IOLA FUND

Board of Trustees

Lowe Center
221 S. Warren Street
Syracuse, NY 13202

June 4, **2025**

NOTICE:

In compliance with Executive Order 3, *Promotion of Public Access to Government Decision-Making* (January 1, 2007), the Board of Trustees meeting will be videotaped for public internet viewing.

Meeting Agenda

Location: IOLA Fund Offices (Syracuse, NY)

Date: Wednesday, June 4, 2025

Time: 1:00 pm

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Davis will call the meeting to order.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Davis will entertain motions to approve the minutes, included at **Tab 2**, for the following meeting: **Board of Trustees on March 20, 2025**

3. EXECUTIVE REPORT

Ms. Fecko will provide her Executive Report. Please see **Tab 3** for materials.

a. **FY26 Final Enacted Budget**
b. **Programming Activities**
c. **IOLA Operations**
d. **Justice Infrastructure Project**
e. **Announcements**

RESOLUTION – Approving IOLA Fund Budget Appropriation Overview for FY 2025-26

4. ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL REPORT

Ms. Agard will provide her Administrative and Financial Report. Please see **Tab 4** for materials.

a. **Financial Statement – April 2025**
b. **Consolidated Bank & Revenue Report**
c. **Administrative Budget**

5. GENERAL COUNSEL

Ms. Nyiendo will provide her report. Please see **Tab 5** for materials.

a. **Grantee Matters**
b. **Attorney and Bar Associations**
c. **Banking Compliance**
d. **Legal Matters / State Budget Matters**
e. **Ethics Matters**

6. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Please see **Tab 6** for Motion and materials.

RESOLUTION – Approving IOLA Staff Title and Salary Changes

7. GRANTEE PRESENTATIONS

Grantees serving Central New York will give brief presentations about their programs.

8. NEXT MEETING

The next Board Meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 17 at 1pm at the IOLA Fund office in New York City.

9. ADJOURNMENT

IOLA Fund of the State of New York
Meeting of the Board of Trustees – New York, NY
March 20, 2025
DRAFT

Present: Chair Davis and Trustee Galowitz

Public Videoconference: Trustees Cirando, Dunham, Lindenauer, Lopez-Soto, Madigan and Ross

Absent: Trustee Villaverde

Staff: Fecko, Nyiendo and Agard

1. Call to Order.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Davis at approximately 1:11 p.m. Remarks by Chair Davis welcoming the Board to the meeting.

2. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees held on December 17, 2024.

The minutes of the above meeting were reviewed. Trustee Lopez-Soto moved to approve the Board minutes, which was seconded by Trustee Madigan. The Board approved the motion unanimously.

3. Executive Report

Ms. Fecko reported that since her Executive Report was written, the state legislature has released its "One Bill," where it adopted the provisions in the Executive Budget related to IOLA. The proposed budget recognizes IOLA as a fiduciary fund and refrains from any transfer of IOLA funds to other programs. IOLA's 5-year grant cycle and Justice Infrastructure Project (JIP) are also endorsed in the Governor's Briefing Book. The legislative budget further includes IOLA's requested increase to its administrative budget. A concern in the proposed budget is that it includes only $77.5 M appropriation, and not the $80M that IOLA requested. The $80M request stems from the Board's June 2024 5-year grantmaking plan, which provided for $77.5M for grants and $2.5M to launch JIP.

IOLA has advocated to DOB that its spending request should be honored because we are a fiduciary fund, our revenue balance supports the request, and because withholding the $2.5M does not save the state any money as those withheld funds can not be used for other State projects. Moreover our revenue balance actually exceeds the projections that we made in October by $11M. We understand that many grantees have done some advocacy to the legislature in support of IOLA's spending request as well.

In the event the final enacted budget still does not contain the $2.5M, there are implications to consider on the 5-year grantmaking plan. Important to note is that the balance of 75% for CLS and 25% for AOJ grants, the supplemental AOJ grants in FY 27-30, as well as funding going forward for JIP were all premised upon receiving the appropriations requested. Ms. Fecko does not recommend at this time that the Board reconsider the allocation of funds in the grantmaking plan. Rather, she recommends proceeding as planned for FY26 and pausing the $2.5M spending on JIP this year. She stated that the full administrative budget may allow IOLA to continue planning on JIP. Moreover, due to one declined grant there is a modest amount of money to redirect to JIP.

For our FY27 budget request, Ms. Fecko proposes adding the $2.5M shortfall into our request, thus seeking $102.M in total appropriations and not $100M. Ms. Fecko has discussed this with DOB but DOB cannot give us assurances for future year appropriations at this early stage. If we receive the full $102.5M in our FY27 budget, the Board may want to reconsider the 5-year grant plan, but this is a matter to address at a later date.

Regarding the 5-year procurement, the record is still pending with OSC. We continue to follow up with OSC and are hopeful it will be approved any day. All of the contracts are ready to go pending OSC final approval. Ms. Fecko thanked Ms. Agard and Ms. Fehringer and the entire IOLA team for their work preparing the procurement record.

There is one grantee that declined its IOLA grant, which will be discussed in Executive Session. Those funds from that declined grant total $1M over 5 years, with about $155K allocated for FY26. This money will revert to IOLA's grant budget. This money could be used as seed money for JIP, but cannot fully replace the $2.5M shortfall discussed earlier. Ms. Fecko anticipates presenting recommendations at the June Board meeting as to how to best utilize that money.

With respect to IOLA operations, the current draft budget includes authority to hire two new positions. Once the budget is final, we will begin recruiting for those positions along with filling one vacant one..

Regarding the office lease issue, we are working with a real estate broker. Ms. Fecko thanked Ms. Agard for leading on this issue. We have identified 12 office space options, four of which provide better value in terms of price, space and amenities than our current location. We recommend to the Board that IOLA move to a new space and we have a Resolution prepared for a vote to that effect. Ms. Fecko thanked Chair Davis for agreeing to assist and work with Ms. Agard on the lease and office move.

We are hoping to complete the Online Attorney Enrollment System by the end of this calendar year.

Ms. Fecko advised that IOLA had a convening of about 70 people in January focused on the statewide support function component of JIP. Four consulting groups consisting of 39 individuals formed subsequent to the convening and they have been meeting monthly ever since to advance recommendations regarding the statewide support function. We aim to get those recommendations from the consulting groups in May, so that the Board may consider their proposals at the June meeting. We continue to support training through Just-Tech looking at cybersecurity and AI issues. There is a detailed report in the Board Book from Just-Tech on the training initiatives.

Our reconciliation of FY25 spending revealed available funds that we can grant out as small JIP Readiness grants. We discussed with DOB whether we could roll the money forward to FY26 but that is not an option due to the cap on our FY26 grant appropriation. The grant funds would be used for work on projects such as coordination, case management systems, AI tools, tech assessments of internal functions, or process improvements to intake, as examples. Each CLS grantee would receive $30K and each AOJ grantee $20K, totaling $2M. A Resolution will be presented at the end of the meeting regarding the JIP Readiness grants.

Yesterday, we held the first of four receptions to introduce IOLA leadership to the grantee community. We are pleased to report that we had over 50 attendees. Ms. Fecko thanked Brett Parker and Kurt Denk and the NYC Bar for hosting us. We have additional receptions scheduled for Buffalo on April 15, Albany on May 6 and Syracuse on June 4. The flyer is in the Board Book and Board members are welcome to attend any of the receptions.

Chair Davis next presented two Resolutions to the Board, the first being a Resolution authorizing IOLA to pursue a new lease. Ms. Fecko added that we would work within our budget regarding a proposed new lease. Chair Davis asked for a motion to approve the Resolution, and Trustee Cirando so moved. Trustee Soto-Lopez seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. Chair Davis next asked for a motion to approve a Resolution authorizing the JIP Readiness grants, which Resolution appends the list of grantees and proposed disbursements. Trustee Cirando so moved, and Trustee Soto-Lopez seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

4. Administrative and Financial Report

Ms. Agard provided an overview of the Administrative Report. Ms. Agard reported that IOLA's cash balance on December 31, 2024 was approximately $568M. For the month of January 2025, our deposit revenue is $16M, our STIP revenue is $2.2M, minus administrative expenses of $186K, and grant expenses of $6.59M. The opening cash balance in February 2025 was approximately $580M.

Ms. Agard noted that the banking report has been streamlined for the Board book going forward. Ms. Fecko added that we combined the information on the Delta

Consulting reports with our own data collection to streamline the report for the Board.

Ms. Agard advised that the net yield was 2.24% for January 2025. Ms. Agard also summarized the historical net yield and average daily balance over the last 12-months with the Board. Ms. Fecko added that due to interest rate cuts in Fall 2024, the net yield has been on a downward trajectory. It is not clear whether interest rates will continue to fall. Ms. Agard pointed out the historical revenue graph for the last four years showing revenue.

Ms. Agard noted a new chart in the Board book regarding a Budget Appropriation Overview, which reflects among other things, the FY25 appropriations in various categories, IOLA's FY26 budget request, the variance from the prior year, and the FY26 Executive Budget. Ms. Fecko added that we have a proposed Resolution for the Board so as to clarify the Board's approval for IOLA spending in these categories. We will update this Budget overview in the next meeting after the final enacted budget is approved.

Ms. Agard next reviewed the Functional Budget, which lists more specific items on the administrative budget. Ms. Fecko added that this report is new for the Board as well and provides better transparency as to where funds are allocated on the administrative side. Ms. Agard next reviewed the Variance Report with the Board, which provides the current month's expenditures.

Trustee Dunham asked for more information regarding the proposed two new positions and their salaries. Ms. Fecko responded that we intend to hire a government affairs coordinator to aid us on communications issues and to develop relationships with decision-makers in state government and the second position is an audit assistant with the grants team to help with the oversight of grant spending. The total amount IOLA has allocated for the two new positions is base salary of $150K, plus fringe and indirect costs of $94K. In addition, we have a vacant administrative assistant position that we will fill.

Ms. Agard next stated that there is a proposed Resolution to approve the Budget Appropriation Overview. Chair Davis asked for a motion to adopt the Resolution. Trustee Soto-Lopez so moved, and Trustee Cirando seconded. The Resolution was approved unanimously.

5. General Counsel's Report

Ms. Nyiendo advised she participated in 9 applicant debriefings from the last grant cycle with Ms. Fecko, which were a mix of successful and unsuccessful applicants. The successful applicants sought input on what worked well for their applications for their future reference.

IOLA is engaged in meet and greets with the grantee community, with one meeting having been completed yesterday. Other meet and greets are planned

for other areas of the state and will be combined with site visits to grantees where we will have an opportunity to learn more about the grantees' programs.

With regard to attorney bar matters, Ms. Nyiendo advised that she continues to be involved with the NYC Bar Association's Pro Bono and Legal Services Committee monthly meetings.

Ms. Nyiendo advised that IOLA reached a resolution with the Executive Chamber and State Comptroller's Office regarding IOLA's integrity and IOLA's funds going forward. Ms. Nyiendo also advised she participated in meetings with Ms. Fecko and DOB regarding IOLA's FY 26 budget proposal.

Regarding ethics matters, Ms. Nyiendo reported that all IOLA staff and Board members have completed their mandatory 2024 ethics training. She will circle back with the staff and Board later in the year regarding completion of the 2025 training. Ms. Nyiendo advised that the Financial Disclosure Statement (FDS) is due May 15. All Board members are three staff members are considered policy makers and are thus mandatory filers. An email will come from COELIG around April 15 to remind the mandatory filers of the deadline. Ms. Nyiendo will be in touch later with more information as the FDS deadline approaches.

Ms. Nyiendo advised that on February 19, the NY Court of Appeals issued a ruling in *Cuomo v. COELIG* on a challenge to the constitutionality of COELIG's enabling statute. In a 4-3 close decision, the Court affirmed the constitutionality of COELIG, thus solidifying the agency of the regulator for ethics and lobbying activity in NY State. The Court recognized that the statute went right up to the line of what is constitutionally permissible for COELIG's structure, but ultimately held that the statute was constitutional. Important to the Court's finding was the notion that it is an inherent conflict for an executive to police itself, and that maintaining trust by the public in government is paramount.

