

Sargent Shriver Civil Counsel Act Implementation Committee
Annual Agenda¹—2022
Approved by Executive and Planning Committee: March 10, 2022

I. COMMITTEE INFORMATION

Chair:	Hon. Terry B. Friedman, (Ret.)
Lead Staff:	Ms. Bonnie Hough, Principal Managing Attorney, Center for Families, Children & the Courts
<p>Committee’s Charge/Membership:</p> <p>The Sargent Shriver Civil Counsel Act Implementation Committee is required by Government Code section 68651(b)(5) to implement the Sargent Shriver Civil Counsel Act (Assem. Bill 590 [Feuer]; Stats. 2009 ch. 457) which was amended by the Appointed Legal Counsel in Civil Cases Act (Assem. Bill 330 [Gabriel]; Stats 2019, ch. 217). The statute requires the Judicial Council to develop one or more model pilot projects in selected courts for three-year periods. The projects will provide legal representation to low-income parties on critical legal issues affecting basic human needs. At the direction of the Judicial Council, the implementation committee will make recommendations on which pilot projects will be selected and provide input into the design of the pilot projects evaluations. With the adoption of AB 330, program evaluations must be submitted to the Legislation every five years commencing June 30, 2020.</p> <p>The Sargent Shriver Civil Counsel Act Implementation Committee currently has 13 members. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 retired appellate justices • 1 retired judge • 2 law professors • 6 attorneys with experience in legal aid programs • 1 attorney with the State Bar of California • 1 attorney with the California Chamber of Commerce <p>The current committee roster is available on the committee’s web page.</p>	

¹ The annual agenda outlines the work a committee will focus on in the coming year and identifies areas of collaboration with other advisory bodies and the Judicial Council staff resources.

Subcommittees/Working Groups²:

None.

Meetings Planned for 2022³ (Advisory body and all subcommittees and working groups)

February:

- Videoconference meeting February 2022 to review status of programs, and recommendations re: renewal.

September:

- Videoconference meeting Fall 2022 to review status of programs and draft application for 2023-2026 grant cycle.

Check here if exception to policy is granted by Executive Office or rule of court.

² California Rules of Court, rule 10.30 (c) allows an advisory body to form subgroups, composed entirely of current members of the advisory body, to carry out the body's duties, subject to available resources, with the approval of its oversight committee.

³ Refer to [Operating Standards for Judicial Council Advisory Bodies](#) for governance on in-person meetings.

II. COMMITTEE PROJECTS

#	New or One-Time Projects ⁴	
1.	Project Title: Make Additional Recommendations to the Judicial Council for the 2020–23 Grant Cycle	Priority⁵ 1
	Strategic Plan Goal⁶ I	
<p>Project Summary⁷: In 2020, the committee made recommendations to the Judicial Council regarding grants for the 2020–23 cycle based upon a Request for Proposal (RFP) circulated in January and February of 2020. Initial recommendations were made based on the projection of lower revenues due to the pandemic. If revenue is higher than anticipated, additional projects have been identified for funding. The committee will review the status of the funding and the proposals in light of changes related to the pandemic and make recommendations to the Judicial Council as appropriate.</p>		
<p>Status/Timeline: This review will be conducted in February 2022 and again in September 2022.</p>		
<p>Fiscal Impact/Resources: Center for Families, Children & the Courts (CFCC) staff and committee expenses are covered by an administrative allocation of grant funds.</p>		
<p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p>		
<p>Budget Services has reviewed and has determined that this is not within their purview since the allocations are governed by statute.</p>		
<p>Internal/External Stakeholders: The legal services community and partner courts are the external stakeholders.</p>		
<p>AC Collaboration: None.</p>		

⁴ All proposed projects for the year must be included on the Annual Agenda. If a project implements policy or is a program, identify it as *implementation* or a *program* in the project description and attach the Judicial Council authorization/assignment or prior approved Annual Agenda to this Annual Agenda.

