

# Request for Legislative Action

Res. #20774

Sponsor: Ronald E. Finley

Date: October 4, 2021

## Completed by County Counselor's Office

Action Requested:	Resolution	Res.Ord No.:	20774
Sponsor(s):	Ronald E. Finley	Legislature Meeting Date:	10/4/2021

## Introduction

**Action Items:** ['Authorize', 'Award']

**Project/Title:**

Awarding a one year contract with a one 12 month option to extend for Restorative Justice Program Services for the Prosecuting Attorney's Office to the Center for Conflict Resolutions of Kansas City, Missouri as a sole source in the amount of \$25,000.00.

## Request Summary

Pursuant to Section 1030.1 of the Jackson County Code, research by the Prosecuting Attorney's Office and the Purchasing Department indicate that Center for Conflict Resolution is the only vendor in the Kansas City, Missouri area that provides Restorative Justice and Conflict Resolution Training. Therefore, Jackson County Prosecutor's Office requests a one year contract with a one 12 month option to extend with Center for Conflict Resolution (CCR) for Restorative Justice Services in the amount of \$25,000.00. CCR will train and operate Neighborhood Accountability Boards that serve as a diversion for felony-level cases deemed eligible by the Prosecutor. The Innovative Prosecution Solutions Grant, 2020-YX-BX-0014, authorized via Ordinance 5466 and dated 11/30/20, awarded to Jackson County by the Department of Justice provides funding for community contracts and is the sole funding source. Contact person is Annette Lantz-Simmons, 1734 East 63rd Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64110.

Term of this agreement is 9/1/2021 - 8/31/2022.

Funding Source 010-4132-56790.

## Contact Information

<b>Department:</b>	Prosecuting Attorney	<b>Submitted Date:</b>	7/6/2021
<b>Name:</b>	Kate Brubacher	<b>Email:</b>	kebrubacher@jacksongov.org
<b>Title:</b>	Assistant Prosecuting Attorney	<b>Phone:</b>	816-881-1266

## Budget Information

Amount authorized by this legislation this fiscal year:	\$ 0
Amount previously authorized this fiscal year:	\$ 0
Total amount authorized after this legislative action:	\$
Is it transferring fund?	No

## Single Source Funding:

## Request for Legislative Action

Fund:	Department:	Line Item Account:	Amount:
010 (Grant Fund)	4132 (Innovative Prosecution Solutions for Combatting Violent Crime)	56790 (Other Contractual Services)	\$25,000

## Request for Legislative Action

Prior Legislation	
Prior Ordinances	
Ordinance:	Ordinance date:
5466	November 30, 2020
Prior Resolution	
Resolution:	Resolution date:
20019	October 22, 2018
19539	July 31, 2017

Purchasing	
Does this RLA include the purchase or lease of supplies, materials, equipment or services?	Yes
Chapter 10 Justification:	Sole Source
Core 4 Tax Clearance Completed:	Not Applicable
Certificate of Foreign Corporation Received:	Yes
Have all required attachments been included in this RLA?	Yes

Compliance	
Certificate of Compliance	
In Compliance	
Minority, Women and Veteran Owned Business Program	
Goals Not Applicable for following reason: Less than \$50000	
MBE:	.00%
WBE:	.00%
VBE:	.00%
Prevailing Wage	
Not Applicable	

Fiscal Information	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is a balance otherwise unencumbered to the credit of the appropriation to which the expenditure is chargeable and there is a cash balance otherwise unencumbered.</li> </ul>	