Lastly, Ms. Nyiendo stated that before the Board is a proposed Resolution thanking four bar associations and an individual attorney who supported IOLA in its advocacy on behalf of IOLA's integrity. The Resolution also thanks the law firm of Greenberg Traurig and partner Hank Greenberg for their pro bono representation of IOLA on this matter. Chair Davis asked for a motion adopting the Resolution which Trustee Madigan so moved, and which was seconded by Trustee Cirando. The Resolution was adopted unanimously.

6. Next Meeting

Ms. Fecko advised that the next Board meeting is June 4 in Syracuse. If any Board members need assistance with travel arrangements, IOLA can facilitate that. Following the June 4 meeting, IOLA will have a reception for grantees at the same location.

7. Executive Session

Chair Davis made a motion to enter into Executive Session to consider matters relating to the financial history and appointment of a particular corporation, specifically an IOLA grant applicant; potential litigation; and the proposed lease of real property. The motion was seconded by Trustee Galowitz and unanimously approved.

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There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Licha Nyiendo
General Counsel

Interest on Lawyer Account Fund of the State of New York

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

CHRISTINE M. FECKO, ESQ.
Executive Director

DATE: May 28, 2025

TO: IOLA Board of Trustees

RE: June 4, 2025, Board Meeting, Executive Report

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1. **FY26 Final Enacted Budget**

New York State approved the final enacted budget with the following highlights for IOLA:

- includes only $77.5M of the $80M that IOLA requested for its FY26 grant appropriation, which, as discussed in the last Board Meeting, will require IOLA to **pause** the **FY26 grant opportunities** contemplated in the 2024 IOLA Grant Plan;

- includes the modest increase IOLA requested for its administrative budget, including two new staff positions and the additional consulting services for the Justice Infrastructure Project

However, the **Division of Budget has imposed a cash ceiling that reduces by nearly $500,000** IOLA's administrative spending for consulting services. Therefore, pending ongoing discussions with DOB, IOLA will **pause** the **cybersecurity training** initiative of the Justice Infrastructure Project.

Following my report, I offer a **resolution** for the Board to approve IOLA's spending plan in connection with the final enacted budget.

2. **Programming Activities**

FY26-FY30 Procurement. The Office of the State Comptroller has approved the procurement record for the FY26-FY30 RFP and the 87 grant contracts are in the process of being finalized. One provider's contract is stalled because it objects to a special grant condition, which can be discussed in Executive Session.

Receptions. IOLA hosted Meet-and-Greet events for IOLA grantees in NYC (~55 attendees), Buffalo (~35 attendees), and Albany (~30 attendees). A Meet and Greet event is planned in Syracuse for June 4 following the IOLA Board meeting of the same date.

Site Visits. The General Counsel and I conducted in-person site visits with the following:

- Workers Justice Center of New York (Kingston)
- Western New York Law Center (Buffalo)
- Neighborhood Legal Services (Buffalo)

- Legal Assistance of Western New York (Rochester)
- Legal Aid Society of Rochester (Rochester)
- Center for Community Justice (Schenectady)
- The Legal Project (Schenectady)

On June 4, prior to the IOLA Board meeting, we plan to conduct additional site visits:

- Legal Services of Central New York (Syracuse)
- Frank Hiscock Legal Aid Society (Syracuse)

Grantee Data. In response to LSC outreach and in consultation with NYSBA, IOLA prepared materials to aid NYSBA leadership with their planned annual Congressional advocacy efforts for legal services.

- IOLA compiled the one-page profile reports for each IOLA grantee demonstrating their work in FY24, grouped by Congressional District. (Also available alphabetically on our website: https://www.iola.org/grantees/about-iola-grantees)

- For CLS grantees, IOLA also prepared a one-page economic impact report for FY24. (This was also shared with the grantees themselves, many of whom engage in Congressional education and advocacy.)

For example, the reports prepared for the four IOLA grantees serving Central New York are **attached**.

NYSBA, LSC, and many grantees have praised the helpfulness of these data reports. The one-page summaries have been a staple of IOLA's data analytics. Moving forward, IOLA will endeavor to regularly prepare the economic impact reports for each grantee.

In addition, IOLA prepared an analysis of federal funds received by IOLA grantees in FY24, generated from grantee reporting to IOLA via the GAR, which showed that federal funding amounted to $104 million received by 48 IOLA grantees. This amount is likely an undercount as grantees also receive pass-through federal grant funds from State agencies that they may not have taken into account in their reporting of federal dollars. Our analysis was shared with JCLS, which is interested in understanding more about the potential losses from federal funding.

3. IOLA Operations

Lease. IOLA Staff, with the generous assistance of Board Chair Mary Davis, have been working to identify new office space. Our initial choice fell through because the landlord was unwilling to use the preferred New York State lease agreement form. We are now focused on locations where the landlords have had experience with tenants that are New York State government entities. We are optimistic that we will be able secure a new lease and arrange our move before our current lease expires on November 30, 2025.

IOLA Staff. In early April 2025, Grant Assistant Emily Radigan resigned her position at the IOLA Fund. The IOLA Funds acknowledges and thanks Emily for her significant contributions to IOLA's grant operations during her relatively short tenure and wishes her every success in her new role with a private foundation.

In light of the existing plan to add two new staff positions and Emily's unexpected departure, IOLA's management reviewed existing workflows to identify ways to improve our oversight of all contracts (grant and non-grant) while also deepening our engagement with substantive programming. The resulting organizational chart (**attached**) locates all contract mechanics (including procurement, payment, and audit) under the supervision of the Director of Administration and all substantive programming (including oversight of operating grant activities and the Justice Infrastructure Project) under the supervision of the Deputy Director of Programs.

To effectuate these changes, I propose the following:

- change the title of the **Deputy Director of Grant Administration** to **Deputy Director of *Programs*** (with no salary adjustment);
- elevate one of the **Grant Assistant** positions to a ***Program* Associate** position, with a salary adjustment commensurate with similar positions in other State government agencies;
- convert one of the **Grant Assistant** positions to a **Procurement Specialist** position with a salary commensurate with similar positions in other State government agencies, and
- look to next year to add a **Program Analyst** to IOLA's program staff.

The Board may discuss these issues further in Executive Session. Thereafter, I offer a **resolution** for the Board to approve these staff title and salary changes.

4. Justice Infrastructure Project

Statewide Support for Legal Services Organizations.

(a) Recommendations. IOLA organized Consulting Groups to develop recommendations on four topics: (1) Services, (2) Governance & Structure, (3) Funding & Sustainability, and (4) Collective Participation & Implementation. Altogether, the Consulting Groups include 39 people from 35 grantee organizations. A report of the questions posed to each Consulting Group along with their written recommendations is **attached**.

(b) Mapping. From February to April 2025, IOLA sought to gather information from grantee organizations regarding the tools and resources they use to inform the development of the Statewide Support function by identifying those resources that are already used. This exercise to map actively used **Listserves**, **Directories** and **Training** included distributing surveys as well as gathering information provided in grantee annual reports (GAR) and responses to IOLA's recent 5-year RFP. A summary report is **attached**.

(c) Procurement Plan. Following the recommendations of the Statewide Support Consulting Groups, IOLA intends to advance the Statewide Support function by

releasing a nonprofit grant opportunity to develop statewide training services. (IOLA's grant budget is unaffected by DOB's cash ceiling restriction, referenced above.)

To ensure IOLA drafts an adequately specific and appropriate grant opportunity, IOLA's procurement plan includes:

i. Release of a "Request for Information" (RFI) this summer, providing interested parties and potential applicants the opportunity to provide IOLA feedback on its ideas for statewide training services,
ii. Host a session at the Justice Infrastructure Summit to discuss the RFI and answer questions, and
iii. Incorporate all feedback into a final Request for Proposals (RFP).

IOLA expects that the RFP will be released in the fall 2025, after further consultation with the IOLA Board at its September meeting, and any subsequent grant contract would begin in the winter of 2026.

Justice Infrastructure Summit. IOLA has announced a Justice Infrastructure Summit, a two-day, in-person event in Albany for IOLA grantees on August 4-5, 2025 with panel and roundtable discussions regarding (a) the recommendations from the Consulting Groups on Statewide Support for Legal Services Organizations, (b) next steps with developing the function for Legal Information and Referral for the Public, as well as (c) training sessions on technology and cybersecurity. To support attendance at the Summit, IOLA is making travel subsidies available. IOLA thanks Albany Law School for generously providing space and Just Tech for their planning support.
A flyer for the event is **attached**.

Justice Infrastructure Project Readiness Grants.
At its March 20, 2025 meeting, the IOLA Board approved "Justice Infrastructure Project Readiness Grants" to enhance grantees' ability to participate in the initiatives and collaborations related to the Justice Infrastructure Project's objectives (Statewide Support for Legal Services Organizations and Legal Information and Referral for the Public).

IOLA Grantees have expressed thanks and excitement for these grants. Nearly all grantees have approved JIP Readiness Grant projects, many of which are using the funding for multiple improvements. For example:

- 37 grantees are making upgrades to their **case management systems**
  Example: Legal Services of the Hudson Valley will hire an independent consultant to review and optimize its SharePoint and Legal Server (case management) instances, focusing on integrations and security.

- 18 grantees are making investments in their **intake** processes
  Example: Make the Road NY will implement a new membership card system, which will automate the intake process by linking each card to a client's contact record and associated information in its case management system.

- 17 grantees are conducting **cybersecurity and/or technology audits**
  Example: Catholic Migration Services will contract with a cybersecurity firm to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the agency's information security's risks, develop a road map for reducing risk, and generate agency policies related to the operation of sensitive data, systems, third parties, and agency processes and the controls to secure it from potential threats.

- 14 grantees are investing in **AI tools**
  Example: Mobilization for Justice is upgrading its Westlaw and Legal Services subscriptions to include AI modules, which will improve advocates' ability to conduct legal research and provide legal services.

- 7 grantees are developing **internal policies**
  Example: Legal Assistance of Western NY will hire consultants to review internal policy documents, develop new policies as appropriate, and align internal documents that align with the policies. The templates and best practices will be shared with the IOLA network.

- 5 grantees are making upgrades to their **document and knowledge management** tools and processes
  Example: Legal Services NYC will support the final phase its award-winning Knowledge Management system development and deployment; training of all employees on the use of the system; and external support for system maintenance and the development of new features immediately following final deployment.

- 4 grantees are working on developing **technologies around legal resources**
  Example: Empire Justice Center will develop an online platform for the statewide Benefits Law Database, building the groundwork for hosting future resource databases and listservs.

5. Announcements

Permanent Commission on Access to Justice.

- Judge Seth M. Marnin has been appointed as a co-chair, joining Judge Christina Ryba and Janet Sabel. Helena Heath has been named Executive Director.
- The Commission held a virtual law school conference focused on legal deserts, which I attended. (April 17)
- The Technology Working Group has finalized its report on the 2023 technology survey, which the Commission will post soon on its website: https://ww2.nycourts.gov/accesstojusticecommission/index.shtml
- The Chief Judge's annual Hearing on Civil Legal Services has been scheduled for September 18, 2025 in Albany.

National and International Convenings.

- With Licha Nyiendo, attended the NAIP IOLTA Funders Roundtable (May 14) and the ABA/ Equal Justice Conference in (May 15-17) in San Francisco.
- The Association of Canadian Law Foundations has invited me to their annual conference in September 2025 in Whitehorse, Yukon, at their expense, to serve on a panel relating to government challenges to IOLTA programs.

6. Goals for the Next Board Meeting

By the next Board meeting, we have identified the following goals:

- Complete execution of the FY26-FY30 grant contracts.
- Advance the Justice Infrastructure Project, including
    - Hosting the Justice Infrastructure Summit
    - Conducting research and planning for a procurement opportunity to further the Statewide Support for Legal Service Organizations
    - Convene Consulting Groups to develop recommendations relating to the Legal Information and Referral for the Public
- Advance plans for securing office space.
- Complete hiring for open IOLA staff positions.

