

Milford Police Department
Behavioral Health And Substance Abuse:

Need: The Milford Police Department in partnership with our coalition the Juvenile Advocacy Group (JAG) and the Franklin based S.A.F.E coalition are working closely with Representative Jeffrey Roy and John Fernandes, to create an integrated environmental approach to addressing the opioid epidemic in the cluster communities of Milford, Hopedale, Mendon, Upton, Bellingham, Franklin and Medway, including the public school districts, police and fire departments, town administration, youth serving organizations and the Milford Regional Medical Center.

Our proposed integrated approach addresses the CHNA 6 Community Health Improvement Plan 2015 Priority Area 2: Behavioral health and Substance Abuse by implementing regional policies, practices, systems and environmental change. We expect to achieve the following results (1) reduce opioid use/abuse in CHNA 6 region by 2018 and (2) Improve emotional health and build an accepting community for those who are affected by mental health and substance abuse issues.

The regional program will reach over 90,000 people within the six communities. Below are the communities served through the JAG and S.A.F.E coalition with the most updated Census information.

Milford: 27,999	Hopedale: 3,737	Medway: 13,000.	Upton: 7,542
Bellingham: 4,854	Mendon: 5,839	Franklin: 31,835	

It is our belief that the largest population serviced by our projects will demonstrate a similar population as the individuals admitted to BSAS Contracted/Licensed programs for fiscal year 2014. Those serviced through these programs whom were living within the JAG and S.A.F.E coalitions catchment communities during 2014 can be described as: Male, white, non Hispanic, between the ages of 18-25, completed High School, never married, unemployed, not homeless and had never received prior mental health treatment and acknowledge heroin as the primary substance of use.

The Milford Police Department, and The Juvenile Advocacy Group (JAG) brings to this project a long-standing history and commitment to providing cutting-edge prevention and support services throughout the town of Milford. The Juvenile Advocacy Group (JAG) originated in 2005, funded by the MetroWest Health Foundation and continues to run as a self-sustaining group of professionals and youth from the greater Milford area. JAG meets monthly at the Milford Police Department and provides an opportunity for youth, parents, community agencies, schools, state and local institutions, volunteers and our faith communities to network, coordinate services, and identify and respond to emerging needs in the Greater Milford community.

According to Massachusetts Department of Public Health, in 2014, there were an estimated 1,256 opioid overdose fatalities across the state, the highest number ever recorded. This is a 34% increase over 2013 (939 fatalities) and an 88% increase over 2012 (668 fatalities). For context, the number of opioid overdose fatalities in 2014 exceeded the combined number of deaths from car accidents and gun violence. The 2014 overdose deaths occurred at a rate of 18.6 per 100,000 residents, or about four per day across the Commonwealth. According to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, the measured rate of opioid overdose fatalities in 2015 is on pace to

meet or exceed the 2014 fatality total. Nationally, drug overdoses have become the leading cause of injury death, surpassing fatalities from motor vehicle accidents. A staggering 46,471 Americans lost their lives to drug overdose in 2013.

The MetroWest Adolescent Health Survey for 2014 showed significant items of concern in reference to Prescription Drug (without a doctor's prescription) for MetroWest High school students. In MetroWest communities as a whole Misuse of prescription drugs continues to be slightly higher among males (8%) than females (6%). Prescription drug misuse quadruples during the high school years. By 12th grade, 12% of youth have misused prescription drugs in their lifetime and 6% did so in the past 30 days.

According to 3 years of Emergency Department (ED) data from Milford Regional Medical Center, a substantial and constantly increasing number of patients are seen every day with substance abuse issues in the ED. Of those patients seeking emergency treatment for substance abuse, 55% of cases are alcohol related. The actual # of patients each year with a primary or secondary diagnosis of Drug and/or Alcohol Abuse accounts for 2-3% of our total patient population (around 1300 patients/year out of a total of 56,000 patients).

In 2014, Milford was the fifth police department in the state to authorize its officers to carry the substance Narcan to all police officers and first responders. According to Milford Police Department statistics there have been around 60 confirmed opioid overdoses from 2012 to 2014. Unfortunately, these statistics have continued to rise. In 2015 there were 56 heroin overdoses in Milford; 1 of which was a fatality. During the last 6 months of 2015, the Milford Police and Fire Departments administered life-saving Narcan to 22 of these individuals, saving their lives by reversing the deadly overdose effects of heroin.

