

July 7, 2025

The Honorable Joe Tiseo, Chairman Charlotte County Board of County Commissioner 18500 Murdock Circle Port Charlotte, FL 33948

Commissioner Tiseo,

Pursuant to FS 893.165 (5, 6, and 7) and Board Resolution # 93, I am respectfully requesting \$10,000 from Drug Trust Funds for the FY 25/26. Drug Free Charlotte will use these funds to strengthen coalition strategies that address vaping, marijuana, prescription drug abuse, and underage alcohol use.

Our community continues to see the benefits of the strategies to reduce and prevent youth alcohol and marijuana use through projects such as those addressed with this request. When Drug Free Charlotte County was founded, the reported use of alcohol among local high school youth was 52.7%. The latest data indicates that is has dropped to 13%. Likewise, reported marijuana use has decreased from 30.1% to 8.5%. Be assured that Drug Free Charlotte will continue to work against messaging to normalize use and minimize consequences.

The following is a proposed budget request for the use of the County Drug Abuse Trust funds for your reference:

Annual Prevention Day and Awards Breakfast

\$4,200

Drug Free Charlotte County will hold an Annual Prevention Awards Breakfast event on the second Friday in May (05/08/2026). This event aligns with the start of National Prevention Week and honors community members and partners for their work and support in the prevention of substance use. Costs include facility rental, program materials, catering and supplies.

Youth Prevention Activity Support

TOTAL

\$5,800

\$10,000

These funds will assist Drug Free Charlotte County in procuring supplies and materials not covered by contract or grant sources. This includes training for school resource officers in the evidence based "LEAD" program as well as curriculum supplies for 5th grade students for the coming school year. This program is being piloted during the FY 25-26 school year and if successful, funds will be used to support expansion into more classrooms. Funds will also be used for other materials and activities to promote prevention messaging for youth, including underage alcohol and marijuana use.

All funds requested provide a critical part of our required community match that leverages over \$220,000 in funding for Charlotte County prevention programs.

Thank you for your assistance and consideration with this request. Drug Free Charlotte and the Charlotte County Sheriff's Office value our community partnerships and deeply appreciate the support of the Charlotte County Board and Charlotte Alliance in the work of preventing substance abuse in our community.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Respectfully,

CHARLOTTE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Bill Prummell Sheriff

cc: Mr. Hector Flores County Administrator

Itemized Request:

<u>Supplies</u> Prevention Awards and Event Supplies LEAD - Too Good for Drugs Materials Program support supplies	\$1,000.00 \$3,000.00 \$800.00	<u>\$4,800.00</u>
<u>Contract</u> Prevention Breakfast Facility Prevention Breakfast Catering LEAD Training	\$700.00 \$2,500.00 \$2,000.00	<u>\$5,200.00</u>