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE IOLA FUND OF NEW YORK

June 4, 2025

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the New York State Legislature passed a budget for FY 2025 – 2026 on May 8, 2025, providing the IOLA Fund with a $77.5 million appropriation for Aid to Localities and $3.36 million appropriation for State Operations, which budget was signed into law by the Governor on May 9, 2025.

WHEREAS, pursuant to State Finance Law § 97-v 3(a) and (e), the Board of Trustees of the IOLA Fund has the power to, *inter alia*, "distribute funds as grants and contracts to not-for-profit entities," "employ . . . such personnel as it may deem necessary for the performance of its functions and fix their compensation[,]" and "allocate funds for the actual and necessary nonpersonnel administrative costs of the program[.]"

WHEREAS, pursuant to State Finance Law § 97-v 3(h), "[a]ll payments from the IOLA fund shall be made by the state comptroller upon certification and authorization of the board of trustees of the fund."

WHEREAS, pursuant to 21 NYCRR Part 7000.5(a)(11) and (b)(4), the Board may "perform all other acts necessary or proper for the fulfillment of the purpose of the fund and its effective administration" and "assign[] or delegate[]" duties to the Executive Director.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the IOLA Fund of New York APPROVES the allocation of funds as set forth in the IOLA Budget Appropriation Overview for FY 2025 - 2026, attached herein to this Resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that pursuant to the Board's powers and duties under State Finance Law § 97-v and 21 NYCRR Part 7000.5(a)(11), as detailed above, the Board certifies and authorizes the payment of funds consistent with the IOLA Budget Appropriation Overview

for FY 2025 – 2026; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that pursuant to 21 NYCRR Part 7000.5(a)(11) and (b)(4), the Board delegates to the Executive Director and otherwise authorizes the IOLA Staff, to take all actions consistent with this Resolution, including but not limited to directing the payment of funds consistent with the IOLA Budget Appropriation Overview for FY 2025 – 2026 for the actual and necessary nonpersonnel administrative costs of the program so as to fulfill the purpose of the Fund and its effective administration.

Motion by: _____

Seconded by: _____

Vote: Yea ___ Nay ___ Abstain ___

Vote Recorded by: _____
Licha M. Nyiendo
General Counsel

Syracuse, New York
June 4, 2025

NYS IOLA Fund
Budget Appropriation Overview: FY2025-26

	Prior Year Appropriation (FY25)	IOLA Request (FY26)	IOLA Request Change over Prior Year	Final Enacted Budget (FY26)	Executive Budget Change over Prior Year
STATE OPERATIONS					
Personal Service	$ 1,065,000	$ 1,215,000	$ 150,000	$ 1,215,000	$ 150,000
TOTAL PERSONAL SERVICE	**$ 1,065,000**	**$ 1,215,000**	**$ 150,000**	**$ 1,215,000**	**$ 150,000**
Supplies and Materials	$ 10,000	$ 10,000	$ -	$ 10,000	$ -
Travel	$ 10,000	$ 10,000	$ -	$ 10,000	$ -
Contractual Services	$ 1,085,000	$ 1,285,000	$ 200,000	$ 1,285,000	$ 200,000
Equipment	$ 10,000	$ 10,000	$ -	$ 10,000	$ -
Fringe Benefits	$ 702,000	$ 702,000	$ -	$ 792,000	$ 90,000
Indirect Costs	$ 34,000	$ 34,000	$ -	$ 38,000	$ 4,000
TOTAL NONPERSONAL SERVICE	**$ 1,851,000**	**$ 2,112,003**	**$ 200,000**	**$ 2,145,000**	**$ 294,000**
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET	**$ 2,916,000**	**$ 3,327,003**	**$ 350,000**	**$ 3,360,000**	**$ 444,000**
AID TO LOCALITIES					
Grants	$ 62,000,000	$ 80,000,000	$ 18,000,000	$ 77,500,000	$ 15,500,000
TOTAL PERSONAL SERVICE	**$ 62,000,000**	**$ 80,000,000**	**$ 18,000,000**	**$ 77,500,000**	**$ 15,500,000**

Frank H. Hiscock Legal Aid Society

Civil Legal Assistance Program

351 South Warren Street, Syracuse, NY 13202
315-422-8191 | www.hlalaw.org

Project Summary

Grantee will provide civil legal assistance to low-income residents of IOLA Unit 5, primarily in Onondaga County, with legal matters relating to housing, family law, domestic violence, immigration, and unemployment.

Funding

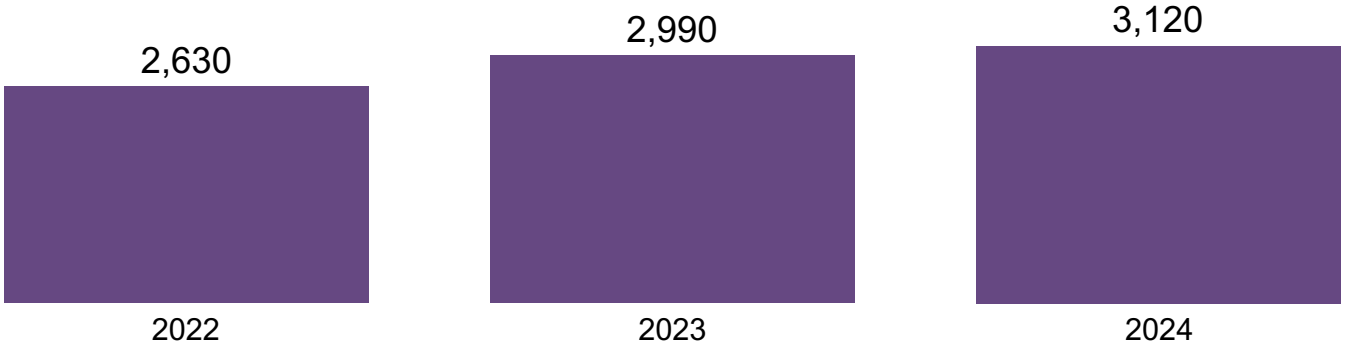
	2021	2022	2023	2024
IOLA Grant	$619,483	$497,068	$602,932	$442,327
Total Civil Legal Services Program Funding	$3,881,664	$3,708,084	$4,577,202	$5,848,599

FY24 Staffing

Attorney FTEs	Total Staff FTEs
32.25	55.00

Cases Closed

Total Cases Closed by Year

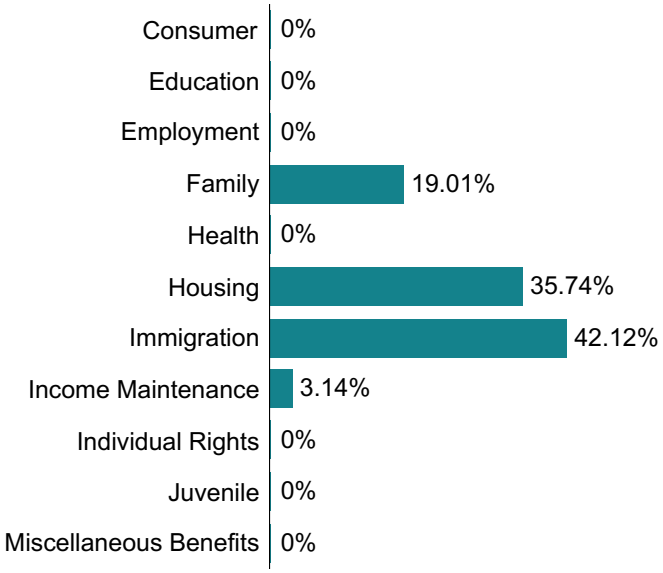


Other Legal Services

CLE	Interactive Online Presentations	
	Legal Education Brochure	
	Pre-Recorded and Other Static Online Content	
	Presentations to Community Groups	906
	Other CLE	
Pro Se Assistance	Help center at court	
	Self-help printed materials	
	Workshops or clinics	717
	Other Pro Se	
Web Assistance	Completed forms with LHI, A2J or other web-based tools	
	Self-help materials posted on web sites	

FY24 People Benefited: *14,750*

Cases Closed by Case Type, FY24



Frank H. Hiscock Legal Aid Society

Civil Legal Assistance Program

351 South Warren Street, Syracuse, NY 13202

315-422-8191 | www.hlalaw.org

View FY24 Extended Summary

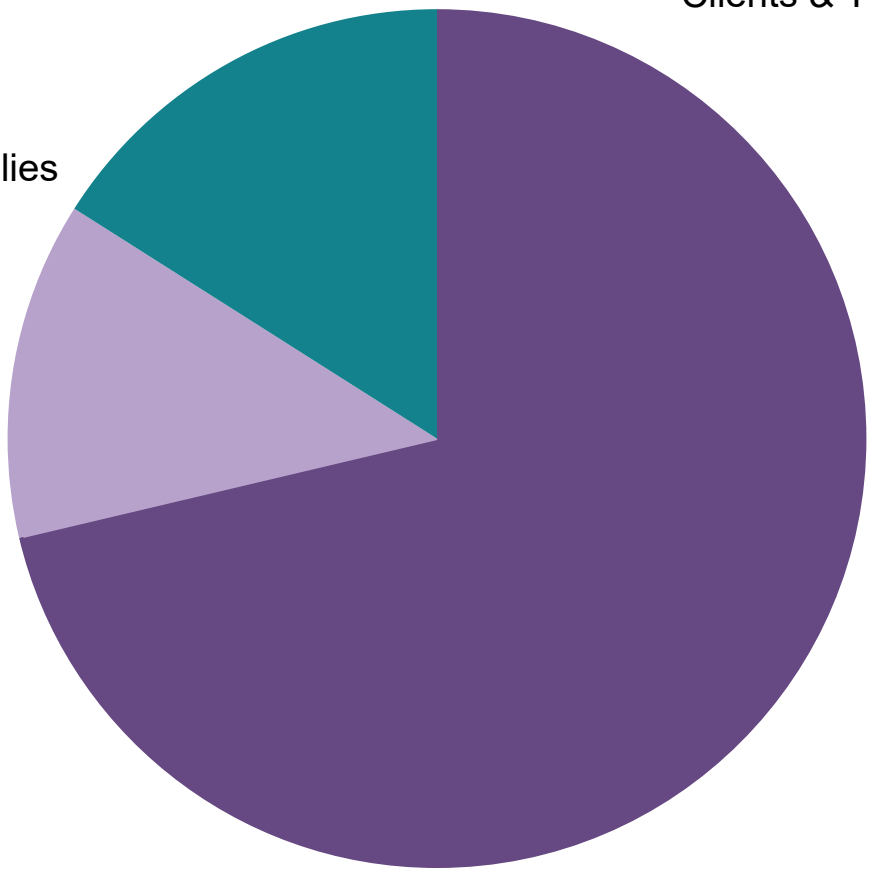
Total Economic Impact:

$15,200,129

$2.43M
Cost Savings
for the Community

$10.84M
Dollar Benefits to
Clients & Their Families

$1.93M
Dollar Savings to
Clients & Their Families



Dollar benefits & savings for clients and their families may include federal benefits, family safety, homelessness prevention, job security, and consumer protection.

Legal Aid Society of Mid New York

120 Bleecker Street, Utica, NY 13501
315-793-7000 | www.lasmny.org

View FY24 Extended Summary

Project Summary

Grantee will provide comprehensive civil legal services to low-income residents in IOLA Unit 5, Central New York, including immigration and naturalization representation to refugees and immigrants. Grantee will also provide statewide outreach to and representation of H-2A migrant farmworkers.

