



Judicial Council of Georgia
Administrative Office of the Courts

David L. Ratley
Director

April 13, 2007

RE: State Funds to Provide Legal Services for Victims of Domestic Violence

Dear Potential Grant Applicant:

During the First Session of the 2007-2008 term, it is anticipated that the Georgia General Assembly will appropriate to the Judicial Council of Georgia approximately \$2,053,179.00* (based on the awarded amount for Fiscal Year 2007) to provide civil legal services to victims of domestic violence. The Judicial Council has adopted general guidelines to govern the granting of these monies. It has also delegated to its Committee on Domestic Violence the duty of accepting and evaluating grant applications and awarding these grants.

The Judicial Council Domestic Violence Committee plans to continue to award these funds by July 1, 2007. Seventy-five percent (75%) of the grant money will be awarded pursuant to the poverty population guidelines (this number will be based on the most current estimates from the Census Bureau) and twenty-five percent (25%) of the grant money will be awarded to special needs areas. Grant proposals will be considered from non-profit agencies with experience providing legal services to victims of domestic violence in Georgia. Providers may apply for funds in both categories. The deadline to apply is **Friday May 11, 2007**.

Enclosed are the guidelines for grant applications. If you have any questions, please contact me at (404) 656-6692 or clantonc@gaaoc.us.

Sincerely,

Cynthia H. Clanton
General Counsel

Enclosures

*Specific amount contingent on the Georgia Legislature's funding for Fiscal Year 2008 and the Judicial Council Budget Committee recommendations.

ATTENTION!

PROVIDERS OF LEGAL SERVICES TO VICTIMS OF FAMILY VIOLENCE

Funding for FY 2008

Funds to be distributed: \$2,053,179*
Application Deadline: May 11, 2007

During the First Session of the 2007-2008 term, it is anticipated that the Georgia General Assembly will appropriate to the Judicial Council of Georgia \$2,053,179* to provide civil legal services to victims of family violence. The Judicial Council has adopted general guidelines to govern the granting of these moneys. It has also delegated to its Committee on Domestic Violence the duty of accepting and evaluating grant applications and awarding these grants.

The Domestic Violence Committee plans to continue to award these funds by July 1 of each year. Seventy-five percent of the grant money will be awarded pursuant to the poverty population guidelines (this number will be based on the most current estimates from the U.S. Census) and twenty-five percent of the grant money will be awarded to special needs areas. 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 poverty population guidelines and guidelines for these grants 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 program contact person, and the amount requested.

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

Program Narrative: The applicant must describe exactly how the program will be implemented 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 applicant will monitor and measure the activity and effectiveness of the program and how it will report results. No grants will be made unless the Committee has approved the evaluation process.

Budget: The application should include a budget narrative. The budget should list the amount requested, the category (i.e., personnel, supplies, etc.), 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.

Letters of Support: The applicant 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: Applicants must attach a copy of the IRS letter indicating non-profit status. Also, applicants must enclose a statement indicating that they are registered and in good standing with the State of Georgia.

Applications should be mailed to: The Administrative Office of the Courts of Georgia, Cynthia H. Clanton, General Counsel, 244 Washington Street, SW, Suite 300, Atlanta, GA 30334-5900. Please mail the original application, attachments, and two copies. Faxed applications will not be considered.

Applications must be received or postmarked no later than **May 11, 2007**. Award announcements will be made on or about July 1, 2007. Award funds will be disbursed as soon as possible thereafter.

Please note: As grant funds are appropriated from the State of Georgia, award amounts may be subject to change, without prior notice, based on budget cuts.

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 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. Up to 49,946 instances occurred in 2002. 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 4,000 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 services in three major areas of need by:

1. Providing legal services related to domestic violence, child custody and family support;
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;
3. Providing training for volunteer attorneys and other professionals on legal issues faced by victims of domestic violence.

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 Grantee provide free legal services to a client whose income exceeds 200% of the federal poverty guidelines.

VIII. Directions and Deadlines for Application: Applications for grant funds must be mailed to the Administrative Office of the Courts, Cynthia Hinrichs Clanton, General Counsel, 244 Washington Street, Suite 300, Atlanta, Georgia 30334. 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 clantonc@gaaoc.us.

