

CONFIDENTIAL WORKING DOCUMENT

Date: October 28, 2025

To: Legal Services Grants Committee

From: Mary Gladstone-Highland

Re: Annual Grants Meeting –Virtual Meeting via Zoom
Tuesday, November 4, 2025, 4:00 – 5:00

1. Goals

- a. Promote stability for grantees and the service delivery system in Michigan
- b. Use grant conditions to require cooperation with the Michigan Legal Help Program
- c. Continue conducting peer reviews to evaluate the efficiencies of the programs and overall delivery system
- d. Support the operation of the statewide Counsel and Advocacy Law Line as an important component of the delivery system in Michigan

2. Recommended Funds Available

The FAC recommended and the Board approved annual grants in the amount of \$2,821,860 for 2026 (see attached chart). These grants will be paid with IOLTA revenue received in prior years.

Based on calculations and estimates provided by the State Court Administrative Office, filing fee estimates are based on a slight increase from projections for 2025. Grant conditions specify that grant amounts are subject to actual funds received from Filing Fees.

3. Details regarding recommended amounts

INCREASE ALL ANNUAL GRANTS

One of our goals for annual funding is to promote stability for grantees. The FAC recommended and the Board approved a budget that includes a 25% increase in annual grants, for a total of \$2,821,860 in annual grants in calendar year 2026.

COUNSEL AND ADVOCACY LAW LINE (CALL)

In 2026 MSBF is continuing its collaboration with CALL and the legal aid programs. MSBF completed a Business Process Analysis of CALL and is currently working with CALL and MLH to determine a new triage model. This process is a follow up and recommendation from the Justice for All Commission's *Independent Evaluation of Michigan's Intake and Referral Ecosystem for Civil Legal Needs*. The FAC recommended and the Board approved a budget that included a supplemental amount to CALL for \$1.35 million, which will alleviate the burden of the programs funding CALL while we complete the evaluation and modifications.