Funding

	2024
IOLA Grant	$176,640
Total Civil Legal Services Program Funding	$10,185,067

FY24 Staffing

Attorney FTEs	Total Staff FTEs
38.00	81.19

Pro Bono Work

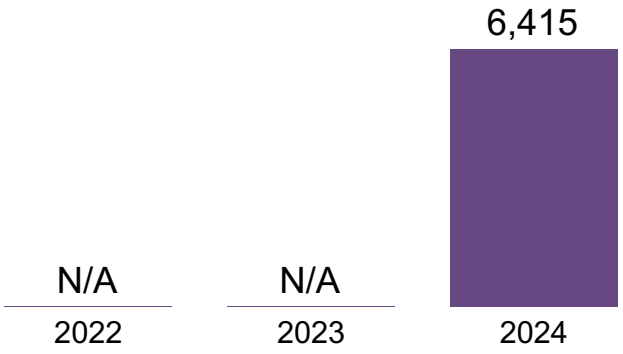
Pro Bono Cases Closed:
293

Volunteer Attorneys:
32

Attorney Hours Donated:
247

Cases Closed

Total Cases Closed by Year

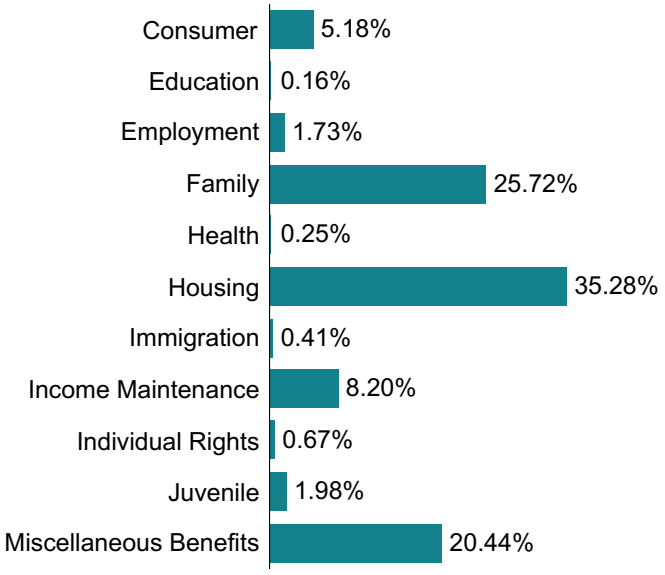


Other Legal Services

CLE	Legal Education Brochure	7,757
	Pre-Recorded and Other Static Online Content	795
	Presentations to Community Groups	1,395
Web Assistance	Self-help materials posted on web sites	2,268

FY24 People Benefited: *13,946*

Cases Closed by Case Type, FY24



Legal Aid Society of Mid New York

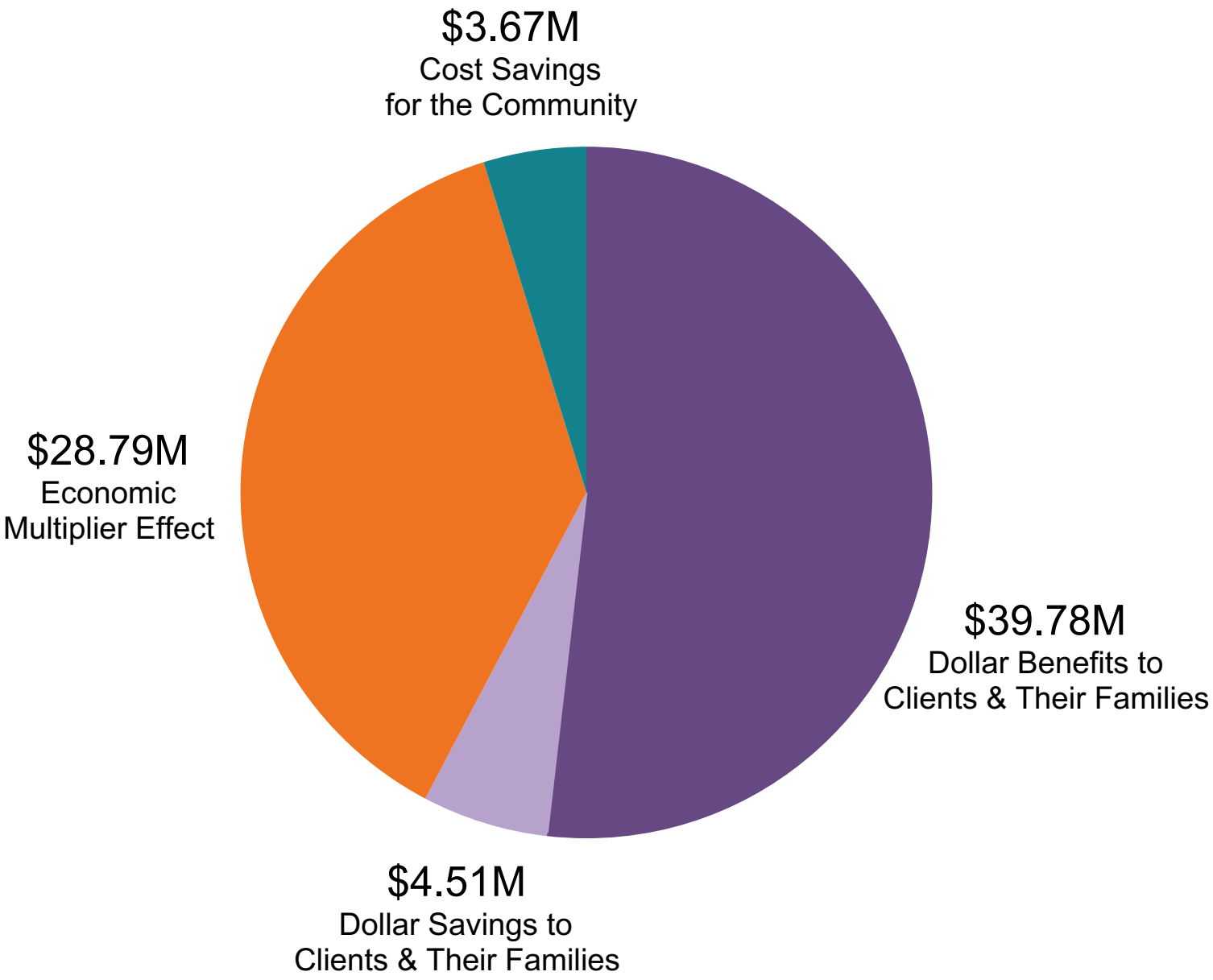
120 Bleecker Street, Utica, NY 13501

315-793-7000 | www.lasmny.org

View FY24 Extended Summary

Total Economic Impact:

$76,747,735



Dollar benefits & savings for clients and their families may include federal benefits, family safety, homelessness prevention, job security, and consumer protection. The "Economic Multiplier Effect" is the economic activity spurred in the community by direct benefits and savings.

Legal Services of Central New York

221 South Warren Street, Suite 300, Syracuse, NY 13202
315-703-6500 | www.lscny.org

Project Summary

Grantee will provide civil legal assistance to low-income individuals in IOLA Unit 5 with legal matters relating to housing justice, economic justice, health justice, and cultural and community justice.

Funding

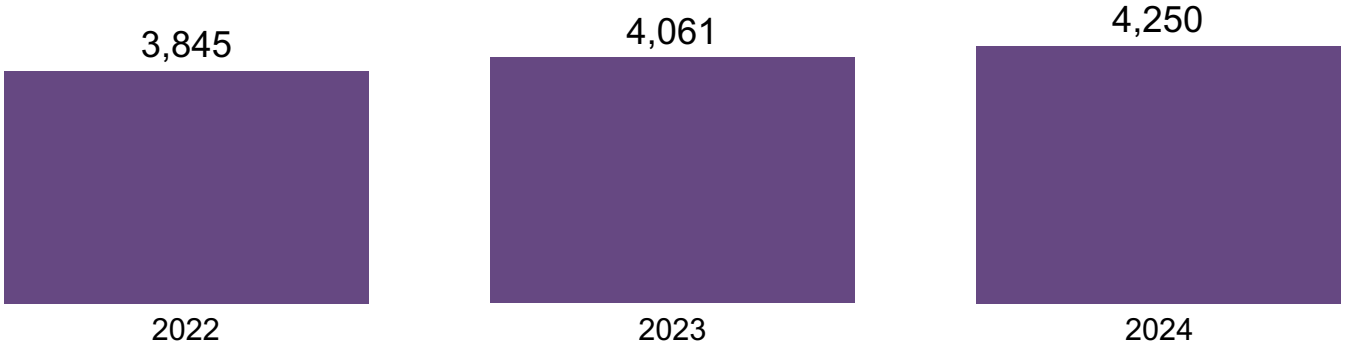
	2021	2022	2023	2024
IOLA Grant	$1,383,116	$1,466,129	$1,324,289	$1,516,169
Total Civil Legal Services Program Funding	$6,001,543	$6,069,588	$7,215,224	$7,756,365

FY24 Staffing

Attorney FTEs	Total Staff FTEs
44.00	67.00

Cases Closed

Total Cases Closed by Year

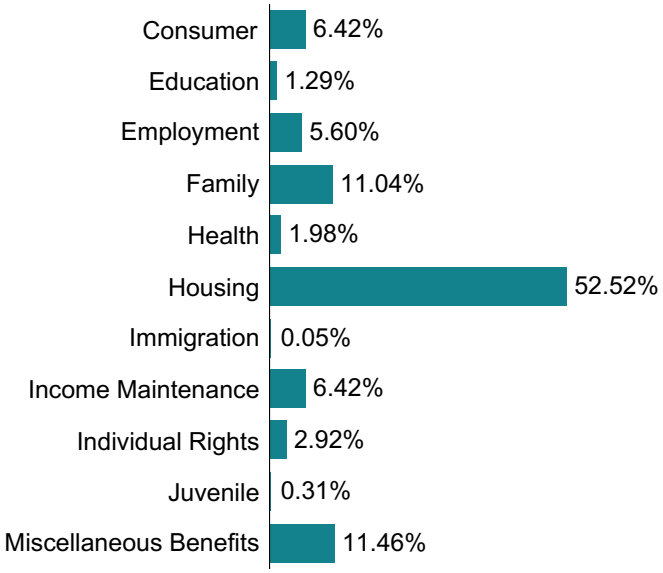


Other Legal Services

CLE	Presentations to Community Groups	2,051
Pro Se Assistance	Help center at court	
	Self-help printed materials	
	Workshops or clinics	
	Other Pro Se	
Web Assistance	Completed forms with LHI, A2J or other web-based tools	
	Self-help materials posted on web sites	
Impact Cases	Number of Impact Cases Closed	6
	Number of Beneficiaries of Closed Impact Cases	100

FY24 People Benefited: *18,173*

Cases Closed by Case Type, FY24



Legal Services of Central New York

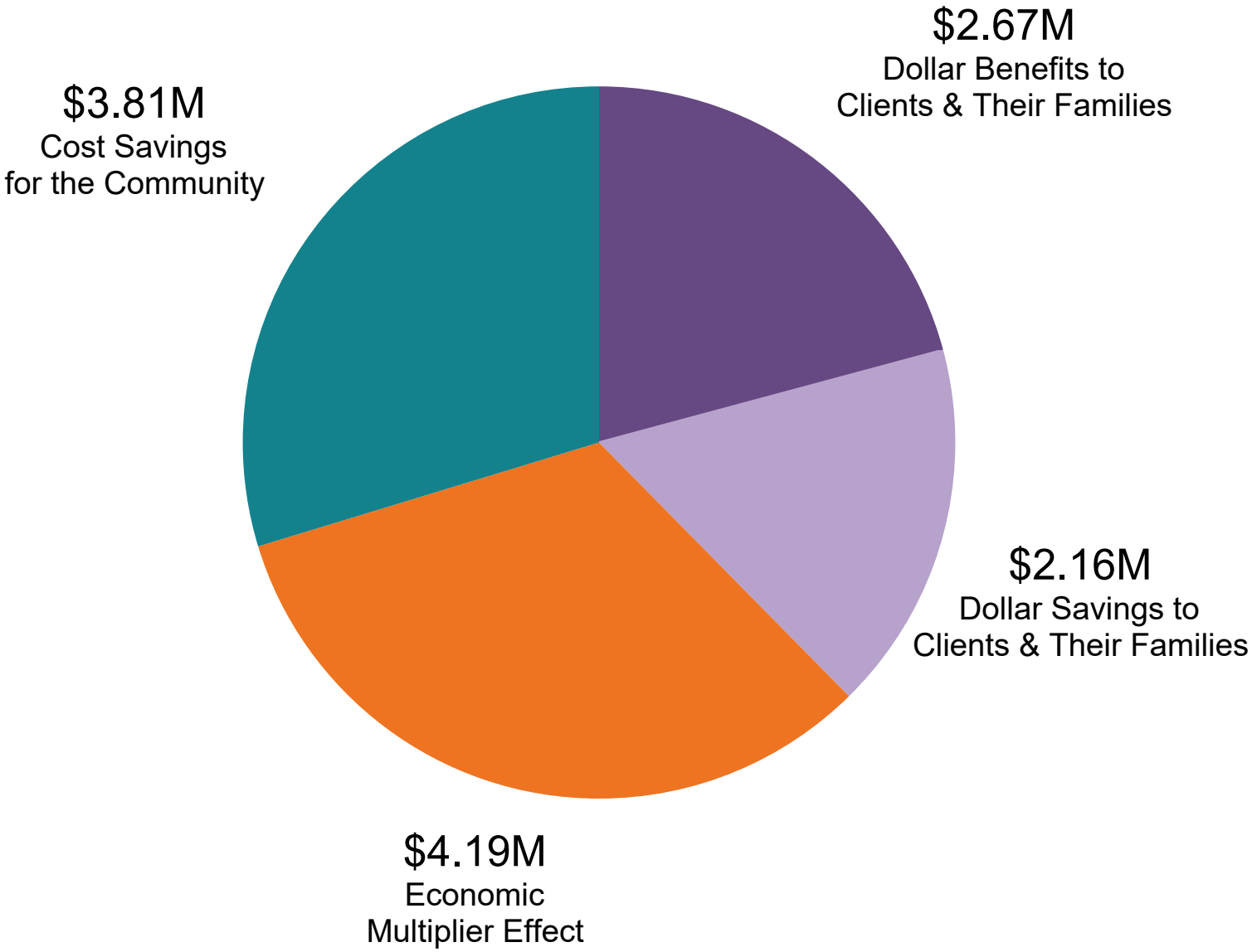
221 South Warren Street, Suite 300, Syracuse, NY 13202