LEGAL SERVICES TO VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE GRANT

FORMULA TO CALCULATE GRANTS

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

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

Example: Amity House serves Glynn and McIntosh counties

Glynn county poverty population = 10,544

McIntosh county poverty population = +1,924

Total poverty population in county(ies)

served by grant applicant: 12,468

$12,468 \div 1,155,544$ (total persons in poverty in GA) = .010789

$.010789 \times \$2,053,179.00$ (anticipated available grant amt) = \$22,154 (rounded)

Georgia Poverty Population by County

Appling	3,012	Fannin	2,866	Oglethorpe	1,679
Atkinson	1,566	Fayette	5,231	Paulding	7,143
Bacon	1,820	Floyd	13,539	Peach	4,478
Baker	843	Forsyth	7,486	Pickens	2,821
Baldwin	6,568	Franklin	3,050	Pierce	2,757
Banks	1,929	Fulton	128,777	Pike	1,614
Barrow	5,657	Gilmer	3,428	Polk	5,784
Bartow	9,399	Glascokk	364	Pulaski	1,481
Ben Hill	3,300	Glynn	10,544	Putnam	2,671
Berrien	2,791	Gordon	5,866	Quitman	498
Bibb	28,463	Grady	4,610	Rabun	1,921
Bleckley	1,745	Greene	2,777	Randolph	1,669
Brantley	2,458	Gwinnett	57,071	Richmond	35,361
Brooks	3,260	Habersham	4,494	Rockdale	8,325
Bryan	2,750	Hall	19,041	Schley	624
Bulloch	10,845	Hancock	2,014	Screven	2,807
Burke	5,074	Haralson	4,076	Seminole	1,924
Butts	2,559	Harris	2,242	Spalding	9,863
Calhoun	1,185	Hart	3,283	Stephens	3,800
Camden	4,785	Heard	1,659	Stewart	1,011
Candler	2,116	Henry	10,514	Sumter	6,571
Carroll	12,370	Houston	13,711	Talbot	1,206
Catoosa	6,322	Irwin	1,658	Taliaferro	407
Charlton	1,791	Jackson	5,946	Tattnall	4,239
Chatham	38,737	Jasper	1,763	Taylor	1,747
Chattahoochee	1,582	Jeff Davis	2,271	Telfair	2,359
Chattooga	3,638	Jefferson	3,356	Terrell	2,431
Cherokee	11,210	Jenkins	1,918	Thomas	7,273
Clarke	18,084	Johnson	1,807	Tift	7,067
Clay	800	Jones	2,781	Toombs	5,611
Clayton	36,491	Lamar	2,131	Towns	1,172
Clinch	1,380	Lanier	1,355	Treutlen	1,449
Cobb	62,395	Laurens	8,054	Troup	9,156
Coffee	7,179	Lee	2,654	Turner	2,084
Colquitt	8,459	Liberty	8,514	Twiggs	1,719
Columbia	6,765	Lincoln	1,251	Union	2,467
Cook	2,902	Long	2,116	Upton	4,567
Coweta	9,812	Lowndes	15,854	Walker	8,776
Crawford	1,848	Lumpkin	2,926	Walton	7,576
Crisp	5,051	Mcduffie	3,771	Ware	6,370
Dade	1,823	Mcintosh	1,924	Warren	1,249
Dawson	1,751	Macon	2,762	Washington	3,893
Decatur	5,878	Madison	3,483	Wayne	4,587
Dekalb	87,705	Marion	1,413	Webster	406
Dodge	3,229	Meriwether	3,917	Wheeler	1,227
Dooly	2,196	Miller	1,154	White	2,736
Dougherty	20,293	Mitchell	4,934	Whitfield	10,712
Douglas	10,678	Monroe	2,640	Wilcox	1,606
Early	2,797	Montgomery	1,497	Wilkes	1,784
Echols	803	Morgan	2,036	Wilkinson	1,548
Effingham	4,417	Murray	5,164	Worth	3,849
Elbert	3,345	Muscogee	29,956		
Emanuel	4,738	Newton	8,969		
Evans	2,207	Oconee	2,053	Total	1,155,544