## Request for Legislative Action

### History

Kate Brubacher at 7/6/2021 4:17:48 PM - [Submitted | ]  
Department Director: Gina Robinson at 7/12/2021 11:36:10 AM - [ Approved | ]  
Finance (Purchasing): Barbara J. Casamento at 7/12/2021 2:43:18 PM - [ Returned for more information | Add "Award" to ActionSuggest you do a 12 Month Contract W/1 12 Month Option to ExtendAdd the following statement: "Pursuant to Section 1030.1 of the Jackson County Code, research by the Prosecuting Attorney's Office and the Purchasing Department indicate that Center for Conflict Resolution is the only vendor in the Kansas City, Missouri area that provides Restorative Justice and Conflict Resolution Training."Can you have Center for Conflict Resolution provide a quote/or budget information on their letterhead ]  
Submitter: Tina M. Wise at 7/20/2021 3:35:34 PM - [ Submitted | ]  
Department Director: Gina Robinson at 7/23/2021 10:24:54 AM - [ Approved | ]  
Finance (Purchasing): Barbara J. Casamento at 7/26/2021 8:52:40 AM - [ Approved | ]  
Compliance: Katie M. Bartle at 7/26/2021 9:48:12 AM - [ Approved | eRLA 150 ]  
Finance (Budget): Mark Lang at 8/6/2021 3:01:20 PM - [ Approved | The fiscal note has been attached. ]  
Executive: Sylvya Stevenson at 8/8/2021 9:22:38 AM - [ Approved | ]  
Legal: Elizabeth Freeland at 8/9/2021 12:19:28 PM - [ Returned for more information | Needs previous legislation listed. Thanks! ]  
Submitter: Tina M. Wise at 8/9/2021 2:02:05 PM - [ Submitted | ]  
Department Director: Gina Robinson at 8/9/2021 2:14:22 PM - [ Approved | ]  
Finance (Purchasing): Barbara J. Casamento at 8/9/2021 2:45:21 PM - [ Returned for more information | I apologize for not noticing this earlier: The Legislature will want to see a copy of the contract they are approving; please attach ]  
Submitter: Tina M. Wise at 9/8/2021 11:08:24 AM - [ Submitted | ]  
Department Director: Jean Peters Baker at 9/9/2021 1:34:38 PM - [ Approved | ]  
Finance (Purchasing): Barbara J. Casamento at 9/9/2021 2:03:42 PM - [ Approved | ]  
Compliance: Katie M. Bartle at 9/10/2021 3:44:13 PM - [ Approved | ]  
Finance (Budget): Sarah L. Matthes at 9/13/2021 7:11:53 AM - [ Approved | ]  
Executive: Sylvya Stevenson at 9/13/2021 4:17:50 PM - [ Approved | ]  
Legal: Elizabeth Freeland at 9/22/2021 12:27:11 PM - [ Returned for more information | Please list previous legislation per our email discussion. Thanks! ]  
Submitter: Tina M. Wise at 9/22/2021 12:51:04 PM - [ Submitted | ]  
Department Director: Jean Peters Baker at 9/22/2021 1:15:47 PM - [ Approved | ]  
Finance (Purchasing): Barbara J. Casamento at 9/22/2021 1:49:01 PM - [ Approved | ]  
Compliance: Katie M. Bartle at 9/22/2021 2:42:11 PM - [ Approved | ]  
Finance (Budget): Sarah L. Matthes at 9/22/2021 2:57:23 PM - [ Approved | ]  
Executive: Sylvya Stevenson at 9/22/2021 4:59:27 PM - [ Approved | ]  
Legal: Elizabeth Freeland at 9/28/2021 2:06:07 PM - [ Approved | ]





Center for Conflict Resolution  
Prevent · Educate · Restore

6285 Paseo Boulevard  
Kansas City, MO 64110  
816-461-8255

**Board of Directors**

**Officers**

*Sr. Rose McLarney, CSJ, Chair*  
*Robert Hughes, Vice-Chair*  
*Darryl Fields, Treasurer*  
*Kim Fournier, JD, Secretary*  
*Dan Jeffers, JD, At-Large Member*

**Members**

*Bill Cordaro*  
*Jacque Kelly*  
*Michele Kilo, MD*  
*Bradley Poos, PhD*  
*Rik Siro, JD*  
*Yvette Richards*  
*Marie North-Morgan*

Annette Lantz-Simmons  
*Executive Director*

*Center for Conflict Resolution is supported by these generous community partners:*

Health Forward Foundation  
The Kansas City Public Schools  
The City of Kansas City, Missouri  
Office of the Prosecutor,  
Jackson County Missouri  
Children’s Services Fund  
Jackson County COMBAT  
Edward R. Byrne Discretionary Fund  
Kauffman Foundation  
Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet  
Tabitha Fund  
Abernathy Family Foundation  
Charles and Angela Sunderland  
Fund  
J.E. Dunn Family Foundation  
Shumaker Family Foundation  
United Way of Greater Kansas City  
*Member Agency*

July 14, 2021

The Center for Conflict Resolution (CCR) has a twenty year history of serving the Jackson County community with conflict resolution and restorative justice processes that are informed by academic work and experiential research.

