

## **Diversion for Persons with Mental Health Issues Program**

**Proposed Recipient:** City of Indianapolis, IN

**Address of Recipient:** 200 East Washington Street Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

**Amount of the Request:** \$1,000,000

**Explanation of Request:** The purpose of this funding is for: 1) integrated data and analysis for early identification of people with recurring needs and informed design of a collaborative response; 2) behavioral health response integrated into 911 emergency dispatch; 3) expansion of the Assessment Intervention Center (AIC) as the diversion center point for the system; 4) development of a multidisciplinary HUMS team to provide direct intervention for individuals in crisis. In order to identify people and help them recover from behavioral health issues we need early identification and coordinated response. This requires new technology at 911 and the AIC and coordination of the responses systems. This initiative is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because in these times of growing gun violence in our cities, diversion programs like this one serve to get justice-involved citizens with behavioral health conditions directly to the appropriate program to get them appropriate service and avoid jail. This approach is one of many that our country needs to adopt to help de-escalate violence and reduce police-involved shootings.