

# Interest on Lawyer Account Fund of the State of New York

*Funding civil legal assistance for low-income New Yorkers since 1984*

## **Justice Infrastructure Project Planned Activities for Remainder of Phase 2 (December 2024 – March 2025)**

The activities planned for Phase 2 of the Justice Infrastructure Project (“JIP”) included:

1. Vision presentation and feedback;
2. Stakeholder engagement;
3. Advisory Committee development;
4. Vision refinement; and
5. Initial development of Statewide Functions.

As of December 2024, activities 3 and 5 remain to be completed. Provided below are IOLA’s plans to advance the development of the Statewide Functions and Advisory Committees.

### **Initial Development of Statewide Functions (December 2024 – March 2025)**

#### **Statewide Function A: Support, Knowledge, and Information for Legal Services Organizations**

IOLA is planning a convening of grantees (in a hybrid format allowing for in-person and virtual participation) interested in discussing the development of this Statewide Function on January 16<sup>th</sup>. At this convening, IOLA will present research regarding other statewide support functions for legal services communities around the U.S. It will then facilitate discussions of certain essential initial elements of this function, such as organizational structure, governance, funding, staffing, models for participation, and key initial support activities. Following the convening, IOLA will seek to continue the initial development with ongoing advisory groups that can develop recommendations for the creation of this Statewide Function. IOLA intends to provide compensation to organizations participating in these advisory groups.

#### **Statewide Function B: Legal Information and Referral for the Public**

IOLA is similarly planning a convening of both grantees, community organizations, and subject matter experts (in a hybrid format allowing for in-person and virtual participation) interested in discussing the development of this Statewide Function in early March 2025. IOLA will present research regarding information and referral functions for legal services communities and social care networks around the U.S. It will then facilitate discussions of certain essential initial elements of this function, such as resource directory, maintenance and sustainability, staffing, content management, AI tools, capacity and scheduling, coordinated intake, call center resources, community engagement, and outreach. From these facilitated discussions, IOLA will seek to continue the initial development with ongoing advisory groups that can develop recommendations for the creation of this Statewide Function. IOLA intends to provide compensation to organizations participating in these advisory groups.

In addition to this convening, IOLA intends to organize a convening of government funders in New York to explore opportunities for integration and collaboration. IOLA is hopeful that this convening can be scheduled in April or May 2025.