In conjunction with State Police Detectives assigned to the Office of District Attorney Joseph Early this effort, with the assistance of the Bellingham, Hopedale, Hopkinton and Wrentham Police Departments, served multiple search warrants and purchased drugs leading to the arrest of 35 people on drug charges and the seizure of more than 1,600 grams of heroin, 236 grams of cocaine and 294 opioid pills, all with an estimated total value of more than \$190,000. From the outset, the targets of this initiative were individuals engaged in dealing or trafficking drugs and not individuals suffering with substance abuse issues or addictions. Of the 35 arrests, 31 were upper level drug traffickers, most of who lived outside the area traveling to our communities for the sole purpose of selling drugs. According to Milford Chief, This is just a "microcosm" of the crisis pervading the state.

Program Design: The Milford Police Department in partnership with our coalition the Juvenile Advocacy Group (JAG) and Franklin based S.A.F.E. coalitions have developed community partnerships, capacities and strengths in order to take on the task of implementing shared activities aimed at promoting the prevention of and reducing barriers to treatment for Substance Abuse Disorder in our catchment communities. One important asset of this partnership is our shared vision. This shared vision will continue to allow our partnership to participate in decision-making that benefits it as a whole; and it will guide much of the work that our individual partners perform as part of our collaboration.

The Milford Police Department in partnership with our coalition the Juvenile Advocacy Group will oversee the regional Substance Abuse Outreach and Intervention Program. This program will be overseen by program director, Amy Leone. The Regional Substance Abuse Outreach and Intervention Program strives to provide a gateway to professional resources for persons with Substance Abuse Disorders (SUDs) and/or family members and loved ones of persons with SUDs. Our overall program goal is to provide prevention, treatment and recovery options to those impacted by SUDs in a manner that encourages community involvement. We seek to educate the community regarding Substance Abuse Disorder, reduce stigma and increase understanding that individuals with SUDs are suffering from a disease over which they have no control. The main objective of our Regional Substance Abuse Outreach and Intervention Program is to act as a gatekeeper for the regional communities in notifying them about substance abuse services that are available to everyone before an overdose or fatality occurs.

Through our Regional Substance Abuse Outreach and Intervention Program proposed prevention programs, intervention methods, and support services our Program Director will work to take action through regional information sharing, increasing public education and awareness, ensuring effective coordination of resource and pursuing additional resources and programs that are needed to collectively to make a difference in the opioid epidemic throughout the Greater Milford area. The Milford Police Department proposes a model that includes the following overall goals:

- Reduce opioid use/ abuse within the JAG and S.A.F.E coalitions and their catchment communities by 2018.
- Increase emotional health across the lifespan and build an accepting community for those who are affected by mental health and substance abuse issues in the JAG and S.A.F.E coalitions and their catchment communities.

As we develop this project, our Program Director will draw upon the successes of the Massachusetts Opioid Abuse Prevention Collaborative (MOAPC) as we frame interventions, regional policies, practices, systems and environmental change which will prove most successful to the communities serviced by the JAG and S.A.F.E coalitions.

As a regional approach to reducing opioid use and increasing emotional health across the lifespan and building an accepting community for those who are affected by mental health and substance abuse issues the Milford Police Department's focus long term will be prevention and treatment. However, there are pragmatic tools needed immediately. Below is a list of harm-reduction approaches our Program Director with assistance from hired Program Coordinator will look to begin within the first few months of grant funding:

1. Increase education and awareness in JAG and S.A.F.E regional communities of existing sites for the discarding of prescription drugs and sharps. Program Director and hired Program Coordinator will do this by providing education on the importance of discarding of prescription drugs and sharps through hard copy literature and social media communication with residents, as well as working with local pharmacies and local Board of Health Departments to make residents aware of the availability and location of safe disposal sites.
2. Increase availability, education and training of the use of overdose reversal strategies such as the administration of Naloxone/Narcan to those who frequently come in contact

with opioid users, as well as the opioid users and bystanders residing in the JAG and S.A.F.E regional communities.

3. Fast track assessment and treatment options for addicts and provide support and resources for parents and family members who seek treatment or assistance within the JAG and S.A.F.E coalitions and their catchment communities. Our Program Director and hired Program Coordinator will develop a regionally specific resource guide with collaboration from Milford Regional Medical Center Substance Abuse Task Force that can be accessed by family or community members seeking help for a neighbor or a loved one. This potentially will provide a checklist of action items and a list of available resources in the areas for prevention, intervention and support. During the development of this regionally specific resource guide, our Program Director and hired Program Coordinator will ensure that this guide is appropriately customized for each community and ensure that it is comprehensive.

