



PRESS RELEASE

**New York State
Unified Court System**

**Hon. Lawrence K. Marks
Chief Administrative Judge**

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Chief Judge Announces New Five-Year Grants for Judiciary's Civil Legal Services Program

NEW YORK—Chief Judge Janet DiFiore today announced the recipients of the Judiciary's Civil Legal Services (JCLS) Program grants for the five-year period beginning January 1, 2022. The JCLS grants are part of the Court System's comprehensive efforts to provide counsel to low-income New Yorkers in civil cases. For more than a decade, the program has provided hundreds of thousands of low-income New Yorkers with effective legal assistance on critical matters involving the essentials of life.

In the first year of the five-year grant cycle, \$85 million will be distributed among 82 contracts to 81 civil legal services providers throughout the State. Additionally, \$15 million is allocated to the New York State Interest on Lawyer Account (IOLA) Fund, bringing the Judiciary's total annual support for civil legal services to \$100 million.

Funding for the JCLS Program is allocated by county, based on the proportion of the population living at or below 200 percent of the poverty threshold. An oversight board, consisting of the Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for Justice Initiatives, the Chair of the NYS Permanent Commission on Access to Justice and the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the IOLA Fund, conducts the funding allocation process.

“I am extremely pleased that JCLS funding will continue to support the most vulnerable New Yorkers in attaining meaningful access to the courts and the legal assistance they need to secure the essentials of life, especially during these very difficult times. I am thankful to our partners in the executive and legislative branches of State government for their unwavering support of the Judiciary Civil Legal Services Program,” said Chief Judge DiFiore.

Attached is a list of this year’s recipients, including the amounts of their respective grants.