

RESOLUTION - SUPERMAJORITY

Resolution Authorizing the Acceptance of Grant Award from the McHenry County Community Foundation for Court Administration Office of Special Projects FY2026 (42)

WHEREAS, the Problem Solving Courts of the 22nd Judicial Circuit of McHenry County operate the Drug Court, Mental Health Court, and DUI Court Programs; and

WHEREAS, these programs operate with fidelity to the established evidence-based practices and ten key components for problem-solving courts; and

WHEREAS, the Problem Solving Court programs have been found to be a viable alternative to incarceration; and

WHEREAS, recent research indicates that sustained recovery is significantly tied to meaningful and purposeful work-life balance. Employment is an important element for sustaining recovery and maintaining financial independence; and

WHEREAS, the 22nd Judicial Circuit has sought and has received a grant award notice from the McHenry County Community Foundation in the amount of \$75,000.00 for an employment specialist to work with the clients of the Specialty Court Programs; and

WHEREAS, the revenue and expense portion of the FY2026 budget was established during the budget process.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by this County Board of McHenry County, Illinois, that it hereby authorizes the acceptance of a grant award in the amount of \$75,000.00 from McHenry County Community Foundation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Clerk is hereby authorized to distribute a certified copy of this Resolution to the County Administrator, Deputy County Administrator, Director of Finance, Trial Court Administrator, Director of the Office of Special Projects, and Chief Circuit Judge.

DATED at Woodstock, Illinois, this 21 day of April, A.D., 2026.

Michael Buehler, Chairman
McHenry County Board

ATTEST:

Joseph J. Tirio, County Clerk

RESOLUTION

SUBJECT: Resolution Authorizing the Acceptance of Grant Award from the McHenry County Community Foundation for Court Administration Office of Special Projects FY2026 (42)

Board / Committee Action Requested:

Approve a resolution authorizing the acceptance of a grant award from the McHenry County Community Foundation in the amount of \$75,000.00.

Background and Discussion:

The Office of Special Projects employs evidenced based practices when interacting with clients of the Problem Solving Courts. Recovery from Substance Use Disorder can be difficult, and the Specialty Courts, based on research, believe that the fundamental treatment of the entire individual is necessary to achieve sobriety, rather than just treating the addiction or mental health issue. By doing so, all of the needs of the individual are met. According to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), recent research indicates that sustained recovery is significantly tied to meaningful and purposeful work-life balance. Employment is an important element for sustaining recovery and maintaining financial independence.

The Office of Special Projects in collaboration with Workforce Network, sought a transformational grant through the McHenry County Community Foundation and was awarded \$75,000.00 to employ an employment specialist. This employment specialist will work with all of the clients of the Specialty Court Programs, who need employment services. Each client will submit to an employment assessment and will be offered access to training, resume building, career counseling, finance management, etc.

Impact on Human Resources:

None.

Impact on Budget (Revenue; Expenses, Fringe Benefits):

None.

Position Reclassification or Regrade, please address the following:

None.

Impact on Capital Expenditures:

None.

Impact on Physical Space:

None.

Impact on Other County Departments or Outside Agencies:

This position allows for increased capacity to better serve clients, the community, and referring agencies and departments. The ultimate goal of this position is to aid clients in obtaining gainful employment, which ultimately impacts the community/county in which they live.

Conformity to Board Ordinances, Policies and Strategic Plan:

Yes.