The 2012 Community Health Assessment identified substance use and abuse as one of the most pressing health concerns across the Greater Milford region. This was also true in the 2015 Greater Milford Community Health Assessment survey, where alcohol or substance use or abuse was ranked the top health issue impacting the respondent's' community. Almost two thirds (62.8%) of survey participants deemed alcohol or drug treatment services for youth as "hard to access." Similarly, one in two participants ranked such services for adults as "hard to access."

The Milford Police Department and Program Director in collaboration with the coalition will work to develop an innovative Substance Abuse Outreach and Intervention Drop In Center based on being ranked as the top health issue impacting the regional communities. The Drop In Centers will provide the regional communities with assistance and resources for the general public with the most effective holistic approach on education, intervention and support.

In cooperation with our Program Director and hired Program Coordinator, volunteer members, law enforcement and civilian partners will facilitate bi-monthly (or more frequently) community based meetings for persons with SUD's and/or family members of persons with SUDs. These meetings will take place at a centralized, publicly identified location that is inviting to the program participant(s) and that allows persons with SUDs and/or their family members to protect their privacy.

Another innovative solution based program through this grant proposal is the ride-along collaboration between our Police Department, Program Director and hired Program Coordinator. Together we will work to provide intervention and support to overdose survivors and their families. The Milford Police Department, Program Director and hired Program Coordinator propose visiting local opioid abusers who have been treated for an overdose within the last twenty-four hours. Together, we will offer the victim the opportunity to go immediately into treatment at an outpatient or in-patient facility and/or provide the family with local resources and available training opportunities for Narcan.

Our Program Director and hired Program Coordinator will work on call on a rotating basis to cover initially five days of the week to assist Milford Police Officer Robbie Tusino who is on the frontline of the opioid battle alongside our Program Director. Officer Tusino and Amy Leone

will coordinate the development of the program and eventually pass this on to future trained program staff and others within the Department to ensure future sustainability.

Through the Substance Abuse Outreach and Intervention services, our Program Director and hired Program Coordinator will also work with local families and individuals educating them and letting them know of the various resources and support groups in the communities. Our goal is for families to understand that addiction has no demographics or jurisdiction.

To address the overall goal of increasing emotional health across the lifespan and build an accepting community for those who are affected by mental health and substance abuse issues in the JAG and S.A.F.E coalitions and their catchment communities we will be focusing on prevention efforts among our youth. We intend to work initially with the Milford Public School District and the Milford Wellness Committee to develop a policy and sustainable procedures around the administering and implementation of the substance use/abuse screening, brief intervention and referrals to treatment (SBIRT), ensuring a linkage of youth requiring brief intervention for unhealthy substance use. Our Program Director and hired Program Coordinator will be available to facilitate access to further addiction assessment and treatment for those who present high risk based on the results of the administered SBIRT.

Over the years, Program Director and Community Organizer of the JAG/MYC Youth Council have learned creating a developmentally attentive community is challenging, adaptive work. Our future programs require more than strengthening developmental relationships within schools or programs. It requires engaging the regional communities in a shared vision, shared goals, and shared accountability for youth success. Community Organizer will lead efforts all aimed towards understanding and strengthening communities so that they become places that intentionally equip children and youth to be productive, thriving contributors to society. Our Community Organizer of the JAG/MYC Youth Council and hired full time AmeriCorps volunteer will provide the new S.A.F.E/ Peer to Peer Council guidance in leadership development to take their group to the next level by increasing participation and building the youth's civic engagement and leadership skills.

Over the last two years, the Milford Youth Center and their Youth Commission Board have developed a strategic plan, to improve its practices and continue to provide a safe and sustainable environment for the hundreds of youth and the organizations they serve. In collaboration with the Juvenile Advocacy Group, the Milford Youth Center has adopted the Search Institute's 40 Developmental Assets as a framework. This approach "identifies a set of skills, experiences, relationships, and behaviors that enable young people to develop into successful and contributing adults." Through youth-adult collaboration, our grant services will work with all organizations to engage all sectors in the Milford and Franklin Area to promote healthy development for youth and families by reducing substance use, lowering risk factors and strengthening protective factors.

