board of Commissioners supports the Sarpy County Truancy Program grant application for truancy programming at the Sarpy County Juvenile Justice Reporting Center. The Sarpy County Truancy Program offers juveniles a comprehensive plan to assist with school absenteeism allowing them to have their truancy charge dismissed and helping youth to reconnect to the school culture.

The Truancy Program helps reduce and prevent truancy diverting youth from entering the Juvenile Court system and ultimately reducing delinquency or placement at the Juvenile Justice Center and/or CARE Program.

Once again the Sarpy County Board of Commissioners supports this application and requests positive consideration from the Crime Commission.

Sincerely,

Rusty Hike
Chairman
Sarpy County Board of Commissioners

OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF
COUNTY OF SARPY

JEFFREY L. DAVIS
Sarpy County Sheriff

1208 Golden Gate Drive
Papillion, Nebraska 68046-2800
Telephone (402) 593-2288 Fax (402) 593-4323

November 20, 2012

Mr. Michael E. Behm
Executive Director
Nebraska Crime Commission

Dear Mr. Behm:

At the last SCEP (Sarpy County Educational Program) Board meeting we discussed the Truancy Grant Application. The SCEP Board voted to support the Grant Application.

We are in complete support of the Truancy Grant and believe it will assist our school districts in Sarpy County. This is a very innovative program being led by the Sarpy County Sheriff's Department Juvenile Services Division. The Superintendents of Schools within Sarpy County have been in collaboration with the Sheriff's Department in the development of the Grant. The SCEP Board is prepared and committed to provide on-going financial support for the Truancy Program once Grant funding ends.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey L. Davis
Chairman-SCEP Board

JLD/pv

JUDGE
ROBERT B. O'NEAL

BAILIFF
CONNIE L. FAIRCHILD
PHONE: 402-593-5918
FAX 402-593-2158

COURT REPORTER
PEGGY M. FLEISSNER
PHONE: 402-593-5919

Sarpy County
Separate Juvenile Court

Sarpy County Courthouse
1210 Golden Gate Drive, Suite 2165
Papillion, Nebraska 68046-2890
www.sarpy.com

JUDGE
LAWRENCE D. GENDLER

BAILIFF
PAMELA K. OSTRANSKY
PHONE: 402-593-2217
FAX: 402-593-2158

COURT REPORTER
DANETTE L. THIBAULT
PHONE: 402-593-2218

November 13, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my understanding that the Sarpy County Truancy Program has applied for a grant from the Crime Commission. Please be advised that this application has my strongest support.

Truancy continues to be an issue in Sarpy as well as other counties. Truancy contributes to class failure, drop-out rates, increase in criminal behavior and illegal use of substances. The Sarpy County Truancy Program has been successful with working with parents to build stronger parenting skills and implementing structure and consequences for their children. In addition, the youth have benefitted by the tutoring programs and therapy, when needed, as well as transportation to and from tutoring.

I would also note that Sarpy County has a strong history of sustaining programs that have received Crime Commission grants. Our CARE program, Juvenile Justice Center Assessment Center, and the Juvenile Reporting Center all received Crime Commission grants and are flourishing today. Additional funds are crucial to our expansion of this program.

I appreciate your consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

Robert B. O'Neal, Judge
Separate Juvenile Court

/cf

JUDGE
ROBERT B. O'NEAL

BAILIFF
CONNIE L. FAIRCHILD
PHONE: 402-593-5918
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November 13, 2012

Re: Truancy Program Grant Application

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this letter of support on behalf of Sarpy County's grant application to support a recent truancy initiative. I know all of us within the system are keenly aware of the issues surrounding school truancy. Over the years we have tried to aggressively address these issues with continued court supervision and collaborating with our school districts (we have six districts located within our county; Omaha, Millard, Papillion-LaVista, Springfield, Bellevue, and Gretna).

Our newest approach allows for creative supervision tailored to the student's needs without incurring additional court time. The success of our alternative education program, operated on the campus of our juvenile detention center, allows us to continue working with these school districts and implementing the right match of supervision and resources. These resources include our evening reporting center, individual instruction, therapy, and other support services for the benefit of the student and their family.

Because of the Crime Commission's past support, we have been able to establish a number of effective programs that continue to this day. They include our juvenile house arrest program (with four levels allowing for a minor's removal prior to a court hearing), our detention facility, and our evening reporting center (which includes programs for wellness, cultural sensitivity, MRT, and victim empathy). All of these programs are now supported independently because of their value to the system and the results they have achieved. I am certain our newest truancy initiative will be equally successful and I hope you will give the application due consideration. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Very truly yours,

Lawrence D. Gendler, Judge
Separate Juvenile Court

LDG:po

Office of the County Attorney

Hall of Justice • 1210 Golden Gate Drive • Suite 3147
Papillion, NE 68046-2889
(402) 593-2230 • FAX: (402) 593-4359

L. Kenneth Polikov
Sarpy County Attorney

November 14, 2012

Michael E. Behm, Executive Director
Nebraska Crime Commission
301 Centennial Mall South
Lincoln, NE 68508

Dear Mr. Behm and Crime Commission members:

Please accept this letter of support for the Sarpy County Truancy Program. I am a Deputy Sarpy County Attorney assigned to the Juvenile Court, and I believe the Sarpy County Truancy Program addresses a very difficult problem in a meaningful manner.

Although we all recognize that truancy is an important issue, it is also one of the most difficult to resolve. There are a myriad of underlying causes for truancy, although mental health problems and alcohol or drug use by the student or parent are two very common problems we see. Many youth have experienced years of educational neglect by the parent starting at a young age that has left the student so far behind in school that they are not experiencing any success, and they feel it is hopeless to continue attending. There is no easy fix for truancy.

The Sarpy County Truancy Program implemented by the Juvenile Justice Center has had amazing success with this difficult issue. The intense supervision combined with other identified individual services provided to the parents and students is working to correct what often has been a long-standing problem for the youth who have been referred to this program. Additional funding for the truancy project will allow these services to continue to help those who are referred to the program, and there will be a positive impact on Sarpy County.

I am enthusiastic about this program, and I am very impressed with the progress that they have made with youth in their program. This is a program worthy of your support. Thank you for your consideration of additional funding for this program.

Sincerely,

Sandra Markley
Deputy Sarpy County Attorney.