

ATTENTION!

PROVIDERS OF CIVIL LEGAL SERVICES TO VICTIMS OF FAMILY VIOLENCE

Grant Funds for FY 2015

Funds to be distributed: \$2,071,474.00*
Application Deadline: May 16, 2014

During the First Term of the 2014 Regular 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 Committee on Domestic Violence the duty of accepting and evaluating grant applications and awarding the grant.

The Judicial Council Domestic Violence Committee plans to award these funds starting July 1, 2014. Seventy-five (75%) percent of the grant money will be awarded pursuant to the poverty population in Georgia based on the most current estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau. Twenty-five percent (25%) of the grant money will be awarded to special needs categories. 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 and 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 agency contact person, the amount requested, the agency's tax ID number, and the month the agency's fiscal year ends.

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

Grant Narrative: The application must describe exactly how the agency will implement and address specific grant requirements (i.e., special need categories). The grant 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 its effectiveness will be monitored, measured, and reported. No grants will be made unless the Committee

*Specific amount contingent on the Georgia Legislature's funding for Fiscal Year 2015 and the Judicial Council Budget Committee recommendations.

has approved the evaluation process. *Grantees will be required to report to the Administrative Office of the Courts every 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 it provides using 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.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 agency 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 agency must submit letters of support and cooperation with the application. These letters may be from local programs 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: Agencies must attach a copy of the IRS letter indicating non-profit status, a statement indicating that they are registered and in good standing with the State of Georgia for 2014, and utilize E-Verify.

Submission: Applications should be electronically transmitted as a PDF file to Cynthia H. Clanton, General Counsel at Cynthia.clanton@gaaoc.us . Applications may also be mailed to the following address: The Administrative Office of the Courts of Georgia, Cynthia H. Clanton, General Counsel, 244 Washington Street, SW, Suite 300, Atlanta, GA 30334-5900.

Deadline: Applications and attachments must be transmitted or postmarked no later than **May 16, 2014**. Award announcements will be made before July 1, 2014. 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 cuts.

If you have questions, please call or email Cynthia Clanton at 404-656-6692 or Cynthia.clanton@gaaoc.us. Thanks and good luck!

Attachments

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**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 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. In 2012, Georgia law enforcement officers responded to 72,870 domestic violence incidents. 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 with related legal programs. 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 domestic violence programs and programs for children and 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 experience providing civil legal services in the State.
2. Recipients must also demonstrate that they have the personnel and the 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 record keeping 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 available for distribution to grantees may change each year based on the amount appropriated to the Administrative Office of the Courts/Judicial Council 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 poverty 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 need 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) will also be considered.

VIII. Directions and Deadlines for Application: Applications for grant funds must be emailed to the Administrative Office of the Courts, Cynthia Hinrichs Clanton, General Counsel at cynthia.clanton@gaaoc.us . The application deadline is in May of the year that funds are appropriated.

Comments may be submitted to the Administrative Office of the Courts, attention Cynthia Hinrichs Clanton at 404-656-6692 or cynthia.clanton@gaaoc.us .

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/>.

LEGAL SERVICES TO VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE GRANT

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 = 13,842

McIntosh county poverty population = 2,073

Total poverty population in county(ies) served by grant applicant: 15,915

15,915 ÷ 1,645,272 (total persons in poverty in GA) = .0096731

.0096731 × \$1,553,605 (75% of total available grant amount) = \$15,028 (rounded)

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 \$2,071,474 and 75% is \$1,553,605 (the remaining \$517,869 is awarded to grantees serving special need categories). See the grant notice for more information or contact Cynthia Clanton at Cynthia.clanton@gaaoc.us or 404-656-6692.