Our Community Organizer and AmeriCorps Volunteer will present and implement the Youth Leadership curriculum directly to S.A.F.E./ Peer to Peer Council as well as S.A.F.E. coalition board members. This will emphasize to trainee's the learning by doing approach. They will also support the S.A.F.E./ Peer to Peer Council to recruit new youth council members and use

curriculum to train youth to organize projects that engage their peers in Community Service Learning (CSL) and other civic activities.

Organizational Capacity: The Milford Police Department is the fiscal applicant for our core services of the Juvenile Advocacy Group (JAG). In 2015, our coalition was awarded “Peter R. Lee Healthy Communities Award” through The Department of Public Health for all their efforts. The Juvenile Advocacy has worked for the past ten years to attain its mission “to provide an opportunity for youth, parents, community agencies, schools, state and local institutions, volunteers and our faith communities to network, coordinate services, identify and respond to emerging needs in the Greater Milford community.

Our partnership with the JAG coalition has played a huge role in providing an environment for communities to network and share resources. The JAG newsletter is mailed every month to over 3,000 recipients. Coalition members have an opportunity to send information to promote their initiatives and share updates or resources. JAG will be hosting its fourth annual “The Behavioral Health and Substance Abuse Networking Breakfast” this April, which attracts over 200 local providers to engage and explore existing and new resources for their clients and families they serve. The Milford Police Department in partnership with JAG is well positioned and constantly striving to meet the community's' needs.

At the end of fiscal year 2015, JAG exhausted all grant funding from Department of Public Health/BSAS. The Milford Police along with the Board of Selectman and State Representatives have seen over the past ten years how the JAG coalition has become a fixture within the town and how their efforts have created an infrastructure within our community, a network, and multiple collaborative efforts. After ten years of successful grant funding, The Milford Police Department is proud to say together with our coalition we have created sustainable change that will continue without any funding.

Although Milford Police Department is the applicant and fiscal agent for this grant, the success of the project is dependent upon the shared vision and work of the regional coalitions. It is this regional partnership and community members from various organizations that will lead our efforts towards sustainable success.

Outcomes: The Milford Police a Department in partnership with JAG and S.A.F.E coalition health outcome indicators we expect to achieve amongst the individuals and the communities we serve through our programs are as follows:

- Increase the number of community programs offering prevention education throughout The JAG and S.A.F.E coalitions and their catchment communities.
- Decrease in youth prescription drug misuse throughout The JAG and S.A.F.E coalitions and their catchment communities according to the MetroWest Adolescent Health Survey.
- Increase the number of risk reduction community programs throughout The JAG and S.A.F.E coalitions and their catchment communities. (Safe disposal of Rx drugs, needles,)
- Increase public awareness on misuse, storage and disposal of Rx drugs and needles throughout The JAG and S.A.F.E coalitions and their catchment communities.

- Decrease in the number of overdoses reported by Milford Regional Medical Center Emergency Room staff and First Responders within the JAG and S.A.F.E. coalitions and their catchment communities.
- Increase the knowledge and use of resources, referrals to treatment, and access to treatment for parents, family members and those who are abusing substances.
- Increase number of support groups throughout the JAG and S.A.F.E coalitions and their catchment communities for parents and family members and those who are seeking recovery support.
- Increase the number of police departments who are regionally partnering with the JAG and S.A.F.E coalition efforts.
- Increase the number of groups, and individuals receiving Narcan and training throughout The JAG and S.A.F.E coalitions and their catchment communities.

The Milford Police Department in partnership with the Regional Substance Abuse Outreach and Intervention program has objectives to mark the progress along the way to reaching our goals, including the following;

1. Database tracking all program participants, as well as individuals who have been contacted or have received services/information from the outreach program. Data analysis should include the tracking of follow up treatment and/or services obtained as a result of the program, as well as short and long-term evaluation (success, relapse, etc.).
2. Statistical analysis will include all program participants and/or family members of persons with SUDs who have sought assistance from the program, including tracking their short and long-term treatment.

In our pre-planning the regional coalition members will identify the potential process, intended outcomes, and impact questions we want answered about the programs, policies, and practices that we will deliver. The coalition chairs will identify existing data collection systems that can be used. They will also meet with community and organization partners, stakeholders, and various program staff, to review and finalize a logic model, which will include goals, objectives, activities, process measures, and performance indicators. We understand that as a requirement of this grant we must supply a six-month report and an annual report to our funders that will outline progress and expenditures.