⁵ For non-rules and forms projects, select priority level 1 (must be done) or 2 (should be done). For rules and forms proposals, select one of the following priority levels: 1(a) Urgently needed to conform to the law; 1(b) Urgently needed to respond to a recent change in the law; 1(c) Adoption or amendment of rules or forms by a specified date required by statute or council decision; 1(d) Provides significant cost savings and efficiencies, generates significant revenue, or avoids a significant loss of revenue; 1(e) Urgently needed to remedy a problem that is causing significant cost or inconvenience to the courts or the public; 1(f) Otherwise urgent and necessary, such as a proposal that would mitigate exposure to immediate or severe financial or legal risk; 2(a) Useful, but not necessary, to implement statutory changes; 2(b) Helpful in otherwise advancing Judicial Council goals and objectives.

⁶ Indicate which goal number of [The Strategic Plan for California’s Judicial Branch](#) the project most closely aligns.

⁷ A key objective is a strategic aim, purpose, or “end of action” to be achieved for the coming year.

#	Ongoing Projects and Activities ⁴	
1.	Project Title: Research and Data Collection	Priority⁵ 2 Strategic Plan Goal⁶ II, III
<p>Project Summary⁷: Government Code section 68651 required that an evaluation of the pilot projects be submitted to Legislature on or before January 31, 2016. That evaluation was completed, and a supplemental report was submitted in August 2017. AB 330 added a requirement that an evaluation be completed every five years with the first evaluation due to the Legislature on June 30, 2020. The next report will be due on June 30, 2025. The committee provides input on the design of the evaluation and reviews data from the programs as well as the draft evaluation prior to submission to the Judicial Council.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Ongoing.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Resources: CFCC staff and contractor time are covered by an administrative allocation for the grant. <input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: The Judicial Council will work closely with the pilot projects and contract with a research firm to assist in data collection and analysis.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: None.</p>		
2.	Project Title: Implementation and Oversight of Pilot Projects	Priority⁵ 1 Strategic Plan Goal⁶ I, IV
<p>Project Summary⁷: The committee will provide continuing oversight of the pilot projects that have been approved by the Judicial Council. The work is required by Government Code section 68651 which requires the Judicial Council to establish pilot projects and to form an advisory committee to review applications and oversee those projects. If additional funds become available, the committee will make recommendations to the Judicial Council on distribution.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Ongoing.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Resources: CFCC staff and committee expenses are covered by an administrative allocation of grant funds. <input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p>		

#	Ongoing Projects and Activities⁴	
	<p>Internal/External Stakeholders: The pilot programs – legal services and their court partners are stakeholders.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: None.</p>	
3.	<p>Project Title: Serve as a Resource</p>	<p>Priority⁵ 2</p>
	<p>Strategic Plan Goal⁶ I, IV</p> <p>Project Summary⁷: In its report to the Judicial Council regarding the Evaluation of the Sargent Shriver Civil Counsel Pilot Project, the Committee made recommendations for consideration by the Judicial Council. At the Judicial Council meeting of July 27, 2017, these recommendations were referred back to the committee for further development and referral to appropriate subject matter committees. Subject matter committees and Judicial Council staff also request information on updated evaluation data.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Provide information as requested by other committees on the results of the Shriver evaluations as needed for their work.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Resources: CFCC staff time and that of outside researchers is covered by the administrative funds set aside for the project.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: Staff to the Shriver project will work with committee staff for the other committees to which recommendations may be made.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: The committee will work with the Advisory Committee on Providing Access and Fairness, the Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee, the Probate and Mental Health Advisory Committee, and the Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee as appropriate regarding these recommendations.</p>	

III. LIST OF 2021 PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#	Project Highlights and Achievements
1.	Recommendations were developed for the Judicial Council for distribution of the allocation to an additional grantee for a period of June 1, 2021 to May 31, 2022. This was approved by the Judicial Council at its meeting on May 21, 2021.
2.	The committee provided information as requested to Judicial Council staff and committees on the results of the <i>Sargent Shriver Civil Counsel Evaluation</i> which was submitted to the Legislature on June 30, 2020, as required by Assembly Bill 330 (Gabriel) .
3.	Comprehensive evaluation is ongoing.
4.	The committee continues to monitor grants awarded that provide representation and make court services more efficient and effective for those who remain unrepresented.