

**JOURNEY FORWARD ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE - 9.18.25**

Submitted by Charles Griggs

**City Council Budget Update**

Recommended funding submitted by Journey Forward Board in to be included in the COJ 2025-2026 Budget was approved by the City Council Finance Committee. Final budget debate and approval for the entire COJ Budget is scheduled for the next City Council meeting on September 23, 2025.

**Potential Grant Opportunities**

The Office of Grants & Contract Compliance is continuing to work on eligibility for federal funding requires strong alignment with existing approved scopes of work. Maintaining fidelity to current grant narratives will increase approval likelihood.

* There may be room for modest expansion of services within Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) and Community Violence Intervention (CVIPI) awards through community violence intervention and re-entry programming, if aligned with measurable performance metrics.
* The unencumbered funds from existing grants are as follows:
	+ JAG22 $260,000
	+ JAG23 $34K
	+ JAG24 $50K
	+ CVIPI $300K
* JAG25 funding is in the RFP stage with proposals currently being solicited.
* Future funding opportunities (e.g., JAG2026) may benefit from recommendations by the JF Board, provided it meets with timing and criteria.
* Exploration of partnerships through the re-entry coalition may position Journey Forward for new collaborative grants and broaden the reach of services.
* Next Steps for the Board:
	+ Provide recommendations on priority areas for service continuation and expansion.
	+ Prepare to engage in developing recommendations for planning tied to JAG2026 opportunity.
	+ Support COJ leadership in identifying and aligning with grant opportunities that best serve Journey Forward’s mission.

**Board Retreat & Strategic Planning**

* RFPs are currently being evaluated for award. This process should be completed early October. At that time, the Chair will meet with the vendor to discuss timing and specific deliverables.