As a partnership, coalition chairs will work together to determine how to best allocate our evaluation resources. Together, the chairs and board members will review, refine, and finalize the data sources, including selecting and/or developing data collection tools. As a team, we are proposing that we will map our data collection tools with the process measures, performance indicators in our logic model. We will develop data collection protocols (including the respondents, instruments, logistics, and frequency of data collection) and develop a plan for the reporting of evaluation data.

When planning to track and generate information to show success from our efforts, the expectations are that project outcomes are being met, and that program strategies are connected to larger community efforts in addressing our community's health needs we will discuss partner/key stakeholder preferences for reporting content and format. As a team we will determine the schedule and target audiences for formal reports, brief reports, and/or data

presentations. It will be expected that all of regional coalition partners review the evaluation plan to assure that their views, concerns, and priorities are also reflected. It will also be important for the collection of continuous quality improvement data that can be used to identify implementation problems and point to potential corrections of our strategies.

Disparities: According to the Milford Regional Medical Center's 2015 Community Health Assessment the known racial and ethnic health disparities in the Greater Milford region is predominantly White. However, Milford reported the lowest White population in the region at 81.6%. Among the nine towns in Milford Regional Medical Center's service area, Milford has the largest Hispanic/Latino (10.0%) and Black (2.2%) populations in the region. Bellingham (3.7%), Franklin (4.2%), and Medway (4.3%) have the largest Asian populations in the region. There is variation in the JAG and S.A.F.E en-catchment communities on the percent of the population that speaks a language other than English at home. Milford has the largest population of non-English speakers at home (26.1%), surpassing the state's rate overall at 21.9%. Bellingham (10.5%), and Hopedale and Medway (both at 9.4%) follow after Milford. Franklin ranks fifth in the region at 9.0%. In Milford, Portuguese is the language most commonly spoken by non-English speakers (at 11.5% of the population), followed by Spanish (at 8.4%).

The approach we will use to address these disparities have the virtue of empowering and mobilizing community resources and residents, but at the same time implementing systematic, sustainable and clinically sound approaches to healthy behavior, screening, prevention and, and treatment. Based on the JAG coalition's past success addressing racial and ethnic disparities we believe one of the key frontiers in this field lies in creating an evidence-based approach, yielding results for community development that build off of the knowledge base about both the JAG and S.A.F.E communities and health disparities. This method will aim to be more purposeful about evaluation; and accomplishes better sharing and translation of information across disciplines and stakeholders.

Collaboration: Through this grant funding we intend to begin/continue incorporating potential partners (example: Local and State Government, Board of Health, paramedics, mental health and substance abuse providers and treatment facilities, Community Impact, MRMC Substance Abuse Task Force, Youth Organizations, AmeriCorps/Social Capital Inc., Public School Districts, Police and Fire Departments, Health Care organizations (primary care, dental groups, pharmacies, Milford Regional Medical Center, and Urgent Care Facilities, local business, Juvenile and Adult Probation, Courts, and the broader community) in the collaborative structures and processes required to achieve the goals of our shared vision. Below are the organizations that we will partner with to support the Milford Police Department Regional Substance Abuse Outreach and Intervention program efforts and our ability to achieve success.

The Milford Youth Center has become the focal point for the children of Milford. The Milford Youth Center after school program is open for youth ages 8-18, free of charge, from 2-6 pm Monday through Friday. We see over 200 youth every day, through this program and the many community and sports organizations that utilize the facility. The youth of Milford have come to depend on the Youth Center to provide them with the necessary activities and events that help them develop physically, mentally, socially and emotionally through their childhood years. The Center is also open before and after-school hours for rentals.