Years of intentionally building relationships with organizations within the criminal justice system, with city and county agencies and with other non-profits has uniquely situated CCR to bring impartial and fair processes to any situation where differing views among people are found.

CCR utilizes the Human Needs Theory of conflict that states that conflict and harm are often caused by unmet basic human needs – physical, psychological and social. The need for security, recognition of identity, participation and autonomy are often expressed. CCR assists conflicting parties to identify and share unmet needs, generate options for meeting those needs and reach agreements that meet the basic human needs of all parties.

CCR proposes a restorative justice process called Neighborhood Accountability Boards and will:

1. Receive referrals from the county prosecutor
2. Contact the parties for intake conversations and pre-visits
3. Set up the NAB process which includes Blue Hills Neighborhood participants
4. Help parties create plans for restitution and prevention of future harm
5. Follows up with parties for up to a year following the NAB

Center for Conflict Resolution Proposed Two-year Budget that includes staff time and supplies.

Description	Amount	Quantity	Total
In-person Training	\$800	4	\$ 3,200
Virtual Training	\$1,000	2	\$ 2,000
Case review	\$100	Up to 18	\$ 1,800
Completed case	\$400	Up to 45	\$18,000
			\$25,000



United Way of  
Greater Kansas City

**To: Barb Casamento**

**From: Kate Brubacher, Jackson County Prosecuting Attorney's Office**

**RE: Contract with Center for Conflict Resolution under Innovative Prosecution Solutions Grant**

**Memo:**

In the Fall of 2020 the Jackson County Prosecuting Attorney's Office (the "Office") was awarded an Innovative Prosecution Solutions Grant from the Bureau of Justice Administration. This grant makes provision for community contracts. The Office would like to enter into a community contract with the Center for Conflict Resolution (CCR), which was previously deemed a sole source for a contract in 2017 with our Office. Under the earlier contract, CCR trained and operated Neighborhood Accountability Boards that served as a diversion for felony-level cases deemed eligible by the Prosecutor. The Office seeks to begin that program again with CCR with a two-year contract for \$25,000 (budget attached).

CCR is based on Restorative Justice (RJ) principles that state that people and communities want to and are capable of solving issues of harm when given the opportunity to do so. One of the principles of RJ is that everyone affected by harm; victim, offender and the community come together for a fully restorative process that concludes with a plan to make as right as possible the harm that occurred. Whenever possible, CCR processes involve all stakeholders. In CCR processes, all voices are valued and human dignity is upheld in the conversations that occur. Participants report that RJ processes seem more fair, more inclusive and participants often are able to move forward from harm in positive ways.

CCR has 8 years of experience with intake, planning, implementation and follow-up for the proposed process and is fully capable of managing the complex process. CCR has trained over 400 Kansas City community members in a 7 hour Neighborhood Accountability Board (NAB) workshop. Workshop participants become familiar with the theory and practice of Restorative Justice and how it works as a companion with the Criminal Justice system. The workshop participants learn active listening skills and ways to empower those who participate in the NAB process so they are cooperatively involved in solving the issues created by harm. NAB community members trained during the workshop are then eligible to represent the community in an NAB process. CCR has four trainers available to facilitate the workshop, two of which either hold master's degrees or are pursuing master's degrees in Restorative Justice and Conflict Transformation. All CCR facilitators are qualified and experienced in facilitating RJ processes in general and NABs in particular.

CCR currently manages a trained NAB pool of community participants for KCMO Municipal Court misdemeanors and continues to increase service as new connections and neighborhoods show interest. An additional component will be added to the training for this program that will educate community members about representation and restitution requirements for felony cases. CCR will work with our contact in the Jackson County Prosecutor's office to enrich our existing training.

