



Judicial Council of Georgia Administrative Office of the Courts

Chief Justice P. Harris Hines
Chair

Cynthia H. Clanton
Director

The Judicial Council of Georgia/Administrative Office of the Courts is pleased to announce that it is seeking applications for grant funding under the Judicial Council of Georgia Legal Assistance Project.

FY 2018 REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS PROVIDERS OF CIVIL LEGAL SERVICES TO VICTIMS OF FAMILY VIOLENCE

Grant funds to be distributed: \$2,425,000*
Application Deadline: May 31, 2017

During the 2017 legislative session, the Georgia General Assembly appropriated funds to the Judicial Council of Georgia for a grant to provide civil legal services to victims of family violence. The Judicial Council has adopted general guidelines to govern the granting of these funds. It has also delegated to its Judicial Council Standing Committee on Grants the duty of accepting and evaluating grant applications and awarding the grant.

The Judicial Council Standing Committee on Grants plans to award these funds starting July 1, 2017. Seventy-five percent (75%) of the grant money will be awarded pursuant to the poverty population guidelines, which is based on the most current estimates from the U.S. Census. Twenty-five percent (25%) of the grant money will be awarded to special needs categories (such as homelessness, rural counties with fewer than 10 attorneys, or regional areas or counties with a disproportionately high rate of death from domestic violence¹). Grant proposals will be considered from non-profit providers of legal services to victims of family violence in Georgia. Providers may apply for funds from both categories.

The full description of the grant program and the formula to calculate the poverty population grant amount are attached. We urge you to read them before applying. Applications should include the following:

Cover page: The cover page for your application should include the title of the program, the name and address of the agency submitting the application, the name and address of the program contact person, the amount requested, *the agency's tax ID number, and the month the agency's fiscal year ends.*

¹ GEORGIA COMM'N ON FAMILY VIOLENCE, GEORGIA STATE PLAN FOR ENDING FAMILY VIOLENCE, at iv–v, 61–62 (December 2012), available at <http://www.gcfv.org/>.

Introduction: A description of the agency and the establishment of eligibility for applying for and carrying out the grant.

Program Narrative: The application must describe exactly how the program will implement and address specific program requirements, e.g. partnerships, providing legal assistance to the targeted areas, etc. The program narrative (including the introduction and evaluation) should be no more than 8 double-spaced pages with one-inch margins. Pages should be numbered. The type-size must be at least 12 point.

Evaluation: The application should describe exactly how the activity and effectiveness of the program will be monitored, measured, and reported. No grants will be made unless the Committee has approved the evaluation process. *Grantees will be required to report to the Administrative Office of the Courts every six (6) months detailing how the grant funds were specifically used to assist victims throughout Georgia. Grantees will also be required to track and report the number of divorces provided by other funding sources, including the number of divorces provided to domestic violence victims. The required reporting form is supplied by the Administrative Office of the Courts and will be posted at www.grants.georgiacourts.gov.*

Budget: The application should include a budget narrative and budget for the grant. The budget should list the amount requested, the category (i.e., personnel, supplies), how the budget will be managed, any in-kind contributions to the program, and define direct and indirect costs. The budget narrative should explain each line item of the budget. If the applicant previously received a grant from the Committee, any outstanding balance should be indicated. *Furthermore, the agency's total budget and other sources of funding should be listed.*

Letters of Support: The applicant **must** submit letters of support and cooperation with the application. These letters may be from local programs and community partners which provide services for victims of domestic violence to battered women, children, and the elderly. Letters from judges and members of the General Assembly are also helpful.

Non-Profit Status: Applicants **must** attach a copy of the IRS letter indicating non-profit status. Applicants must also enclose a statement indicating that they are registered and in good standing with the State of Georgia for 2017 and utilize E-Verify.

Submission: Applications must be submitted electronically as a PDF file to the Judicial Council/Administrative Office of the Courts at grants@georgiacourts.gov.

Deadline: Applications and attachments must be received by 11:59 p.m. on **May 31, 2017**. Award announcements will be made before July 1, 2017. Award funds will be disbursed as soon as possible thereafter.

Please note: Grant funds are appropriated by the State of Georgia, and award amounts are subject to change, without prior notice, based on state budget amendments.

