Potential Funding Sources for WINGS

This summary highlights examples of WINGS funding sources, but is not intended as a complete list. Please ADD!!

1. **Specific Legislative Appropriation for WINGS**
   
   In 2017, the MONTANA legislature created WINGS and initially provided funding to support WINGS, but the funding was eliminated as part of the Judicial Branch’s reductions. In 2019, during the initial budget review for the Judicial Branch, WINGS funding again was eliminated, but WINGS members will advocate for its inclusion.

2. **State General Funds Through Court Budget**
   
   In INDIANA, in 2013 the Adult Guardianship State Task Force won legislative funds to create a Supreme Court Adult Guardianship Office, which in turn is supportive of the multidisciplinary Task Force efforts.

   In UTAH, in 2018 WINGS advocated for and won permanent appropriations for the Supreme Court’s guardianship volunteer visitor program (GRAMP), which in turn helps to support some staff time for the WINGS committee.

   In other states, court staff devote time to coordinating WINGS.

3. **Court Filing Fees**
   
   In IDAHO, a 2005 House Bill increased fees in guardianship and conservatorship cases to fund a pilot project to evaluate and improve guardianship and conservatorship monitoring. Recognizing the success of the pilot and improvements in monitoring, the Idaho Supreme Court in 2009 created a permanent, interdisciplinary Idaho Supreme Court Guardianship and Conservatorship Committee (WINGS), funded by the filing fees. *Idaho Code §31-3201G.*

4. **Community Trust Funds**
In MASSACHUSETTS, the Guardian Community Trust is a non-profit organization that operates the largest pooled trust program in the state. The Massachusetts Guardianship Policy Institute was established in 2014 as a collaboration between the Guardian Community Trust and other entities.

In NEW YORK, the New York Community Trust provided grant funds to the Vera Guardianship Institute and others to research guardianship and decision support needs in New York City and state.

5. State or Local Foundations

In UTAH, WINGS provided training on advance life planning and guardianship for families with ASPIRE funds.

In ALABAMA, WINGS received a 2019 grant from the Alabama Law Foundation for public and professional outreach.

6. State Justice Institute


The original WINGS pilots in 2013 and 2015 were funded by the State Justice Institute, through the National Guardianship Network, with supplemental funding from the Borchard Foundation Center on Law and Aging.

7. Federal Discretionary Grants

Federal grants for related projects may include funding for or address some of the objectives of WINGS.
In MINNESOTA, Volunteers of America (VoA) received a grant from the U.S. Administration on Community Living addressing supported decision-making. The grant supports the time of the VoA staff who serves as WINGS coordinator.

Grant opportunities in legal services, elder abuse, disability systems, mental health or aging may be vehicles to help sustain WINGS.

8. **Universities**

In NORTH CAROLINA, Rethinking Guardianship (WINGS) is a collaborative effort between the NC Council on Developmental Disabilities, the NC Department of Aging and Adult Services and the UNC-CH School of Social Work’s Jordan Institute for Families.

With support of Utah State University, UTAH WINGS organized a roundtable on “Crossroads on Guardianship, Involuntary Commitment and Essential Treatment.”

9. **State Disability/Aging Agencies**

See above, in NORTH CAROLINA, the Rethinking Guardianship group is supported through a collaborative effort that involves both the Council on Developmental Disabilities and the Department of Aging and Adult Services.

In MISSOURI, WINGS meetings are staffed through the Missouri Developmental Disabilities Council.

10. **Supplemental In-Kind Contributions from Stakeholders**

FLORIDA WINGS used supplementary funding from the Florida Bar for travel expenses.

In WEST VIRGINIA, WINGS is coordinated by Legal Aid staff.

For some state WINGS, AARP has provided space or lunch.
The INDIANA Adult Guardianship State Task Force has used meeting space provided by a local law firm.

11. Support Funding for WINGS Stakeholders

A key to WINGS sustainability and synergy is support of the group for funding of its individual stakeholders. For example, when the National Resource Center for Supported Decision-making requested proposals for mini-grants, applications of disability organizations in several states were supported by WINGS.

12. Volunteer Time!

The volunteer time of stakeholders is a huge in-kind funding source. Be sure to track the value of the volunteer hours, as it will help to attract other funding sources.

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