Community Impact, Inc. is a community provider of multiple modalities of mental health and substance abuse services. Founded in 2008, Community Impact is dedicated to facilitating positive change through its community outreach services, individual and group treatment modalities, and community coalition efforts throughout the greater Milford area. Community Impact provides a wide variety of mental health and substance abuse counseling, family support programs, coping skills groups (DBT/CBT), recovery coaching, and treatment coordination that enhances motivation towards healthy behavioral change for those struggling with mental health and substance abuse issues. Mental health services – offered both at our Milford office and other community locations – include diagnostic assessments, and individual, group, and family therapy. In addition, Community Impact provides a range of treatment modalities such as Reiki, nutritional counseling, expressive therapy, Academic success programs, ADHD coaching and Yoga classes for individuals with significant mental health, substance use, and behavioral difficulties

The Milford Regional Medical Center is dedicated to the improvement of community health through leadership and effective partnership to promote wellness and eliminate health disparities in our service area. We affirm the World Health Organization’s broad definition of health as “a state of complete, physical, mental, and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease.” Milford Regional’s Community Benefits program responds to the Community Health Needs Assessment of our service area commissioned by Community Partners for Health/CHNA 6, and to health priorities for the Commonwealth identified by the Massachusetts Attorney General. Our current and continued partners within the Milford Regional Medical Center include Substance Abuse Task Force and the Emergency Behavioral Health Department staff.

Riverside Emergency Services, Psychiatric Emergency Services teams provide around the clock, seven days a week, crisis intervention for both mental health and addiction-related emergencies. Their goal, whenever possible, is to help avoid a lengthy hospital emergency room visit by intervening with an individual or a family in a more comfortable, less stressful environment. We can provide service at our offices, your home, at school, other community settings, and, in the most acute situations, at a hospital emergency room. In situations of extreme psychiatric risk, we can conduct patient evaluations in the Emergency Services department of Milford Regional Medical Center.

Milford Public Schools Wellness Committee “The Milford Public Schools embrace health and wellness as the foundation upon which all learning is built.” The JAG coalition and Community Impact collaborates on this monthly committee, allinging and coordinating efforts. We are also collaborating on the current grant request from the committee to provide funding for a Wellness Nurse in the Milford School District. This position would align with the CHIP (Community Health Improvement Plan), addressing behavioral health and substance abuse issues. Additional services are needed in nurse's offices to deal with issues of depression, anxiety, substance abuse, and health education. Position would also provide weekly instruction to MHS Pre-Vocational students who presently do not receive any health instruction.

MetroWest Substance Abuse Prevention Alliance mission is to regionalize unified prevention efforts in the MetroWest area through education, collaboration and advocacy to increase

protective factors and reduce risk factors that contribute to substance abuse. Together leaders of local MetroWest Coalitions meet monthly to sharing and supporting each other.

Milford Police Department in partnership with JAG further depends upon ongoing formal and informal partnerships with a wide variety of local and State organizations, including the Department of Children and Families, the Department of Mental Health, Spectrum Health Systems, various outpatient private and community mental health centers, American Addictions, Advanced Recovery Systems and the Emergency Services Program of Riverside Community Care.

Sustainability: As we begin to plan for sustainable community change, it is clear that we need to attract, enlist, and keep the right people at our table. Their partnership will be most effective if it includes key decision-makers and involves a range of community leaders with shared interests and goals. As a result of completing our assessment, we need to engage in a plan in place for increasing participation of underrepresented groups at all levels of the organization. Some examples of ways we can do this are as follows: The “Think Broadly” to generate a practical and diverse list of potential partners, “Share the Message,” clearly and compellingly, and “Connect the Dots” to see how we create a unified plan out of the different priorities each partner brings.

Throughout the coalitions and their catchment communities the Program Director will work to leverage existing funding streams and pursue new funding streams to sustain the elements of our program within year one. Presently, we have brought our requests to the Milford Board of Selectmen for funding through the town budget (grant matching) to assist in reaching our long-term goals through the Substance Abuse Outreach and Intervention program. We are also currently working with our State Representatives and State Senator to allocate funding sources from the State Budget to assist in our efforts and creating sustainable change. We are also currently working with Worcester District Attorney Joe Early Jr’s office to collaborate and leverage funding through their current grant award received by his Opioid Task Force. As we move forward we will also pursue a decreased amount of continued funding through CHNA 6 for multiple years to help reach the overall goal of reducing opioid use by 2018.

As we have learned from our sustainable success in previous grant funding, we will ensure that the JAG and S.A.F.E coalitions partners work within their own settings to shape vision, allocate resources, and implement policies to support and further develop our initiative goals and activities. We will also work to ensure that regional partners succeed in incorporating activities into their agencies’ priorities and plans, to increase emotional health across the lifespan while building an accepting community for those who are affected by mental health and substance abuse issues are sustained long term.

Funding request: The Milford Police Department in collaboration with the JAG and SAFE coalition are applying for \$75,000 in funding for 2016-2017 efforts.