



The State Bar of California

Legal Services Trust Fund Commission (LSTFC) Partnership Grant Committee Teleconference

Open Session Minutes
Wednesday, May 17, 2023
1:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m.

Time Meeting Commenced: The Partnership Grant Committee meeting commenced in open session at 1:00 p.m.
Time Meeting Adjourned: 2:12 p.m.
Chair: Eric Isken
Committee Coordinator: Christal Bundang
Members Present: Will Boschelli, Jason Galkin, Diana Kruze, Joseph Lee
Members Absent: None
Advisors Present: Hon. Victor Rodriguez, Hon. Bryant Yang
Advisors Absent: None
Liaisons Present: Laura Brown, Melanie Snider
Liaisons Absent: Salena Copeland

OPEN SESSION

1. Call to Order
The Partnership Grant Committee (PG Committee) was called to order by Chair Isken.
2. Roll Call
Roll call was taken and a quorum was established.

Chair Isken called for public comment, inquiring as to whether there were person(s) who wished to comment on any agenda item. No public comment was made.

3. Approval of Minutes

3.1 Open Session Minutes: April 6, 2023

RESOLVED, that the Legal Services Trust Fund Commission Partnership Grant Committee approves the Open Session Minutes from the April 6, 2023, meeting as posted on the agenda.

Moved by Isken, seconded by Kruze.

Ayes – (4) Boschelli, Galkin, Kruze, Isken
Noes – (0)
Abstain – (0)
Absent – (1) Lee

Minutes adopted.

4. Discussion and Action Items

4.1 Updates Regarding 2022 Partnership Grants, Partnership Grants 2.0, and 2023 Partnership Grants

Presenter: Christal Bundang, Lead Program Analyst, Office of Access & Inclusion

Discussion only.

Lead Program Analyst Bundang provided administrative updates regarding the 2022 Partnership Grants, Partnership Grants 2.0., and 2023 Partnership Grants.

At its last meeting, the Legal Services Trust Fund Commission reviewed and approved the 2022 Partnership Grant carryover requests with spenddown required by June 30, 2023. Any unspent funds after June 30, 2023, must be returned to the State Bar.

Public Counsel's initial Partnership Grant 2.0 proposal for its Guardianship Clinic sought to expand current project staff by hiring an additional attorney. Although the additional attorney was hired, they left Public Counsel after eight months. As an update, Public Counsel reported to the State Bar that it has leveraged existing staff and volunteers and remain on track to achieve its proposed grant deliverables. Program Director Rocio Avalos shared additional comments regarding Public Counsel's other State Bar grants (HP 3 Formula, HP 3 Competitive, and CalHFA) that have been impacted due to staffing transitions and staffing challenges, resulting in Public Counsel returning partial grant funds.

4.2 Discuss and Develop Tentative Funding Recommendations for the 2024 Partnership Grants

Presenter: Christal Bundang, Lead Program Analyst, Office of Access & Inclusion

Discussion only.

Lead Program Analyst Bundang reported that 37 Partnership Grant applications were received requesting a total amount of over \$5 million. Requested funding amounts ranged from \$25,000 to \$439,000 and total rubric scores ranged from 64.2 points to

91.8 points. Bundang also reminded the PG Committee of its past approaches in determining funding recommendations.

Using an estimated distribution amount of \$3.5 million based on the prior grant year, the PG Committee made tentative funding recommendations for the 2024 project using the following approach:

- Implement a funding cap of \$175,000
- Fully fund projects with rubric scores above 80 points up to the requested grant amount or \$175,000 cap
- Fund 90 percent of the requested grant amount or funding cap for projects with rubric scores between 70-79 points
- Not recommend funding for projects with rubric scores below 70 points

The PG Committee also discussed equity concerns regarding organizations who submitted multiple applications proposals and decided to limit funding up to three projects for the same organization.

The PG Committee requested that staff follow up with organizations with decreased funding recommendations to confirm if the organizations still want to administer the project and whether proposed deliverables and services would be impacted. Staff will report any updates at the next meeting when the PG Committee finalizes its recommendations.

ADJOURN