If you have questions, please email us at grants@georgiacourts.gov or call (404) 656-5171.

Attachments

**DESCRIPTION OF GRANT PROGRAM
OFFICIAL COMPILATION OF THE RULES AND REGULATIONS
OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE**

I. Name of Grant Program: Legal Assistance to Families Victimized by Domestic Violence Project (Short name: Legal Assistance Project).

II. Legal Authority: O.C.G.A. §15-5-24 and Supreme Court of Georgia Order of January 15, 1981 relating to the duties of the Judicial Council/Administrative Office of the Courts.

III. Definition: This is a statewide project designed to provide civil legal services to all persons, adults and children, victimized by or under the direct threat of domestic violence.

IV. Scope: Domestic violence is endemic throughout the nation and in Georgia. From 2003 through 2014, at least **1,400 Georgia citizens lost their lives** due to domestic violence. Domestic violence shelters refer more than 10,000 victims of domestic violence to legal service agencies each year. Other legal resources are inadequate to meet the serious needs of these families. This project provides a framework under which Georgia's non-profit legal services programs can serve approximately 5,000 victims of domestic violence per year.

V. Purpose: The purpose of this program is to provide legal assistance to persons victimized or threatened by domestic violence. Such legal assistance helps with immediate needs through protective orders or orders for custody and child support, and also includes legal assistance with such issues as access to credit and bank accounts, housing, public benefits, employment and other consumer and financial problems that must be resolved to achieve safety, stability and economic security.

A. Eligible Services

This project focuses on providing direct services to victims in two major areas of need by:

1. Providing legal services related to domestic violence, child custody and family support; and
2. Providing legal services related to the family's economic security and stability, including housing issues, job related problems, problems with access to education, and health care.

B. Excluded Services

Certain services are specifically excluded from this program. Excluded services are:

1. Class action suits;
2. Criminal defense;
3. Deportation proceedings;
4. Divorce proceedings;
5. Initial Temporary Protective Orders;
6. Juvenile delinquency;
7. Matters to be adjudicated in courts outside of Georgia; or
8. Other client-initiated proceedings not related to the safety, stability, or economic security of the victim or the victim's family.

C. Eligible Clients

Victims or persons under the threat of domestic violence who have no reasonable access to resources that may be used for legal services are eligible. Evidence of violence or the threat of violence shall be reasonably demonstrated, but may also be shown by the following:

1. A protective order issued by a court of competent jurisdiction;
2. A referral from a domestic violence program or program for children or the elderly; or
3. A warrant or police report indicating an incident involving domestic violence.

D. Eligible Grantees

1. Eligible grantees for these funds are non-profit corporations registered and in good standing with the State of Georgia with at least two years of experience providing civil legal services in the State.
2. Recipients must also demonstrate that the personnel and expertise necessary to deliver the services required, that their service delivery structure can adequately provide coverage throughout the geographical area for which the services are proposed, and that they have sufficient administrative recordkeeping capabilities to fulfill reporting requirements necessary for the evaluation of these projects.
3. Community partnerships are critical to achieving success with this program. The applicants must show community support and the support and cooperation of

local domestic violence programs. Letters of support or other evidence establishing this relationship should accompany applications.

VI. General Terms and Conditions: Grants will be awarded for a one-year term, Each of Georgia's forty-nine circuits will be included. The amount of funds available for distribution to grantees may change each year based on the amount of funds appropriated to the Judicial Council/Administrative Office of the Courts and the cost of the administrative oversight of these funds. The grant awards are generally announced in July.

VII. Criteria for the Award of Grants: The total population resident in each county served by the grant recipient will be considered. This number is based on the most current estimates from the U. S. Census Bureau.

In no event shall a grantee provide free legal services to a client whose income exceeds 200% of the federal poverty guidelines. Special needs categories (such as homelessness, rural counties with fewer than ten attorneys, or regional areas or counties with a disproportionately high rate of death from domestic violence¹) will also be considered.

VIII. Directions and Deadlines for Application: Applications for grant funds **must be submitted via email** to the Judicial Council/Administrative Office of the Courts at grants@georgiacourts.gov.