315-703-6500 | www.lscny.org

View FY24 Extended Summary

Total Economic Impact:

$12,826,704



Dollar benefits & savings for clients and their families may include federal benefits, family safety, homelessness prevention, job security, and consumer protection. The "Economic Multiplier Effect" is the economic activity spurred by Federal Benefits coming in to the community.

Volunteer Lawyers Project of CNY

Ensuring access to justice throughout Central New York

221 South Warren Street, Suite 200, Syracuse, NY 13202
315-471-3409 | www.vlpcny.org

View FY24 Extended Summary

Project Summary

Grantee will provide civil legal services and community legal education, via staff and pro bono attorneys, to low income residents of Central New York with legal matters relating to housing, family law, access to healtcare and education, and subsistence income.

Funding

	2021	2022	2023	2024
IOLA Grant	$100,000	$100,000	$100,000	$188,694
Total Civil Legal Services Program Funding	$1,352,310	$1,910,653	$2,598,780	$3,890,437

FY24 Staffing

Attorney FTEs
13.50

Total Staff FTEs
27.02

Pro Bono Work

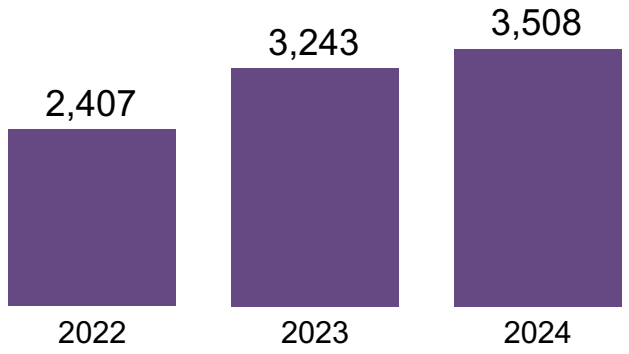
Pro Bono Cases Closed:
1,204

Volunteer Attorneys:
141

Attorney Hours Donated:
1,309

Cases Closed

Total Cases Closed by Year

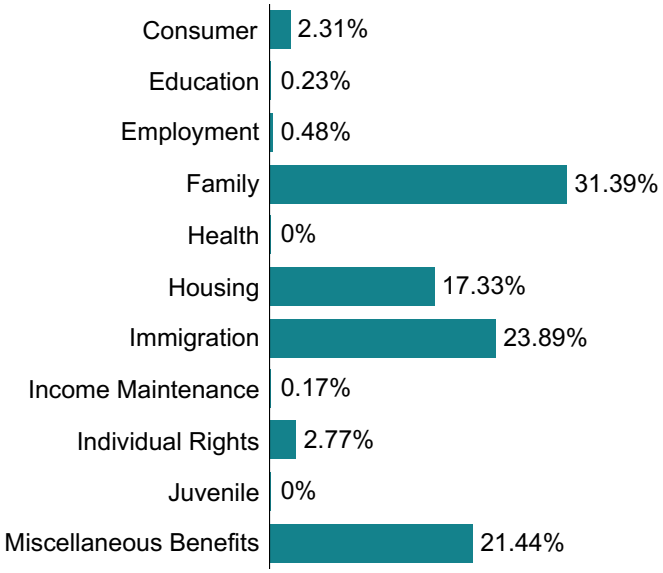


Other Legal Services

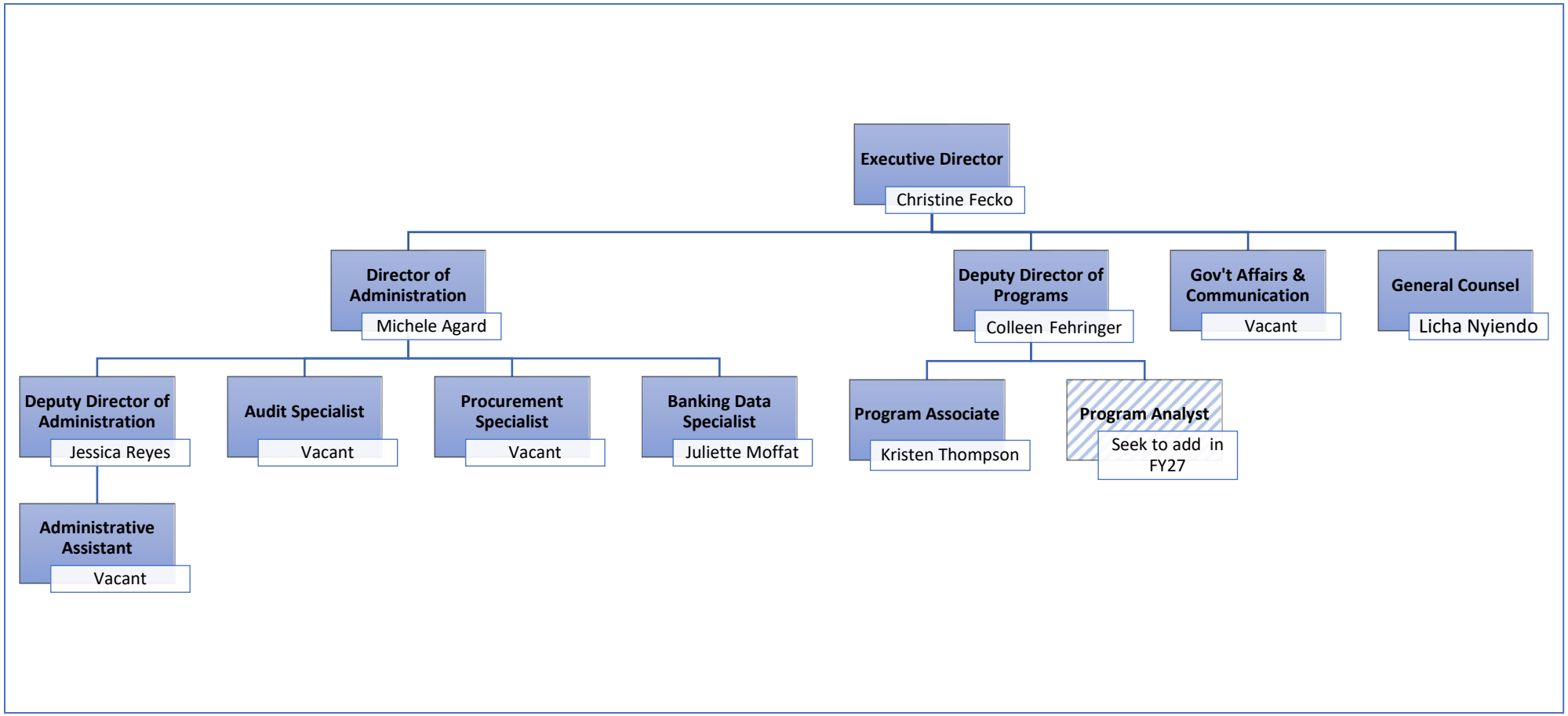
CLE	Legal Education Brochure	2,320
	Presentations to Community Groups	553
	Other CLE	1,267
Pro Se Assistance	Self-help printed materials	50

FY24 People Benefited: *16,749*

Cases Closed by Case Type, FY24



IOLA Fund of the State of New York
Organizational Chart



(May 2025)

Interest on Lawyer Account Fund of the State of New York

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

CHRISTINE M. FECKO ESQ.
Executive Director

DATE: May 28, 2025

TO: IOLA Board of Trustees

RE: Justice Infrastructure Project – State Support Recommendations

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IOLA organized Consulting Groups to develop recommendations on four topics: (1) Services, (2) Governance & Structure, (3) Funding & Sustainability, and (4) Collective Participation & Implementation. Altogether, the Consulting Groups include 39 people from 35 grantee organizations.

Consulting Group members were tasked with addressing certain questions and providing IOLA with written recommendations. IOLA's Project Manager for the Justice Infrastructure Project, Neil Steinkamp, oversaw and IOLA staff provide administrative support to each Consulting Group's work.

Below are the questions each Consulting Group wrestled with along with their final recommendations.

IOLA

11 East 44th Street
Suite 1406
New York, NY 10017-0055

tel (646) 865-1541

www.iola.org
cfecko@iola.org

(1) Services

Questions:

- Who should be contacted / surveyed to expand the list of potentially valuable services for statewide support to provide?
- What criteria should be considered for the prioritization of potential services?
- How can / should services be customizable for local organizations?

Recommendations:

1. Training is a high-priority need for legal services organizations and should be the first service provided by a Statewide Support Function in New York.
    a) Provide training on a variety of topics and a range of formats, with both in-person and virtual opportunities.
    b) In-person opportunities should be held throughout all regions of New York to ensure all organizations have equal access.
    c) Trainings should be related to legal subject matters as well as professional development and managerial topics.
    d) There should be an annual calendar for trainings to enable greater attendance.
    e) Trainings should be available in module formats that can be easily customized by individual organizations or for local jurisdictions.
    f) The Statewide Support should create and maintain a shared online training portal where all participating organizations throughout the state can access training materials.
    g) After trainings are created, the Statewide Support Function can share, sell or license the materials with external stakeholders who may benefit from the resources (such as law schools and the pro bono community).

2. Utilize existing resources as much as possible before creating new services or offerings (including, but not limited to, training); where applicable, Statewide Support should scale and amplify existing resources
    a) Consider responses to GAR and other recent outreach regarding training and platforms used by IOLA grantees

3. The Statewide Support could create resources (or expand existing resources) for the following training topics:
    a) Staff:
        i. New lawyer training
        ii. Experienced lawyer training
        iii. Management and supervision training
        iv. Leadership and Executive Director trainings
        v. New board member training

    b) Legal skills:
        i. Substantive legal topic area training
        ii. Trial skills
        iii. Plain language translation skills
        iv. Soft skills
        v. De-escalation

c) Non-legal functions:
    i. Organizational culture
    ii. DEI
    iii. Capacity building
    iv. Non-profit management
    v. Program and project management fundamentals
    vi. Grant writing
    vii. Financial analysis
    viii. Wellness and health
    ix. Strategic advocacy
    x. Community outreach
    xi. Changes to funding or legal aid landscape

d) Technical:
    i. AI technology
    ii. Other technology tools (software, case management systems, etc.)
    iii. Data gathering (best practices and guidance)

4. Additional services can be added as the Statewide Support Function develops, such as:
    a) Shared knowledge management
    b) Professional development support
    c) Support for the HR, technology, administrative, and wellness operations of organizations
    d) Document/Resource Bank
    e) Coordinated outreach materials / strategies
    f) Data collection / evaluation

5. Certain topics may be more efficient to develop and launch initially based on existing training, consistency across the state, and common objectives in the training
    a) Training resources, platforms, modules, and gathering should also consider variation based on geography (locally and regionally), organization size or other factors, when such variation may exist for certain topic areas

6. Any collaborative resources need to have a designated owner with clear responsibilities and planning regarding maintenance and necessary updates

(2) Governance & Structure

Questions:

- Are there functions of statewide support that should be centralized?
- If decentralized, how would statewide support functions be coordinated?
- How would decision-making functions be administered?
- How would priorities be set? What forms of accountability will be necessary?
- How will contracts for services provided be structured?

