



Finding..... And Getting The Money

UNTANGLING THE OBSTACLES FOR EQUAL JUSTICE IN FAMILY COURT

OCTOBER 8, 2020

RICHARD ABBOTT, DIRECTOR, JUVENILE & FAMILY SERVICES,

MARYLAND JUDICIARY



"Keep this to yourself, Henderson, this will fund our research for the next ten years!"

Juvenile & Family Services

- **Jurisdictional Family Services Grants** – Circuit Courts – Family Divisions/programs
- **Special Projects Grants** – State & Local Govts. w/Maryland; Non-Profits; Inst. of Higher Education - services to increase access to justice and enhance the experience of families and children involved with Maryland's judicial system
- **Child Welfare Special Project Grants** – Federal Court Improvement Program (CIP) funds - improve safety, permanency, and well-being outcomes for abused and neglected children in the child welfare system
- **Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Grants** – Must administer a CASA program - train and supervise volunteer advocates assigned to children found to be in need of assistance

Access to Justice

- **Project Grants** - State & Local Govts. w/Maryland; Non-Profits; Inst. of Higher Education - enhance courts' ability to provide meaningful access to justice

Administrative Office of the Courts
Programs Division – Grant Programs

MACRO

- **Conflict Resolution Project Grants** - State & Local Govts. w/Maryland; Non-Profits; Inst. of Higher Education - benefit the courts and people of Maryland by promoting the availability, use, and quality of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) throughout Maryland
- **Community Mediation Performance Grants – Invitation-only** - support community mediation services that meet MACRO's Ten-Point Model of Community Mediation

Problem Solving Courts

- **Discretionary Grants – Circuit courts** that are currently approved or are in the process of developing a problem-solving court in Maryland - enhance operational problem-solving courts
- **Budget Requests District Court - District Courts** that are currently approved or are in the process of developing a problem-solving court in Maryland - enhance operational problem-solving courts

Administrative Office of the Courts
Programs Division – Grant Programs

Office on Violence Against Women (OVW)

<https://www.justice.gov/ovw/grant-programs>

See here for list of their 19 grant programs with descriptions:

<https://www.justice.gov/ovw/page/file/914131/download>

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMSHA)

<https://www.samhsa.gov/grants>

IV-D Child Support Reinvestment of Incentive Payments

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/resource/reinvesting-child-support-incentive-payments>

- Fatherhood programs
- Education and job programs for noncustodial parents
- Programs targeting incarcerated or putative fathers
- Mediation or couples counseling

Federal Grant Programs

Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services (still known as GOCCP)

<http://goccp.maryland.gov/grants/programs/>

- Child Advocacy Center Services (CACS)
- Children's Justice Act Committee (CJAC)
- Maryland Domestic Violence Program (DOMV)

Other State Grant Programs

State Justice Institute (SJI) (<https://www.sji.gov/grants/>)

- **Project Grants** - innovative education and training, demonstration, and technical assistance projects that can improve the administration of justice in State courts locally or nationwide – 50% cash match
- **Technical Assistance** - provide state and local courts with funding to obtain expert assistance to diagnose a problem, develop a response to that problem, and initiate implementation of any needed changes - cash and in-kind match at least 50%, w/20% cash
- **Education Support Program** - supports full-time state court judges and court managers to attend courses that enhance their knowledge, skills, and abilities which they could not otherwise attend because of limited state, local, and personal budgets – only tuition up to \$1,000

Other Grants

The Annie E. Casey Foundation (<https://www.aecf.org/about/grant-making/>)

Areas Funded: Child Welfare & Juvenile Justice

Activities Funded:

- Community and resident engagement
- Data collection and analysis
- Demonstration projects for new approaches and practices
- Evidence-based programs and practices
- Policy advocacy and analysis
- Research and evaluation
- Technical assistance
- Youth engagement and leadership

Other Grants

❖ **Modify Existing Funding**

- Can you reduce or eliminate funding for something you are doing now to pay for the new initiative?
- Can you change your current process?

❖ **Supplemental Requests**

- Good for one time costs (e.g., trainings, equipment)
- Cover slight overruns

❖ **Local Funding Authority**

- Ask your County/City to pay for the new initiative

Other Sources of Funding

Getting the Money

Grant Applications

- ❖ Have clear Goals
- ❖ Quantify your Objectives – Should be measurable – Never use 100%
- ❖ Explain, in detail, what your project will do and who will do it
- ❖ Use data to support your Statement of Need
- ❖ Explain how the project will be evaluated
- ❖ Explain how it benefits the court
- ❖ Include support letters from Judges, Magistrates, Court Administrators, Other Stakeholders
- ❖ Budget should match the goals & objectives of the project
- ❖ Provide detailed cost justifications:
e.g., two staff to attend AFCC Conference: \$300 registration + \$510 hotel (3 nights x \$170 per night) + \$400 airfare + \$400 meals & incidentals (\$100 per day) = \$1,610 per person x 2 staff members = \$3,220

Getting the
Money

Process & System

❖ **Family Justice Initiative - Principles for Family Justice Reform**

https://www.ncsc.org/_data/assets/pdf_file/0021/19173/family_justice_initiative_principles_final.pdf

❖ **Model Process for Family Justice Initiative Pathways**

https://www.ncsc.org/_data/assets/pdf_file/0016/19114/family_justice_initiative_pathways_final.pdf



Getting the
Money

Process & System

❖ **Problem Solving Approach**

- Holistic, non-adversarial
- Balance parties' self determination vs. what is best for their family
- Involve and Empower Parties
- Safety & Trauma Responsive – Screening
- Provide Information and Assistance

❖ **Triage Family Case Filings**

- Streamlined Pathway
- Tailored Services Pathway
- Judicial/Specialized Pathway

❖ **Training & Stakeholder Partnerships**

- Implement High Quality Judicial and Court Staff Training/Education
- Identify and Strengthen Community Partnerships

❖ **Data Collection, Evaluation, and Technology Innovation**

- Improve data collection, analysis, and use of data to inform case management
- Collect and analyze user evaluation metrics
- Implement innovative and appropriate technology