A qualified and experienced CCR staff member will plan and execute trainings, and manage the logistics of each NAB process; securing space, community participants and pertinent core participants. Additional trainings will be held to complement the existing pool of community board members when needed. The participants in each process will determine the indicators of a successful outcome. CCR will follow up with the core participants to monitor and evaluate the NABs. Evaluations following community trainings will also be administered to insure that any necessary improvements or changes are made.

A qualified and experienced CCR staff member will facilitate each NAB process, record and report outcomes and manage follow-up communication with core participants and with the County. CCR will process and manage the NAB's without in-kind assistance from prosecutor. Referral information will include core participant contact information; phone numbers and street address.

CCR makes initial contact with core participants via phone for expediency. A secondary means of contact is a post card mailed to the participant's street address. Every effort to reach participants, victims and offenders is made within the first 48 hours upon referral from the Prosecutor. Some cases require specific restitution, as noted by the prosecutor. CCR is experienced with helping community members and core participants come to conclusions and make plans for restitution that meet the needs of all affected parties and that assist them in moving forward without further incident.

CCR has extensive experience in Conflict Resolution and Restorative Justice (RJ) training in schools, families, churches, businesses, neighborhoods and communities. Since 2000, CCR has trained an estimated 10,000 children, youth and adults in Kansas City and surrounding areas. Our experience with managing the city prosecutor's NAB program and the KCMO Neighborhoods and Housing department's NAB program uniquely qualifies CCR to deliver this program in the KCMO East Patrol Zone. CCR has shown longevity and professionalism in the way we plan, support, deliver and follow through with training and RJ processes.

#### **SOLE SOURCE JUSTIFICATION**

CCR is the only full-scope Conflict Resolution and Restorative Justice organization in the Kansas City area. All staff members have a 40-hour Interpersonal Conflict Resolution and Mediation training that results in certification in Kansas and Missouri for Mediation. Additionally, one staff member holds a master's degree in Restorative Justice and one staff member will graduate with a master's in RJ in the Spring of 2018. The Executive Director, who is also a practitioner, holds a master's degree in Conflict Transformation and is working toward certification as a trainer for the STAR (Strategies in Trauma Awareness and Resilience) program at the Center for Justice and Peacebuilding in Harrisonburg, Virginia. A fourth staff person is currently attending classes at Eastern Mennonite University (EMU), working toward a certificate in Peace Education. Staff members continue to receive continuing education from EMU and are members of the Missouri Restorative Justice Coalition, Association for Missouri Mediators and Heartland Mediators Association.

Center for Conflict Resolution (CCR) formerly known as the Community Mediation Center has been in the Kansas City Metro since 2000. From the beginning, CCR has provided restorative justice practices such as victim - offender dialogue, which is the model for our current NAB process. With a focus on creating more peaceful communities, CCR has expanded to include trainings to equip community members in schools, prisons, neighborhoods and courts to find creative solutions to address harm. CCR believes in providing information and an atmosphere where people feel empowered to mindfully create plans to move forward from harm peacefully.

CCR employs 10 full and part-time employees and works with about 30 trained mediators who enhance our effectiveness and capabilities. CCR affiliates are trained to present impartial, professional, effective and confidential processes while maintaining strong ties to courts, police officers, prisons, neighborhood



associations, city officials and school districts. CCR staff and affiliates are a diverse and inclusive group of people who know RJ to be helpful in bridging racial, economic and connective disparities thus helping people create solutions that are that just and meet the needs of all involved when harm occurs.

CCR's experience with Community Justice, or Neighborhood Accountability Boards (NAB) began with a request from a Kansas City prosecutor for first-time, low-level offenders. 50% of the cases referred ended in an NAB process. Of those cases, 85% reached agreements and completed the steps outlined in the agreement for restitution and other activities to make as right as possible the harm that occurred. Some of the additional activities expected from offenders are community service that pertains to the harm, completing a GED by a certain date, speaking at events that highlight Restorative Justice or enrolling or staying in school. Two staff members have experience with a juvenile Victim Offender Dialogue (VOD) program in Clay County. CCR staff have been involved in several high level VOD cases in the area and is the organization that is called upon to train others in Victim Offender Dialogue in Western Missouri and Eastern Kansas.