Recommendations:

1. Existing coalitions and organizations currently doing forms of statewide support work should be leveraged as much as possible.

2. Avoid the creation of an incorporated entity (including a new 501(c)(3)), unless necessary. Begin with a flexible and collaborative unincorporated model, such as operating as part of an existing 501(c)(3).

3. Consider IOLA input, and feedback from IOLA grantees and provider community, in the review of annual budgets and financial costs that may divert funding from the provider community.

4. The Statewide Support Function is not restricted to one governance model and can evolve as needed over time.

5. There should be strong bylaws, a rotating, diverse (size, geography, subject matter, etc.), decision-making board with a clearly defined mission.

6. In any governance model used, there must be guardrails in place to prevent the Statewide Support Function from becoming too narrowly focused (geographically, subject matter, etc.).

7. A centralized structure should be used to ensure all regions of New York have equal access to any resources created. To avoid missing any regional differences, there should be a rotating board with geographic diversity and mechanisms for collecting feedback throughout the state.

8. Develop a policy with clear mechanisms for handling controversial issues and resolving conflict.

9. IOLA grantees should be required, when possible, to participate in Statewide Support functions.

(3) Funding & Sustainability

Questions:

- What mechanisms for funding will be necessary to ensure statewide support can be sustained?
- How should funding be administered?
- In addition to staffing, what other elements or infrastructure are necessary to ensure sustainability of statewide support?

Recommendations:

1. Use IOLA funding to establish the initial Statewide Support Function.

2. Avoid creating an entity and funding mechanism that will compete with grantees for funding resources.

3. Incorporate additional sources of funding in later phases as statewide support expands.
    a) Seek ways to increase IOLA's revenue (such as from filing fees) to offset the funding needs of statewide support.
    b) Legislative buy-in and support from other state agencies could be helpful funding supplements.

4. Consider funding for several purposes:
    a) Statewide Support Function staff and organization maintenance (which should be minimized)
    b) Multi-year grants to legal services organizations providing statewide support services
    c) A pool of funds, which should not exceed an established maximum balance, that can be used by legal services organizations for certain purposes (such as consultants, evaluators, etc.)
    d) A pool of funds, which should not exceed an established maximum balance, to respond to emergent crises ("rapid response funds") including, but not limited to, emergent legal issues, natural disasters, funding reductions, etc.

5. Remain mindful that costs will go up over time and have mechanisms in place to increase funding if/when needed and to decrease funding when appropriate.

6. Ensure there is adequate funding to enable collaboration among the legal services community, and other stakeholders, in the design, development and implementation of statewide support functions

7. For any training services developed, the Statewide Support Function should:
    a) Ensure all resources created are free to access for the legal aid community, without any fees or membership dues, or otherwise provide funding to access the materials.
    b) Consider funding necessary for Statewide Support infrastructure that will allow for storage and access of recorded trainings, materials, and other information
    c) Provide mini-grants or an equivalent small pool of funding to compensate organizations who create or facilitate trainings.
    d) Seek to broker discounts with other training platforms, such as LinkedIn Learning or MIE.

8. Consider business model planning related to fee-for-service revenue streams outside the civil legal community.

    a) Sell or license training materials or access to training to relevant external stakeholders who can pay for access, such as law schools or pro bono attorneys.

(4) Collective Participation & Implementation

Questions:

- How do legal services organizations participate in statewide support?
- How do we socialize collective participation and get buy-in?
- How do we foster a culture of information sharing and collaboration?

Recommendations:

1. Engage all levels of staff in the development and implementation of services for the Statewide Support Function, not just Executive Directors and other leadership.

2. Engage interested community organizations (serving impacted communities) in the design, development and implementation of Statewide Support functions.

3. Ensure the provision of high-quality services that are resource and time efficient for legal service organizations to participate in and use in order to foster buy-in.

4. Use community-oriented, collaborative design techniques to develop and implement Statewide Support Functions.

5. Ensure there is a diversity (size, geography, subject matter, etc.) of organizations participating in the collaborative design.

6. Publicize the collective participation opportunities and developments so the community knows about them.

7. Support collaborative creation, updating, and distribution of community-education and self-help resources.

8. Ensure adequate financial compensation for people participating in the design and implementation of Statewide Support Functions, as well as for time required to ensure effective collaboration.

9. Any services must be regularly updated, easy to access, carefully curated, and have support available for any technical issues. The services must be accessible and beneficial for the community in order for legal staff to adopt the new processes.

10. Ensure there are mechanisms for feedback from participants in the design, development and implementation of Statewide Support functions that can further inform the expansion, refinement or enhancement of Statewide Support functions.

11. To encourage participation in any training services created, the Statewide Support Function should:
    a) Host in-person trainings throughout all regions of New York, with relationship-building opportunities incorporated in the curriculum to foster a collaborative environment.
    b) Create online training opportunities, including live and on-demand trainings, to supplement the in-person events.
    c) Ensure adequate financial support for the cost of attending any in-person trainings, including travel, hotel, registration and other costs
    d) Provide funding to incentivize participating organizations to dedicate staff resources towards the development of training programs.

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
Statewide Mapping of Justice infrastructure Resources – Preliminary Observations
February – April 2025

From February to April 2025, IOLA sought to gather information from grantee organizations regarding the tools and resources they use related to Listserves, Directories and Training. IOLA also considered related information provided in grantee annual reports (GAR) and responses to IOLA's recent 5-year RFP. This information collection was done to inform the initial phases of development of a Statewide Support function by identifying those resources that are already used across the state.

Listserves

In February 2025, IOLA sought information about listserves grantees manage - intended either for the legal services community or local community networks. IOLA asked that grantees provide a description of such Listserves including the topic of the listserve, how long they have managed it, typical monthly usage, number of participants, resources required for management of the listserve, etc. Provided below is a summary of grantee responses:

- 10 grantees responded to this inquiry with information about listserves they manage
- These grantees identified approximately 50 listserves they actively manage and use
- There is significant variation in the number of participants in the listserves – from smaller, targeted listserves with fewer than 100 participants, to expansive listserves with thousands of participants
- Listserves are being used for multiple purposes – to disseminate information, seek answers to questions, and facilitate collaboration and / or community organizing
- Usage varied from infrequent (once a month) to several times a week
- There are several listserves engaging community organizations and other stakeholders involved in immigrant rights and resources

There may be opportunities for coordination and strategic use of these listserves, and others, to foster coordination and collaboration across the grantee community

Directories

In March 2025, IOLA sought information about service directories that are actively used by grantee organizations or members of their network – directories of legal aid services and directories of community resources. IOLA asked that grantees provide a description of any directories they consider to be useful (or at least noteworthy) in helping people find assistance. In the preparation of this request, and review of grantee responses, IOLA was assisted by Greg Bloom, founder of the Open Referral Initiative. Provided below is a summary of grantee responses:

- Approximately 20 grantee organizations responded with information about over 75 directories of legal and non-legal resources
- Of these responses, there were 7 directories of legal resources specifically – 4 of which relied on structured data to organize the directory (2 directories were exclusively for immigration legal resources and another was exclusively for court help centers)

- Many grantees providing immigration legal services indicated they use the National Immigration Legal Services Directory for New York
- Many grantees indicated they rely on LawHelpNY to identify legal aid resources in New York
- Several grantees responded that while they do not maintain a formal directory, they do use functions of their internal case management system, or other internal systems, to store information about legal and non-legal resources in their community

There may be opportunities to develop a common, comprehensive directory of legal aid resources that all providers can contribute to and utilize

Training

In April 2025, IOLA sought information about electronic or web-based training platforms used by grantee organizations for legal subject matters or professional development content (including for onboarding new staff, client communication, de-escalation, motion writing, discovery, etc.). IOLA asked that grantees provide a description of any platforms they use to offer training to their staff (including the name of the platform, what type of training is provided, who it is intended for, and any feedback based on their use). Provided below is a summary of grantee responses:

- 25 grantee organizations responded with information about 87 training tools and resources in 9 categories:
    - Legal Training
    - Immigration Law Training
    - General Advocacy Training
    - Cybersecurity
    - Human Resources
    - Client Information Management
    - Legal Research
    - Professional Development
    - Fundraising & Communication
- Nearly all responding grantee organizations indicated they had a training resource for Legal Training (37 of the 87 total training tools and resources responses related to Legal Training – the remaining 50 responses were across the other 8 categories), and most of these organizations indicated they use Practicing Law Institute (PLI), in-person training sessions, and recorded training videos, in addition to other Legal Training resources
- Several grantees indicated they use WestLaw for Legal Research training
- Management Information Exchange (MIE), the Management Center and Zywave Learning Management are all used by more than one grantee for Professional Development Training

There may be opportunities to collaboratively develop statewide support functions to coordinate, expand and enhance training opportunities and resources across all categories indicated above.

SAVE THE DATE:

August 4th - August 5th, 2025

In-person at Albany Law School

JUSTICE INFRASTRUCTURE SUMMIT

Improving the Civil Legal Services Ecosystem to Increase Access to Justice

Join representatives from IOLA grantees across the state for two-days of in-person collaborative panels and roundtables focused on state support, legal tech and cybersecurity, and intake and directory systems. Participants will connect with peers, share strategies, and contribute to building a coordinated statewide justice infrastructure.

JUST-TECH

NEW YORK STATE OF OPPORTUNITY. | IOLA FUND

Albany Law

Convened by the

NEW YORK STATE INTEREST ON LAWYER ACCOUNT FUND

together with

ALBANY LAW SCHOOL

with support from

JUST-TECH

*Each grantee is guaranteed two seats. Space is limited.

Early registration is encouraged.

