



Blount County Budget Committee Memo

TO: Blount County Commissioners

FROM: Recovery Court

DATE: 06/02/2026

RE: Opioid Grant - Social Worker

1. Proposal (what is the new item/service being requested) Use opioid grant funds to support a state-employed social worker who will assess low-level offenders with substance use disorders and place them in treatment programs. This fills a gap for offenders not eligible for Recovery Court and aims to reduce repeat offenses through increased access to treatment.
2. Current Operations (how are operations without the request and impact if not funded) The office currently relies on untrained staff and limited volunteer interns to serve addicted offenders, resulting in delays in treatment placement, extended ail stays, and some offenders not receiving treatment at all.
3. Impact if funded (provide summary if the request is approved) A full-time master's -level social worker would assess low-level offenders for substance use and mental health needs, connect them with appropriate treatment, and coordinate admissions. This would allow earlier intervention for less serious offenders before their addiction worsens.

Budget Impact	
Original Budget	
Amendment Impact	\$ 85,024.00
Proposed Revised Budget	\$ 85,024.00



Signature from Department Head/Elected (or designee)

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