



September 18, 2024

The Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) program is operated through the Gaston County Police Department and is funded through a BJA-COSSUP federal grant. The grantor has approved the use of funds so the computer software platform Julota can be secured for case management and data reporting.

We are requesting sole-source approval for Julota, and have submitted letters from both Julota and the LEAD Support Bureau, which provides technical assistance for LEAD sites across the country. Sole-source approval was sought through BJA; however, the amount did not meet their threshold. The justification for sole-source includes:

- The Gaston County LEAD program, which has been in operation only one year, currently has no case management data system.
- The grantor (BJA-COSSUP) has approved a modification request to allow grant funds to be used to secure a case management data system.
- The Gaston County LEAD program sought the input of the LEAD Support Bureau (LSB) to determine what system to secure.
- The LEAD Support Bureau (LSB) recommends all LEAD sites secure Julota as their case management and data reporting program.
- The LEAD Support Bureau (LSB) has worked with Julota to develop customized templates in their platform specifically for LEAD programs.
- This relationship with LEAD and Julota will allow 100+ LEAD sites nationally to collect the same data for easier comparison and program evaluation.
- While the LEAD templates have been created, customization is still allowed since each LEAD site may not operate exactly the same as long as there is fidelity to the national model.

Respectfully,

Adrien Sanders
Interim LEAD Project Coordinator