Georgia Poverty Population Estimates

COUNTY	Below Poverty Level	COUNTY	Below Poverty Level	COUNTY	Below Poverty Level	COUNTY	Below Poverty Level	COUNTY	Below Poverty Level
Appling County, Georgia	3,699	Dade County, Georgia	2,536	Jefferson County, Georgia	4,917	Richmond County, Georgia	46,861		
Atkinson County, Georgia	2,833	Dawson County, Georgia	2,998	Jenkins County, Georgia	2,466	Rockdale County, Georgia	11,667		
Bacon County, Georgia	1,866	Decatur County, Georgia	7,694	Johnson County, Georgia	1,777	Schley County, Georgia	1,061		
Baker County, Georgia	1,233	DeKalb County, Georgia	126,343	Jones County, Georgia	4,021	Screven County, Georgia	3,537		
Baldwin County, Georgia	11,905	Dodge County, Georgia	3,700	Lamar County, Georgia	3,381	Seminole County, Georgia	2,214		
Banks County, Georgia	3,251	Dooley County, Georgia	3,606	Lanier County, Georgia	2,120	Spalding County, Georgia	13,600		
Barrow County, Georgia	9,356	Dougherty County, Georgia	27,982	Laurens County, Georgia	11,089	Stephens County, Georgia	4,667		
Bartholomew County, Georgia	15,831	Douglas County, Georgia	17,450	Lee County, Georgia	3,067	Stewart County, Georgia	1,400		
Ben Hill County, Georgia	5,558	Early County, Georgia	3,103	Liberty County, Georgia	10,953	Sumter County, Georgia	9,359		
Berrien County, Georgia	4,642	Echols County, Georgia	1,459	Lincoln County, Georgia	2,040	Talbot County, Georgia	1,577		
Bibb County, Georgia	35,013	Effingham County, Georgia	5,472	Long County, Georgia	2,951	Taliaferro County, Georgia	494		
Bleckley County, Georgia	2,187	Elbert County, Georgia	3,976	Lowndes County, Georgia	24,613	Tattall County, Georgia	5,325		
Brantley County, Georgia	3,975	Emanuel County, Georgia	6,030	Lumpkin County, Georgia	4,778	Taylor County, Georgia	2,454		
Brooks County, Georgia	3,525	Evans County, Georgia	2,640	McDuffie County, Georgia	4,375	Telfair County, Georgia	4,246		
Bryan County, Georgia	3,686	Fannin County, Georgia	4,680	McIntosh County, Georgia	2,073	Terrill County, Georgia	2,633		
Bulloch County, Georgia	20,508	Fayette County, Georgia	7,119	Macon County, Georgia	3,563	Thomas County, Georgia	12,067		
Burke County, Georgia	7,118	Floyd County, Georgia	19,215	Madison County, Georgia	5,285	Tift County, Georgia	8,907		
Butts County, Georgia	2,797	Forsyth County, Georgia	11,804	Marion County, Georgia	2,229	Toombs County, Georgia	7,196		
Calhoun County, Georgia	1,846	Franklin County, Georgia	4,541	Meriwether County, Georgia	3,714	Towns County, Georgia	1,510		
Camden County, Georgia	7,896	Fulton County, Georgia	151,055	Miller County, Georgia	1,281	Treuten County, Georgia	1,547		
Candler County, Georgia	2,267	Gilmer County, Georgia	5,671	Mitchell County, Georgia	5,528	Troup County, Georgia	14,420		
Carroll County, Georgia	19,101	Glascock County, Georgia	710	Monroe County, Georgia	3,601	Turner County, Georgia	1,999		
Carters County, Georgia	7,844	Glynn County, Georgia	13,842	Montgomery County, Georgia	1,999	Twiggs County, Georgia	2,435		
Chariton County, Georgia	1,749	Gordon County, Georgia	10,838	Morgan County, Georgia	2,666	Union County, Georgia	3,660		
Chatham County, Georgia	48,591	Grady County, Georgia	7,109	Murray County, Georgia	7,776	Upson County, Georgia	5,449		
Chatahoochee County, Georgia	1,221	Greene County, Georgia	3,553	Muscogee County, Georgia	33,547	Walker County, Georgia	11,051		
Chattooga County, Georgia	5,000	Gwinnett County, Georgia	109,870	Newton County, Georgia	14,405	Walton County, Georgia	11,421		
Cherokee County, Georgia	17,855	Habersham County, Georgia	7,287	Oconee County, Georgia	2,774	Ware County, Georgia	7,902		
Clarke County, Georgia	37,238	Hall County, Georgia	29,747	Oglethorpe County, Georgia	2,256	Warren County, Georgia	1,601		
Clay County, Georgia	1,487	Hancock County, Georgia	2,435	Paulding County, Georgia	14,490	Washington County, Georgia	4,825		
Clayton County, Georgia	55,125	Haralson County, Georgia	6,526	Peach County, Georgia	6,670	Wayne County, Georgia	5,731		
Cobb County, Georgia	1,428	Harris County, Georgia	2,639	Pickens County, Georgia	3,429	Webster County, Georgia	622		
Coffee County, Georgia	81,418	Hart County, Georgia	5,743	Pierce County, Georgia	3,820	Wheeler County, Georgia	1,101		
Colquitt County, Georgia	9,464	Heard County, Georgia	2,927	Pike County, Georgia	1,916	White County, Georgia	4,587		
Colleton County, Georgia	11,456	Henny County, Georgia	20,765	Polk County, Georgia	8,804	Whitefield County, Georgia	19,575		
Columbia County, Georgia	9,962	Houston County, Georgia	20,184	Pulaski County, Georgia	1,936	Wilcox County, Georgia	2,023		
Cook County, Georgia	3,819	Irwiln County, Georgia	1,868	Putnam County, Georgia	3,184	Wilkes County, Georgia	2,933		
Coweta County, Georgia	14,845	Jackson County, Georgia	9,331	Quitman County, Georgia	618	Wilkinson County, Georgia	1,797		
Crawford County, Georgia	2,696	Jasper County, Georgia	2,758	Rabun County, Georgia	3,806	Worth County, Georgia	4,715		
Crisp County, Georgia	7,113	Jeff Davis County, Georgia	3,822	Randolph County, Georgia	1,813				
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008 - 2012 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table S1701, Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months									
Total:									1,645,272