

# ACCESS TO JUSTICE INITIATIVE PUBLIC FUNDING

PLANNING AND INFORMATION  
SESSION

NOVEMBER 20, 2024



# AGENDA

- Welcome
- Look back at FY25
- FY26 Budget Outlook
- Formulating FY26 Budget Request
- Next Steps and Timeline
- Preparing for Performance Oversight
- Discussion, Q&A



# WELCOME

- **Thank you.** Your support made all the difference in securing FY25 funding.
- **Your work is at the core of our success.** Community leaders recognized the importance of your services.
- **We can build on this foundation of support,** even if we face similar future budget challenges.

# FY25 BY THE NUMBERS

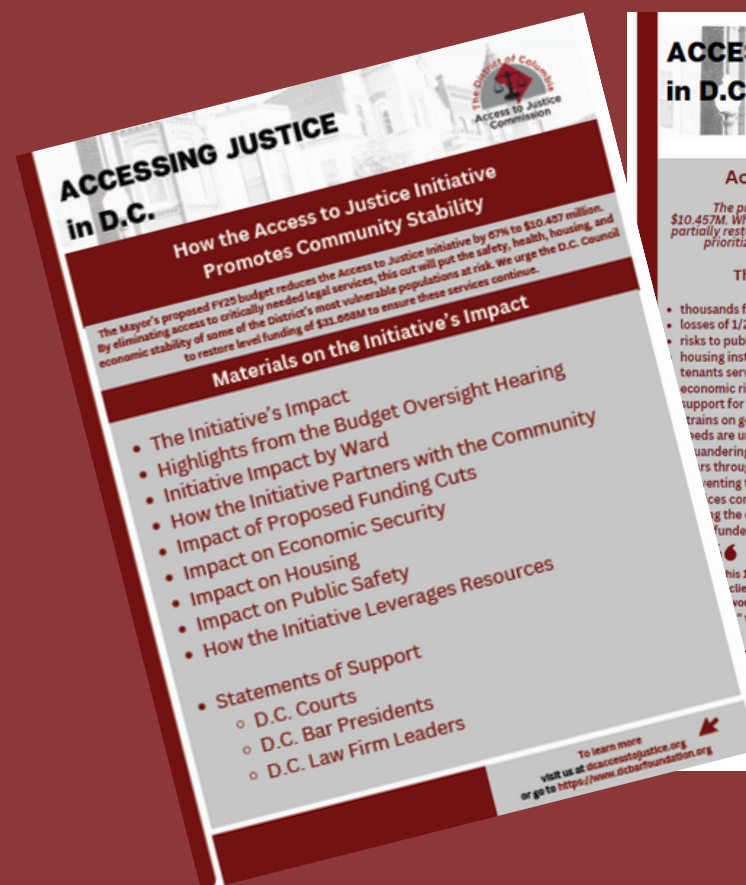
- FY24 Total = \$31,667,840
- Budget Request = \$31.7M
- Mayor Proposed = \$10.457M
- Judiciary Committee Enhancement = \$2.2M
- COW Enhancement = \$19M
- FY25 Total = \$31,667,840
  
- Performance Oversight = 19 witnesses
- Budget Oversight = 51 witnesses



# LOOK BACK AT FY25 ADVOCACY

- Tailored Council Outreach
- Compelling Testimony
- Advocacy Materials
- = Level funding of \$31M

- What worked well?
- What could we have done better?
- How could the Commission have better supported your advocacy efforts?





# FY26 BUDGET OUTLOOK

JON BOUKER

# FORMULATING FY26 BUDGET REQUEST

- Commission annually approves and submits in consultation with DC Bar Foundation
- Typically seek level or increased funding
- Includes breakdown of funding request, per program (ATJ, CLCPP, LRAP)
- Provides examples of funded work (i.e., family, consumer, housing, etc.)
- Use letter as opportunity to capture the impact of the programs
- Includes snapshot of community needs, changes



# DISCUSSION

- What are the greatest areas of community need? Are these new or different?
- What do you anticipate in FY26?
- What is unknown?
- Other system needs to consider (i.e., CIR, Self-Help)?
- Do you have good data, anecdotes, etc. for us to highlight to demonstrate impact?
- Are there partnerships (esp. with the DC government) that we can feature?
- Other feedback on the budget letter?





## TIMELINE (ALL DATES TBD)

December	Budget Request Submitted to Mayor
January/February	OVSJG Performance Oversight (FY24, FY25)
March	Mayor Releases Budget
April	OVSJG Budget Oversight (FY26)
April/May	COW Budget Oversight (FY26)
May	Judiciary Committee Mark Up
May	Council Budget Work Session
May	1st Reading on FY25 Local Budget Act
May	2nd Reading on FY25 Local Budget Act
July	Mayor Signs Budget

# PERFORMANCE OVERSIGHT

- Commission will share date once released
- Reminder to sign up via Council Hearings Management System when calendar available
- Indicate that you are testifying about ATJ Initiative
- **Goal:** Council understands breadth of funded programs and broader community impact
- **Goal:** Preview budget messages and talking points
- Commission will prepare “Notes for Witnesses” document as in the past and will hold info. session

# KEEP IN TOUCH

- Let Commission know key staff to involve in ongoing advocacy efforts (see Google Form)
- Always be thinking about key data, case studies, project work that can support our advocacy messaging ... impact, breadth, synergy with Mayor's and Council's goals, etc.
- Commission will continue to keep you updated, share resources, bring community together
- Let us know how we can help you advocate

# DISCUSSION AND QUESTIONS



Contact Commission Executive Director Nancy Drane  
([nancy.drane@dcaccesstojustice.org](mailto:nancy.drane@dcaccesstojustice.org))