Agenda, registration, costs, and travel subsidy information to follow.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Prepared by: Michele D. Agard
Director of Administration

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Functional Budget (FY 2025-26)

Variance Report (FY 2025 vs. FY 2024)

A. Financial Statement April 2025

IOLA Fund of the State of New York
Financial Statement April 2025

NYS IOLA Cash Balance:	**March 31, 2025**	**$**	**605,467,085.57**
Adjustments:			
	Deposit Revenue: April 2025	$	16,005,959.08
	Deposit STIP Revenue: April 2025		2,228,672.66
	IOLA Admin Expense: April 2025	**$**	**(541,431.00)**
	IOLA Grant Expense - April	**$**	**(3,506,305.00)**
	SUB-TOTAL	**$**	**14,186,895.74**
Opening May 1, 2025 Cash Balance:		**$**	**619,653,981.31**

B. Consolidated Bank & Revenue Report

Monthly Bank Overview

Summary

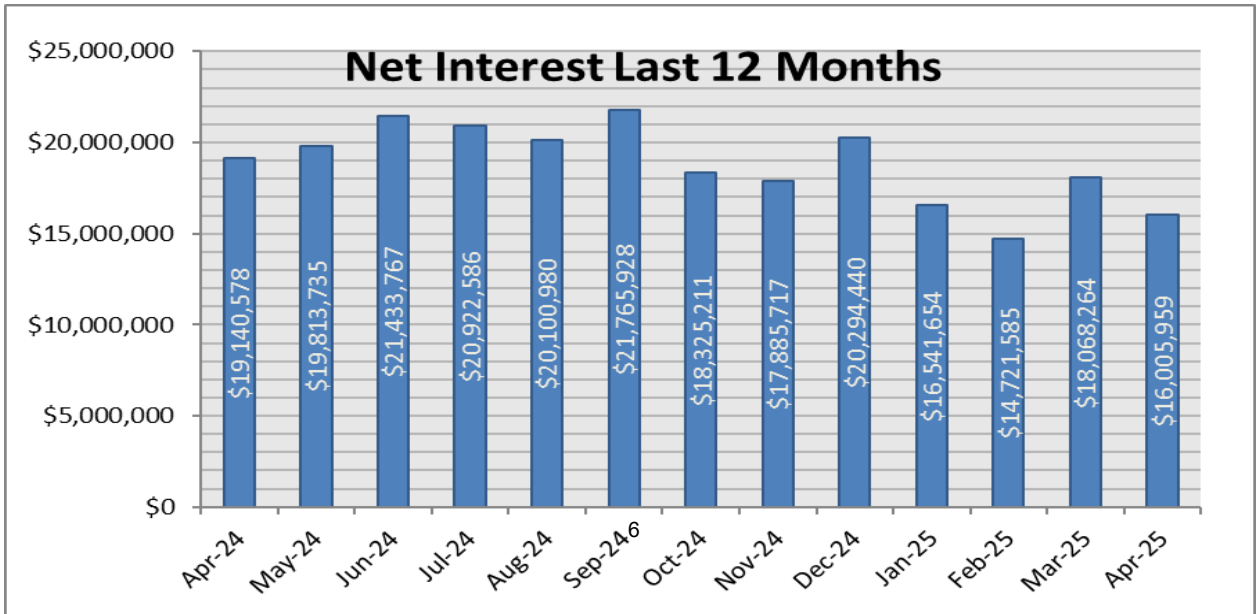
For the April, 2025 earnings period as shown below, 124 banks reported gross interest of over $16.12M. Service fees were at $118,323 which were typical for April. For the month, 43,570 accounts maintained average daily balances just under $8.88B (which is below the twelve month average of $8.9B). The gross yield on these accounts, meaning the effective interest rate before fees, was 2.20% for the period, and 2.19% net yield, meaning the return to the Fund after service charges were deducted, which is very good and indicates service fees that are well under control. **Exhibit 1a** displays a chart of the top 30 banks sorted by the amount of balances held at each (as those banks holding the largest balances have the greatest impact on revenue).

# of Banks Reporting*	Gross Interest	Service Charges	Net Interest	Avg. Daily Balance	Num Accts.	Gross Yield %	Net Yield %
1245	16,127,888.90	118,322.62	16,005,959.08	8,875,037,780	43,570	2.20%	2.19%

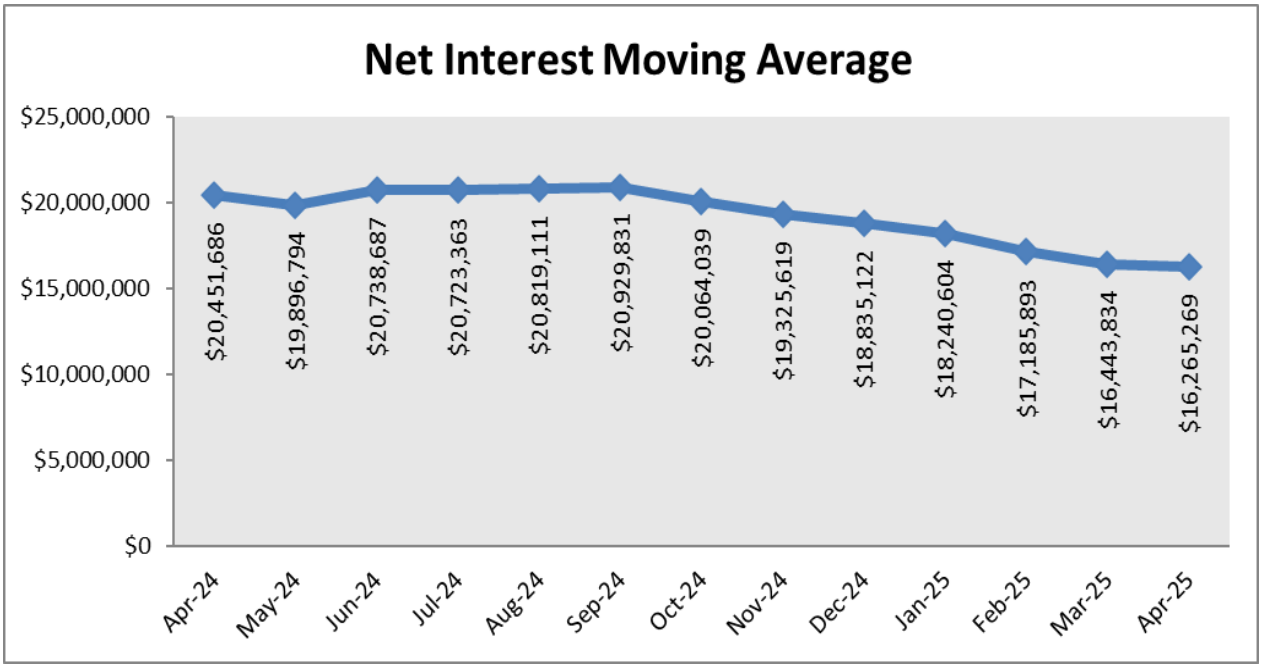
Key Index Rates as of April 1, 2025	
Fed Funds Target Rate (upper range)	4.50%
NY IOLA Benchmark Rate	2.70%
Platinum Partner Rate	2.70%
Gold Partner Rate	2.25%

Key Metrics-Historical

Looking at several key metrics for IOLA over the past twelve months, we note that net interest (gross interest after service fees) has generally ranged from a low of $14.7M in February 2025 to a high of nearly $21.8M in September 2024. April's earnings come in at $16.0M 16.4% lower than April 2024 and below the 12 month average of $18.82M.

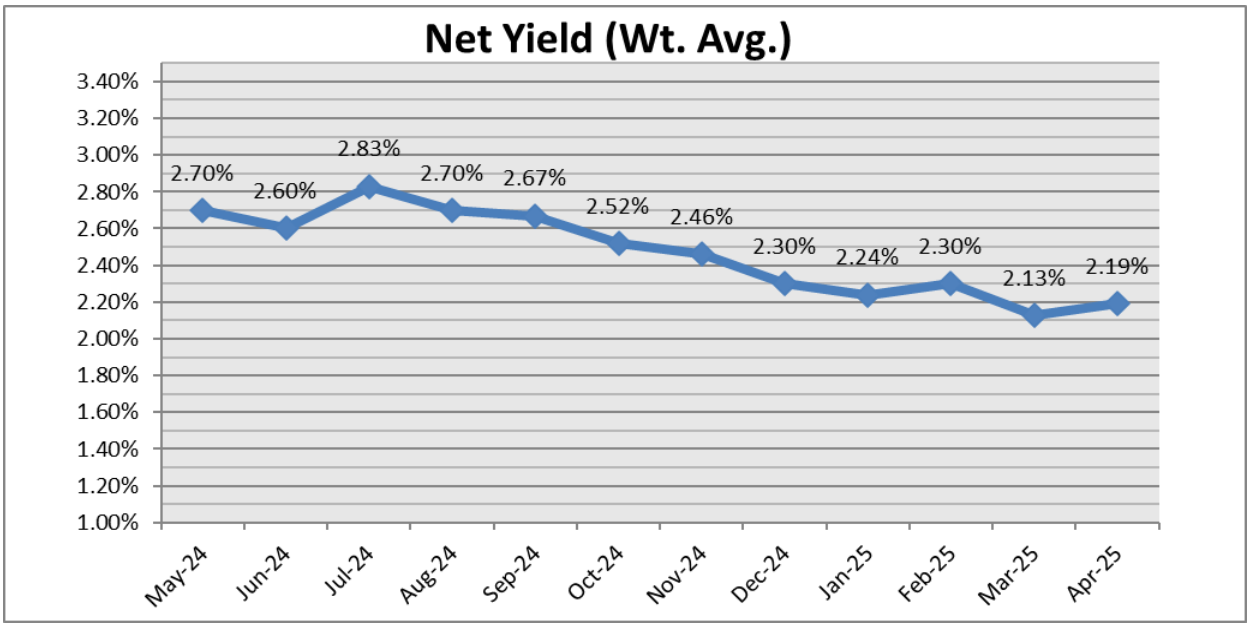


The chart below uses a three month moving average to smooth out the quarterly payments. The net interest moving average as of April is $18.24M, down from its peak in September. Balances have dropped somewhat from their high in June 2022 of $10.7B to $8.87B in April 2025.

