

Funding – WINGS Forum Backgrounder

Objective: Identify possible sources of funding to sustain WINGS

Examples of Funding Sources for WINGS and Guardianship Reform:



- Florida – Supplementary funding from Florida Bar for travel
- Idaho – Use of state general funds and court fees for guardianship purposes
- Indiana – Legislative funding for Adult Guardianship Office in Supreme Court, including some support for WINGS
- Massachusetts – Funding from Guardianship Community Trust
- Minnesota – Federal Elder Justice Innovation Grant from Administration for Community Living (HHS) on supported decision-making
- Montana – 2017 legislative appropriation, but lost during special session
- Pennsylvania – State appropriation for Elder Justice Advisory Council in Courts
- Utah - Recent legislative funding to support court visitor program, including support for WINGS. Also funds from State Office of Rehabilitation

Possible Funding Sources:



1. State general funds appropriated for WINGS through court budget
2. Court makes budget or staffing modifications to support WINGS
3. Court filing fees – but competition with other projects
4. Community trust funds
5. State or local foundations interested in aging, disability, courts, mental health – importance of diverse stakeholder support for proposals
6. In-kind contributions from stakeholders – for example bar, AARP
7. State Justice Institute -- Awards grants to improve the quality of justice in state courts, and foster innovative, efficient solutions to common issues faced by all courts. A 2018 priority is: “Guardianship, Conservatorship, and Elder Issues—Assisting the state courts in improving their oversight responsibilities through electronic reporting, visitor programs, and training.” See 2018 Grant Guidelines at http://www.sji.gov/wp/wp-content/uploads/FY-2018-Grant-Guideline_Federal-Register.pdf
8. Future vision – possible federal funds for a Court Improvement Project related to adult guardianship, similar to current Court Improvement Project for child welfare, in which every state court receives regular funding to enhance collaboration and improve processes. <https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/systemwide/courts/reform/cip>
9. What else?

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