

# Peace Officer Mental Health Grant

## Background

- ▶ On April 4, 2017, Governor Hickenlooper signed into law House Bill 17-1215 Concerning Mental Health Support for Peace Officers. The bill amended Colorado Revised Statute § 24-32-3501 (C.R.S.) to create a grant program within the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) for eligible agencies to engage mental health professionals who can provide:
  - ▶ On-scene response services to support peace officers' handling of persons with mental health disorders; and
  - ▶ Counseling services to peace officers.

## Eligibility - Application and Resources - Grant Application

- ▶ Eligibility -
  - ▶ Eligible entities include Colorado County Sheriff's Offices and Colorado Municipal Police Departments.
  
- ▶ Application and Resources -
  - ▶ [Notice of Funding Availability](#)
  - ▶ [Colorado Revised Statute](#)
  
- ▶ Grant application -
  - ▶ [Grants Portal - Application](#)

## Brighton Police Department Mental Health Grant Uses

- ▶ BPD Peer Support Team to host 3 day Adams County Regional Advanced Training
  - ▶ First such regional training/meeting/networking event
  - ▶ All certified peer support team members from all agencies within Adams County may attend
  - ▶ 3 day advanced course provides training beyond basic 40 hour course
  - ▶ Training led by Dr. Sara Metz w/Code 4 Counseling (Dr. Metz provides oversight and instruction for BPD Peer Support Team)
  - ▶ Build a network of peer support members within the county (recent example or this concept was during Cpl. Dan Grooves death)
  - ▶ No cost to agencies other than to send their team members

## Brighton Police Department Mental Health Grant Uses

- ▶ Direct Mental Health Support
  - ▶ Colorado Peace Officer Standards and Training (P.O.S.T.) certified peer support members can provide immediate support and assistance at critical incidents as well as provide support and assistance at times of stress not related to a critical incident
  - ▶ Employee Assistance Program can be utilized for up to 5 visits per family per issue
  - ▶ Mental Health support beyond these resources the employee must pay out of pocket
  - ▶ Another resource for officers who may be struggling with work stress, co-worker relationships, couple relationships, financial worry, parenting, grief/loss, harassment and addiction
  - ▶ Mental Health Support not limited to counselor - patient office visits (equine therapy, acupuncture, EMDR, brain spotting, wilderness therapy, etc...)

## Brighton Police Department Mental Health Grant Administration

- ▶ DOLA funds awarded to agency
- ▶ CDR Imfeld (lead coordinator for BPD peer support team) will administer and provide accounting for funds
  - ▶ Funds allocated and accounted for much like CDOT DUI annual DUI grant
  - ▶ Officer attends mental health counseling and pays upfront, submits invoice and is reimbursed)
- ▶ CDR Imfeld to provide monthly report to peer support team on funds spent and remaining availability

# Peace Officer Mental Health Grant

- ▶ Questions