The application deadline is May 31 of the year that funds are appropriated.

Comments may be submitted to the Judicial Council/Administrative Office of the Courts at grants@georgiacourts.gov or (404) 656-5171.

¹ GEORGIA COMM'N ON FAMILY VIOLENCE, GEORGIA STATE PLAN FOR ENDING FAMILY VIOLENCE, at iv-v, 61-62 (December 2012), *available at* <http://www.gcfv.org/>.

**FY 2018 LEGAL ASSISTANCE PROJECT
CIVIL LEGAL SERVICES TO VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
GRANT FUND ANALYSIS**

Total amount appropriated by the General Assembly for FY 2018.	\$2,500,000
Minus 3% for the Judicial Council/AOC for site visits, meeting expenses, and the staff directly necessary to regulate and monitor grantees	\$75,000
Total amount available for grantees* (* This amount may be reduced by the Legislature)	\$2,425,000

FY 2018 Funding Per Grant Category

Amount allocated for grantees applying based on poverty population estimates (75%)	\$1,818,750
Amount allocated for grantees applying to assist special needs categories (25%)	\$606,250
Total amount of funds available for grantees FY 2018* (* This amount may be reduced by the Legislature)	\$2,425,000

**LEGAL ASSISTANCE PROJECT
CIVIL LEGAL SERVICES TO VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

FORMULA TO CALCULATE POVERTY POPULATION GRANT AMOUNT

Total poverty population in county(ies) served by grant applicant ÷ Total persons in poverty in Georgia (see poverty population estimates chart) = % of persons in poverty in the county(ies).

Allocated grant amount × % of persons in poverty in the county(ies) = Amount allowed under grant formula

Example: Domestic Violence Shelter serves Glynn and McIntosh counties

Glynn county poverty population =	14,981
McIntosh county poverty population =	<u>2,956</u>
Total poverty population in county(ies) served by grant applicant:	17,937

$17,937 \div 1,788,947$ (total persons in poverty in GA) = .01002657

$.01002657 \times \$1,818,750$ (**75% of total available grant amount**) = \$18,236 (rounded to whole dollar)

Note: 75% of the available grant funds are used for awards based upon the poverty population estimates. The total amount of the available grant is \$2,425,000 and 75% is \$1,818,750 (the remaining \$606,250 is awarded to grantees serving special need categories). See the grant notice for more information or contact the Judicial Council/Administrative Office of the Courts at grants@georgiacourts.gov or (404) 656-5171.

Georgia's Poverty Population Estimates

Geography	Below poverty level 2015, 5-year estimates; Population for whom poverty status is determined
Appling County, Georgia	3745
Atkinson County, Georgia	2370
Bacon County, Georgia	1919
Baker County, Georgia	752
Baldwin County, Georgia	13201
Banks County, Georgia	3026
Barrow County, Georgia	10902
Bartow County, Georgia	15819
Ben Hill County, Georgia	6024
Berrien County, Georgia	4923
Bibb County, Georgia	40611
Bleckley County, Georgia	2616
Brantley County, Georgia	3812
Brooks County, Georgia	4265
Bryan County, Georgia	4487
Bulloch County, Georgia	21794
Burke County, Georgia	7131
Butts County, Georgia	4329
Calhoun County, Georgia	1924
Camden County, Georgia	6365
Candler County, Georgia	3398
Carroll County, Georgia	22441
Catoosa County, Georgia	8061
Charlton County, Georgia	2010
Chatham County, Georgia	50980
Chattahoochee County, Georgia	960
Chattooga County, Georgia	5488
Cherokee County, Georgia	24273
Clarke County, Georgia	40559
Clay County, Georgia	1285
Clayton County, Georgia	65787
Clinch County, Georgia	2339
Cobb County, Georgia	87880
Coffee County, Georgia	9975
Colquitt County, Georgia	12086
Columbia County, Georgia	12517
Cook County, Georgia	4244
Coweta County, Georgia	17489
Crawford County, Georgia	2122

