

# Policy Briefing Summary

## City Council



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<b>Regarding:</b>	<b>Resolution Appropriating Opioid Abatement Authority Cooperative Partnership Grant for Fiscal Year 2026 to OAR (Offender Aid and Restoration) for Expanded Specialty Docket Services - \$13,504.43 (2nd reading)</b>
<b>Staff Contact(s):</b>	Ashley Marshall, Deputy City Manager, Taylor Harvey-Ryan, Grants Program Manager
<b>Presenter:</b>	<b>Susan Morrow, Offender Aid and Restoration, Ashley Marshall, Deputy City Manager</b>
<b>Date of Proposed Action:</b>	September 2, 2025

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### Issue

The City of Charlottesville, on behalf of itself, Offender Aid and Restoration, Albemarle County, Fluvanna County, Orange County, Madison County, and Nelson County, has received a renewal of their Fiscal Year 2025 Opioid Abatement Authority Cooperative Partnership Grant for \$13,504.43 for the expansion of Peer Support and other services for the recovery court and specialty docket programs in the region. Offender Aid and Restoration (OAR) will operate the expansion program. The City of Charlottesville serves as the fiscal agent for the Opioid Abatement Authority Cooperative Partnership Grant, and therefore, this funding must be appropriated for use by the City Council.

### Background / Rule

The 16<sup>th</sup> Judicial District of Virginia has a total of four Recovery Courts serving seven jurisdictions, as well as one Therapeutic Docket serving two jurisdictions. The jurisdictions served included the City of Charlottesville and the Counties of Albemarle, Fluvanna, Orange, Madison, and Nelson. Taken all together, the programs have the capacity to serve 160 individuals at any given time. All the programs are operated and administered by OAR/Jefferson Area Community Corrections (OAR). Recovery Courts are supervised 12-to-14-month programs combining drug treatment and criminal case processing that serve as an alternative to incarceration for offenders. The Therapeutic Docket is similar to a Recovery Court but focuses on mental health treatment. The programs use the power of the court to motivate offenders to achieve recovery through a collaborative system of intensive supervision, drug testing, substance abuse treatment, and/or mental health treatment, and regular court appearances.

### Analysis

Specialty dockets support persons interacting with the legal or criminal justice system and directly affect communities by reducing recidivism among participants and graduates. Reduced recidivism results in reduced public costs associated with re-arrest and incarceration, a reduction in potential victims of crime, and overall enhanced quality of life for community residents. Not only are Specialty Dockets effective agents of change, but they are also an extremely cost-effective approach. Numerous meta-analyses have concluded that Specialty Dockets produce an average return on investment of \$2 to \$4 for every \$1 invested. Because of the above, ensuring that local Specialty Docket programs provide adequate services to foster participant success will help the community achieve its goals. The OAR Expanded Specialty Docket Services grant will improve the integration and coordination of all the specialty dockets operated by OAR and increase Peer Support services by embedding Peers in each of the programs.

To provide expanded services, the program will utilize funding carried over from Fiscal Year 2025, in addition to the newly awarded \$13,504.43.

**Financial Impact**

This is pass-through funding for the Expanded Specialty Docket provided by the Virginia Opioid Abatement Authority. It has no fiscal impact on the City of Charlottesville.

**Recommendation**

Staff recommends approval and appropriation.

**Recommended Motion (if Applicable)**

**Attachments**

1. RESOLUTION to Appropriate OAR OAA Funding for FY26