

<b>Drug Court Funding</b>		<b>Agency/Program #:</b> 2110-01-I3
		<b>Division:</b> Supreme Court Ops
		<b>Program:</b> Drug Courts
<b>Agency Name:</b>	Judicial Branch	
<b>Agency Contact:</b>	Lois Menzies	841-2957
<b>LFC Contact:</b>	Representative Hiner, Senators Bales and Schmidt	
<b>LFD Liaison:</b>	Pat Gervais	444-1795
<b>OBPP Liaison:</b>	Brent Doig	444-4118

**Program or Project Description:**

The 2007 Legislature appropriated \$1,345,000 from the state general fund to the Supreme Court for the 2009 biennium to provide grants to drug courts and for up to one full-time administrator, ongoing review of the courts' operations, and development of policies necessary to administer the provision of grants to the courts.

Appropriation, Expenditure and Source					
Fund Name:	2008		2009		Approp & Expenditure numbers are as of August 31, 2008
	Approp.	Expended	Approp.	Expended	
General Fund	326,202	326,202	1,018,798	21,928	
State Special	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$326,202</b>	<b>\$326,202</b>	<b>\$1,018,798</b>	<b>\$21,928</b>	

**Legislative Goal(s):**

Provide funding to and maintain solvency of drug treatment courts that generally were supported by federal funds.

**Legislative Performance Measur**

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**2009 Biennium Significant Milestones:**

		Completion Dates	
		Target	Actual
1	Develop and approve Judicial Branch policy directing distribution of state general fund appropriation		Aug-07
2	Provide grant awards to drug courts		Sep-07
3	Complete funding agreements with each drug court and begin distribution of state general fund appropriation		Nov-07
4	Hire statewide drug court coordinator		Nov-07
5	Develop and implement statewide database system for collecting, reporting, and analyzing performance measures for drug courts	Mar-08	Apr-08
6	Conduct statewide training for drug court professionals	Aug-08	Aug-08

Produce initial report on drug court performance measures based on data collected from statewide database system	Nov-08	
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### Agency Performance Report:

To date, the following activities -critical to future success of the drug courts - have been completed:

- The statewide coordinator has completed site visits to all 12 state-funded drug courts. The site visits include a brief evaluation of the drug court based on the federal key components of effective drug courts and specific advice for addressing problem areas. The site visits also have helped in identifying statewide issues or concerns.
- The data collection system is operational. Each of the 12 courts is reporting data on all participants, active in a drug court, dating back to July 1, 2007. On an ongoing basis, the courts are required to submit information about each client at admission. The data is extensive with a focus on prior drug and alcohol use, criminal behavior, and other pertinent information at admission. At discharge, the data will focus on current drug and alcohol use and criminal behavior as well as tracking improvements in employment, education, and self-sufficiency. Specific data about the children of clients in each family drug court also is being collected.
- The statewide coordinator is working with Dr. Tim Conley from the University of Montana to develop data reports that will identify weaknesses and strengths that must be addressed to ensure the success of drug courts. Dr. Conley also is working on the first statewide evaluation report.
- Over 150 drug court partners attended a statewide training conference held in Butte in late August. More than 20 speakers from various disciplines provided training on best practices in drug courts. Evaluations from the conference were very positive.
- The statewide coordinator also has worked closely with various partners in the executive branch who are key to the success of these courts. Much of this work has focused on troubleshooting concerns in various drug courts. Access to treatment continues to present the biggest challenge to drug courts.
- The courts are receiving another infusion of federal earmark dollars. The statewide coordinator has directed the distribution of these dollars to ensure that the funding is spent on appropriate services.
- Several emerging drug courts, which currently are not receiving state funding, are working with the statewide coordinator to establish courts on a smaller scale.
- The statewide coordinator has developed, in conjunction with the Montana Department of Transportation, two DUI specific courts that will be funded with highway traffic safety money. The courts, which will be operational this fall, are located in the Billings Municipal and Kalispell Municipal courts

### LFD Narrative:

LFD Assessment: On track

Data Relevance: Yes

Appropriation Status: Provided

Comments/Issues: Agency reports access to treatment is a challenge. Two courts specific to DUI and funded with Highway Traffic Safety funds have been started.

Options:

- Change LFD Assessment
- Request that the evaluation report to be completed by November 2008 be mailed to interested members.



Version	Date	Author
AO-1	12/4/07	Gervais
AO-2	5/16/08	Gervais
DO-3	9/23/08	Gervais

Change Description
1st Report
June, 2008 update
Sept 2008 update