

Office of the Kane County State's Attorney



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KANE COUNTY STATE ATTORNEY'S OFFICE RECEIVES \$350K IN FEDERAL FUNDING FOR PUBLIC SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

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Kane County State Attorney Jamie L. Mosser announces that her office will receive \$350,000 in federal funding for its promising Pre-Arrest Diversion initiative.

The grant will allow the office to continue to expand Pre-Arrest Diversion to additional Kane County police agencies. The program, launched in October 2021, is currently operating through the Elgin Police Department, the Kane County Sheriff's Office, and the Carpentersville Police Department.

The funding was secured by U.S. Representative Lauren Underwood of Illinois through a new federal Community Project Funding initiative for Fiscal Year 2022. The initiative allowed Underwood to request direct funding for projects that address pressing needs throughout northern Illinois. The Pre-Arrest Diversion project was included among 10 projects to support our community.

Pre-Arrest Diversion provides support and services to individuals who struggle with mental health issues, substance use, and lack of resources, with a goal of self-sufficiency instead of jail. More broadly, Pre-Arrest Diversion and this new funding will improve public safety by building on existing relationships with community-based organizations and mental and behavioral health service providers in Kane County. Pre-Arrest Diversion ultimately will reduce the number of people entering the criminal legal system by helping individuals get equal access to resources. The program is based on a Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) model out of Seattle, WA, which has demonstrated a significant reduction in recidivism, as well as associated cost savings.

This is the fourth grant awarded to the Kane County SAO for the Pre-Arrest Diversion initiative. The SAO previously was awarded a \$1.2 million U.S. Department of Justice grant, a \$152,000 State of Illinois grant, and a \$15,000 grant from the Kane County Health Department. The grant secured by Representative Underwood brings the total in grants to \$1.717 million.

Martha Paschke, who heads the Kane County Pre-Arrest Diversion program, said:

“I am thrilled and thankful for this award secured for us by Congresswoman Underwood. It will allow us to hire the necessary staff for this initiative to continue to expand and be successful across Kane County. Our case managers work intensively with participants, seeing them as more than the sum of their mistakes, and building trusting relationships with the goal of empowering them through evidence-based practices. This funding will allow us to ensure our participants receive the support and services that will ultimately improve public safety and public health while reducing the number of people entering the criminal legal system.”

Unites States Representative Lauren Underwood said:

“The LEAD model is an important tool for communities to respond to public safety concerns using an evidence-based public health framework.”

Kane County State’s Attorney Jamie L. Mosser said:

“We are excited to receive this federal funding to help further our mission of reforming our criminal justice system throughout Kane County. We know that incarceration is not a universal solution to crime. We reduce recidivism, change lives for the better and improve public safety by addressing root causes like mental health issues, substance use disorder and a lack of resources. My thanks to Representative Underwood for recognizing the importance of this program and advocating for Kane County to receive the grant. I would also like to thank Martha Paschke for her hard work in securing these grants and in establishing this important program.”

Representative Underwood helped secured funding for 9 additional projects that will directly benefit the 14th district. Learn more about the additional projects at <https://underwood.house.gov/media/press-releases>.