Crisp County, Georgia	7468
Dade County, Georgia	2300
Dawson County, Georgia	3156
Decatur County, Georgia	7418
DeKalb County, Georgia	135469
Dodge County, Georgia	4279
Dooly County, Georgia	3673
Dougherty County, Georgia	27557
Douglas County, Georgia	22118
Early County, Georgia	2916
Echols County, Georgia	1170
Effingham County, Georgia	5749
Elbert County, Georgia	3664
Emanuel County, Georgia	6700
Evans County, Georgia	2857
Fannin County, Georgia	5404
Fayette County, Georgia	9129
Floyd County, Georgia	19605
Forsyth County, Georgia	13547
Franklin County, Georgia	5122
Fulton County, Georgia	167391
Gilmer County, Georgia	6664
Glascocock County, Georgia	483
Glynn County, Georgia	14981
Gordon County, Georgia	11188
Grady County, Georgia	7648
Greene County, Georgia	4033
Gwinnett County, Georgia	117553
Habersham County, Georgia	7220
Hall County, Georgia	34120
Hancock County, Georgia	2113
Haralson County, Georgia	5724
Harris County, Georgia	2991
Hart County, Georgia	5403
Heard County, Georgia	2349
Henry County, Georgia	27162
Houston County, Georgia	25111
Irwin County, Georgia	2300
Jackson County, Georgia	8314
Jasper County, Georgia	2785
Jeff Davis County, Georgia	3309
Jefferson County, Georgia	4889
Jenkins County, Georgia	2984

Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2015 American Community Survey, 5 year Estimates

Georgia's Poverty Population Estimates

Johnson County, Georgia	2125
Jones County, Georgia	4770
Lamar County, Georgia	3713
Lanier County, Georgia	2675
Laurens County, Georgia	12823
Lee County, Georgia	3417
Liberty County, Georgia	11047
Lincoln County, Georgia	1912
Long County, Georgia	2936
Lowndes County, Georgia	28907
Lumpkin County, Georgia	5559
McDuffie County, Georgia	5410
McIntosh County, Georgia	2956
Macon County, Georgia	3639
Madison County, Georgia	4798
Marion County, Georgia	1836
Meriwether County, Georgia	4733
Miller County, Georgia	1608
Mitchell County, Georgia	5905
Monroe County, Georgia	3492
Montgomery County, Georgia	2076
Morgan County, Georgia	2529
Murray County, Georgia	7765
Muscogee County, Georgia	38921
Newton County, Georgia	17281
Oconee County, Georgia	2487
Oglethorpe County, Georgia	2316
Paulding County, Georgia	18445
Peach County, Georgia	5471
Pickens County, Georgia	3418
Pierce County, Georgia	4455
Pike County, Georgia	2132
Polk County, Georgia	8767
Pulaski County, Georgia	1929
Putnam County, Georgia	3446
Quitman County, Georgia	558
Rabun County, Georgia	3458
Randolph County, Georgia	2145
Richmond County, Georgia	48498
Rockdale County, Georgia	14155
Schley County, Georgia	1187
Screven County, Georgia	3482
Seminole County, Georgia	1595

Spalding County, Georgia	14238
Stephens County, Georgia	4707
Stewart County, Georgia	1645
Sumter County, Georgia	9741
Talbot County, Georgia	1291
Taliaferro County, Georgia	511
Tattnall County, Georgia	5646
Taylor County, Georgia	2351
Telfair County, Georgia	3565
Terrell County, Georgia	3216
Thomas County, Georgia	10335
Tift County, Georgia	11372
Toombs County, Georgia	6674
Towns County, Georgia	1862
Treutlen County, Georgia	1242
Troup County, Georgia	14388
Turner County, Georgia	2027
Twiggs County, Georgia	2324
Union County, Georgia	2860
Upson County, Georgia	6137
Walker County, Georgia	11818
Walton County, Georgia	11801
Ware County, Georgia	9686
Warren County, Georgia	1485
Washington County, Georgia	4961
Wayne County, Georgia	5633
Webster County, Georgia	608
Wheeler County, Georgia	1177
White County, Georgia	5195
Whitfield County, Georgia	19270
Wilcox County, Georgia	1599
Wilkes County, Georgia	2795
Wilkinson County, Georgia	1640
Worth County, Georgia	4445

**Georgia's Total Poverty
Population Estimates: 1,788,947**