



# COMMISSIONERS COURT COMMUNICATION

REFERENCE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

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DATE: 01/23/2024

**SUBJECT: APPROVAL TO SUBMIT THE FISCAL YEAR 2025 ACCESS AND  
VISITATION GRANT APPLICATION TO THE OFFICE OF THE  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE STATE OF TEXAS**

**\*\*\* CONSENT AGENDA \*\*\***

**COMMISSIONERS COURT ACTION REQUESTED**

It is requested that the Commissioners Court approve the submission of the FY 2025 Access and Visitation Grant application to the Office of the Attorney General (OAG).

**BACKGROUND**

The grant funds a portion of the Parenting Coordination and High Conflict Coaching programs provided by skilled professionals employed by Tarrant County to facilitate, coordinate, and mediate access to children between litigants in family law cases. The focus is on promoting cooperative parenting, fostering non-adversarial conflict resolutions, and maintaining each litigant's dignity. Intervention through a Parenting Coordinator early in the legal process supports parents in resolving their own disputes and effective co-parenting. These skills result in greater chances for settlements in the pending cases, less litigation over issues of access and custody, and greater access to and visitation with their children for non-custodial parents throughout the remaining childhood years.

On March 9, 2021, the Commissioners Court, through Court Order #134961, approved the FY 2021 contract between Tarrant County and the OAG for continued Access and Visitation Grant funding in the amount of \$62,202.30, with the option to extend through FY 2023.

With approval, the Domestic Relations Office will submit a grant application to the OAG for continued Access and Visitation Grant funding. Tarrant County has the existing infrastructure and resources to provide all required program services by the Contract. The OAG grant effectively reimburses Tarrant County for up to ninety percent (90%) of the allocated salary and expenses budgeted for the existing Tarrant County employee(s) designated as the Program Staff for the purposes of the Access and Visitation Grant.

The term of the grant will be for FY 2025 to begin October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025. The Contract may be renewed for three (3), optional, one (1) year terms with the optional renewal term beginning on October 1, and concluding on September 30th, of each year for FY 2026, FY 2027 and FY 2028.

The Budget and Risk Management Department has reviewed the application.

SUBMITTED BY:	Budget and Risk Management	PREPARED BY: APPROVED BY:	Virginia Garcia Clint Dupew
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### **FISCAL IMPACT**

The grant requires an organization's match from Tarrant County of ten percent (10%) of the total program budget. The total program budget for program staff is calculated to be \$111,743.00 for FY 2025.

The requested award amount for FY 2025 is \$100,568.00.

The FY 2025 Organization's Match required is \$11,175.00.

No additional allocation is needed from Tarrant County.

No indirect costs allowed for this grant.

No operating subsidy required for this grant.

***Please Note: Due to the volume of information, copies of the entire packet are not being reproduced for distribution. However, the information may be viewed online in the Commissioners Court's agenda on the Tarrant County website or in the Commissioners Court records within the County Clerk's Office.***