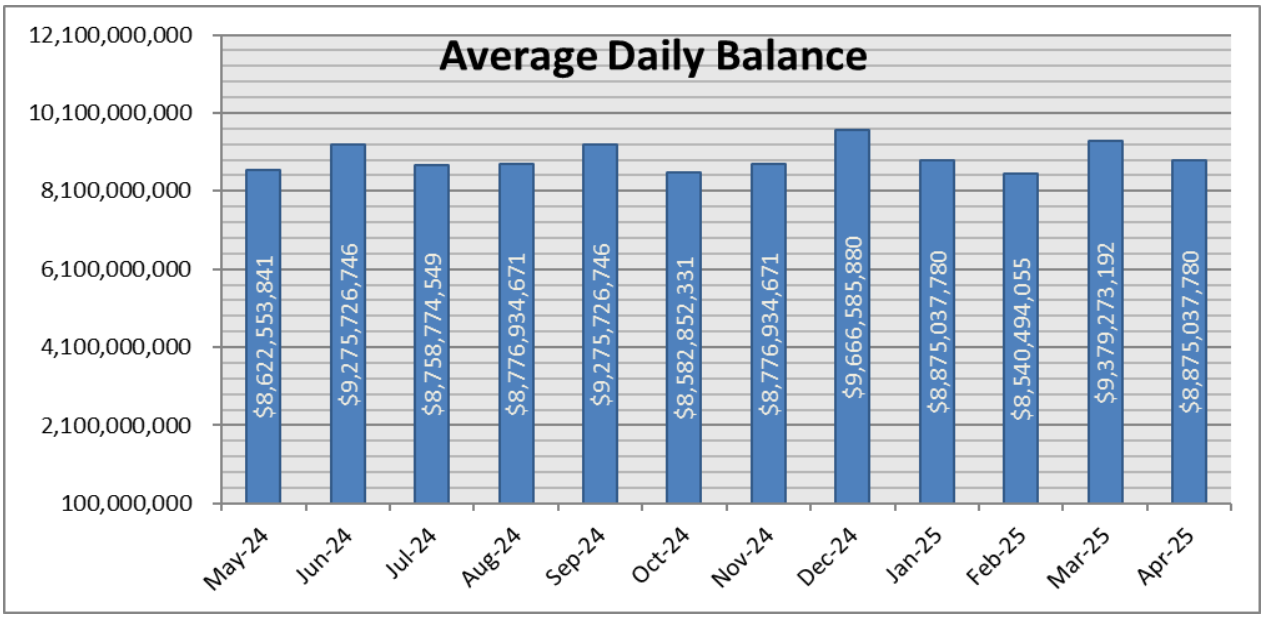


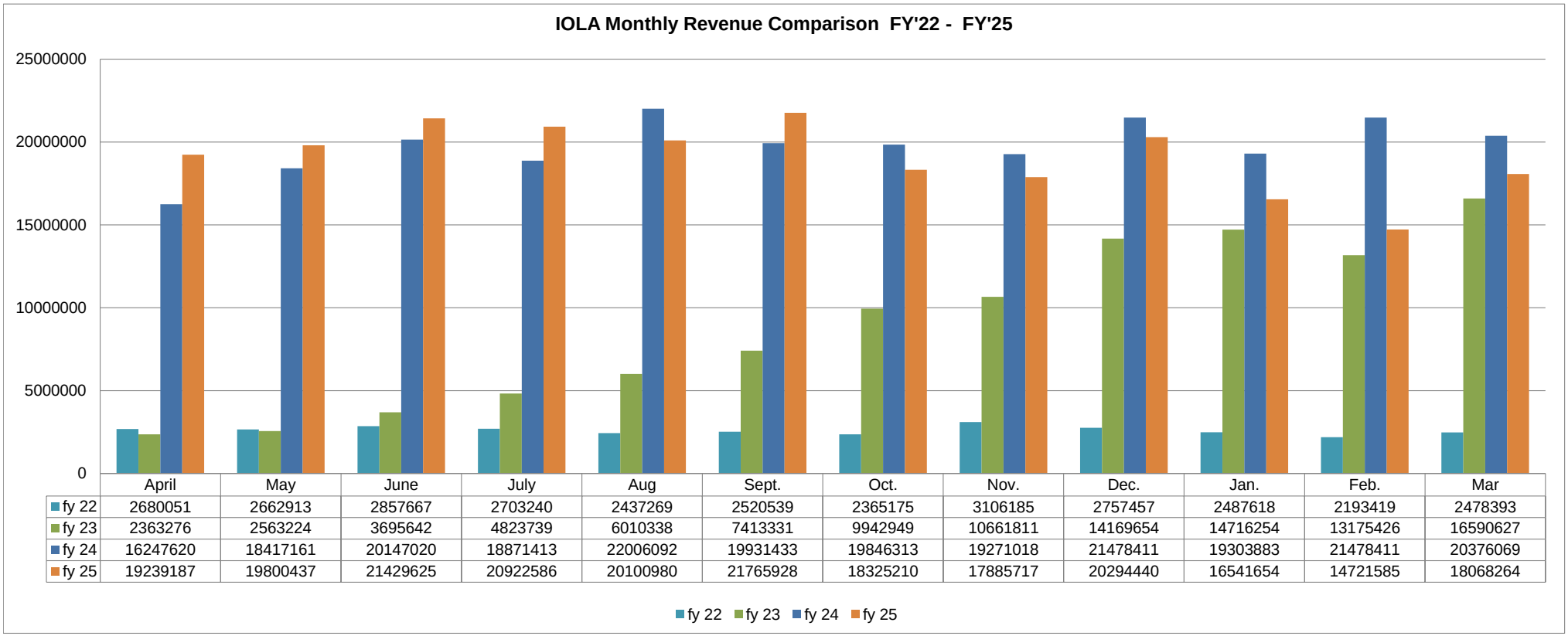
Moving to the factors that influence IOLA revenue, the first is the interest rates earned on all IOLA's and second is the balances maintained in those accounts.

We have seen yield steadily decline since recent highs in July 2024. Yield peaked at 2.83% after 2023's Fed Fund increases and subsequent bank compliance review work. April's net yield comes in at 2.19%. This is in line with the Fed Funds Target Rate decrease of 50 basis points in September and the two 25bp cuts in November and December. Yields should remain fairly steady over the next few months given the Feds temporary pause on rate cuts.



The second of the two factors that determines IOLA revenue is the amount of average balances being held in IOLA depositories. Again, looking at the past twelve months, we see balances generally ranging from $8.54B to $9.67B. April's number comes in at $8.87B down from $9.38B in March. However, March, and all calendar quarter months, are generally higher than average due to quarterly reporting banks.





	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar
fy 22	2680051	2662913	2857667	2703240	2437269	2520539	2365175	3106185	2757457	2487618	2193419	2478393
fy 23	2363276	2563224	3695642	4823739	6010338	7413331	9942949	10661811	14169654	14716254	13175426	16590627
fy 24	16247620	18417161	20147020	18871413	22006092	19931433	19846313	19271018	21478411	19303883	21478411	20376069
fy 25	19239187	19800437	21429625	20922586	20100980	21765928	18325210	17885717	20294440	16541654	14721585	18068264

EXHIBIT 1a

Monthly Banks Summary - Top 30 Banks by ADB

For Earnings Period of April, 2025

Bank Name	Bank No.	Gross	SVC	Net	Bank ADB	Num Accts.	Gross Yld per Bank ADB	Net Yld per Bank ADB	Avg Acct. Net	Avg Acct. ADB
J.P. Morgan Chase	62	5,154,776.80	51,110.84	5,103,665.96	2,848,767,168	14,013	2.20	2.18	364.21	383,384
Citibank	171	2,382,012.21	0.00	2,382,012.21	1,178,095,470	8,123	2.46	2.46	293.24	145,032
M&T Bank	152	1,331,985.91	0.00	1,331,985.91	600,203,483	2,453	2.70	2.70	543.00	247,940
Webster Bank	46	1,243,646.57	11,539.24	1,232,107.33	561,700,568	1,340	2.69	2.67	919.48	418,215
flagstar	125	997,113.24	12,298.74	984,814.50	438,789,545	1,296	2.76	2.73	759.89	346,695
Bank of America	153	952,600.54	0.00	952,600.54	429,299,737	2,231	2.70	2.70	426.98	192,406
TD Bank, NA	118	594,919.55	0.00	594,919.55	301,591,104	2,429	2.32	2.32	244.92	120,157
Dime Community Bank	149	43,122.10	3,225.00	39,897.10	300,104,779	442	0.17	0.16	90.26	1,186,996
Key Bank Services Corp.	21	421,926.44	12,595.53	409,330.91	189,089,304	1,455	2.71	2.63	281.33	130,079
Capital One	173	266,112.60	5,515.78	260,596.82	186,792,910	1,440	1.68	1.64	180.97	127,993
Orange Bank & Trust Company	41	33,787.25	0.00	33,787.25	176,863,223	384	0.23	0.23	87.99	563,007
Valley National Bank	148	309,048.90	3,781.51	305,267.39	139,214,428	323	2.70	2.67	945.10	431,154
Citizens Bank, N.A.	90	246,258.92	0.00	246,258.92	114,021,313	846	2.63	2.63	291.09	132,642
NBT Bank N.A.	135	220,210.76	0.00	220,210.76	99,237,704	378	2.70	2.70	582.57	262,515
City National Bank/California	185	245,653.90	473.14	245,180.76	96,382,611	91	3.10	3.09	2,694.29	987,451
Wells Fargo	141	200,571.88	-	200,571.88	86,000,627	472	2.84	2.84	424.94	181,407
Bank United	77	164,408.79	0.00	164,408.79	77,701,396	103	2.57	2.57	1,596.20	749,825
Northfield Bank	48	78,192.67	2,001.64	76,191.03	73,402,835	571	1.30	1.26	133.43	128,162
Community Bank, N.A.	175	128,714.27	3,209.42	125,504.85	60,076,569	542	2.61	2.54	231.56	107,013
First National Bank of Long Island	55	38,197.11	2,938.41	35,258.70	58,091,657	283	0.80	0.74	124.59	205,270
East West Bank	161	127,545.78	0.00	127,545.78	57,780,210	93	2.69	2.69	1,371.46	626,542
Northwest Savings Bank	40	124,265.64	-	124,265.64	55,996,174	275	2.7	2.7	451.88	203,623
Genesee Regional Bank	193	2,129.56	0.00	2,129.56	51,950,052	81	0.05	0.05	26.29	639,744
Tompkins Community Bank	224	38,997.18	0.00	38,997.18	48,099,255	226	0.99	0.99	172.55	207,635
ConnectOne Bank	200	39,158.61	0.00	39,158.61	43,490,800	64	1.10	1.10	611.85	682,955
Canandaigua National Bank & Trust Co.	22	14,150.93	1,787.14	12,363.79	41,837,379	292	0.41	0.36	42.34	195,798
Santander Bank	121	32,168.23	0.00	32,168.23	39,940,334	209	0.98	0.98	153.91	187,263
Five Star Bank	39	84,250.38	2,621.29	81,629.09	37,976,718	150	2.7	2.62	544.19	253097.84
New York Community Bank	66	60,986.13	1,940.61	59,045.52	27,614,045	306	2.69	2.60	192.96	89,809
First Horizon Bank	144	60,705.63	0.00	60,705.63	27,355,010	30	2.70	2.70	2,023.52	911,834
	30	**15,637,618.48**	**115,038.29**	**15,522,580.19**	**8,447,466,408.00**	**40,941**	**2.20%**	**2.19%**		

C. Administrative Budget

Variance Report: Fiscal Year 2024-25

As of March 31, 2025

Administrative Expenses 2024-25	Cash Expenditure March , 2025	Year to Date Expeditures 3/31/25	Cash Allocation 2024-25
SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS	**$ -**	**$ 6,216**	**$ 10,000**
57010 Food & Related Consum SupMat		$ 1,061	
57032 Office Supplies		$ 4,856	
57035 Reference Book/Mag/Map/Subscrip SM	$ -	$ 299	
TRAVEL	**$ 1,049**	**$ 14,747**	**$ 25,000**
54010 Travel-Airplane		$ 3,790	
54011 Travel Card Unclassified	$ 1,049	$ 2,399	
54013 Travel-Lodging		$ 3,451	
54014 Travel-Meals		$ 1,451	
54015 Travel-Mileage		$ 653	
54017 Travel-Parkg, Tolls, Incdntls		$ 330	
54019 Travel-Public		$ 1,794	
54020 Travel-Rental		$ 494	
54021 Travel-Supplies		$ 7	
54022 Travel-Train		$ 298	
54023 Employee Travel- Per Diem		$ 80	
Contractual Services	**$ 426,598**	**$ 971,635**	**$ 1,120,000**
51010 Telephones		$ 4,802	
51076 Security/Protection Software		$ -	
51090 Data Management Services	$ 12,227	$ 136,649	
51091 Internet Services		$ 2,849	
51092 IT Equipment M&S		$ 47	
51093 Software Maint & Support		$ 4,232	
51104 Enhanced Telecommnctn Services		$ 2,324	
55010 Newspaper/Billboards (ADV/PubNot)	78	$ 4,403	
55047 Client Services (Unclssfd)	353,653	$ 424,610	
55050 In-state Conference, Workshops, Meeting &		$ 2,247	
55051 Out-of-state Conference, Workshops, Meeting &		$ 980	
55181 Custodial		$ 150	
55220 Shipping (Postage)		$ 426	
55205 Record Management Services	$ 3,677	$ 22,113	
58201 RE - Rental	$ 54,380	$ 352,237	
58204 Tax escalation			
58401 Prompt Payment Interest			
58501 Memberships	$ 50	$ 2,673	
58971 Procurement Card Unclassified	$ 2,533	$ 10,893	
Equipment	**$ -**	**$ 3,732**	**$ 5,000**
56009 Office Equipment R&M (include telephone)		$ 3,632	
56020 Equipment Lease		$ 100	
56040 Office Furniture			
Subtotal:Non-Personal Service	**$ 427,647**	**$ 996,330**	**$ 1,160,000**
INDIRECT COST	**$ 1,829**	**$ 21,120**	**$ 28,000**
58801 Indirect Costs	$ 1,829	$ 21,120	$ 28,000
PERSONAL SERVICE	**$ 67,520**	**$ 838,250**	**$ 990,000**
50101 Regular Employee - Base Salary	65,434.00	$ 783,076	$ 990,000
50107 Regular Employee - Lump Sum		$ 25,141	
50108 Reg Employee-Additional Comp	2,086	$ 30,033	
FRINGES	**$ 44,435**	**$ 512,889**	**$ 652,000**
60020 Fringe Benefit	44,435	$ 512,889	$ 652,000
Subtotal: Personal Service	**$ 113,784**	**$ 1,372,259**	**$ 1,670,000**
GRAND TOTAL	**$ 541,431**	**$ 2,368,589**	**$ 2,830,000**

Interest on Lawyer Account Fund of the State of New York

Meeting of Trustees
Syracuse, New York
June 4, 2025

Report of General Counsel

Activities since the last meeting of the Trustees on March 20, 2025:

Grantee Matters

1) Reviewed and evaluated grantee sub-contracts for compliance with state-specific requirements for RFP FY ’25 - ‘30. (March).
2) Reviewed and signed Vendor Responsibility Forms for grantees for RFP FY ’25 - ‘30. (March).
3) With Christine Fecko, hosted Meet-and-Greet events for IOLA grantees in NYC, Buffalo, and Albany. (March – May). Meet and Greet event in Syracuse planned for June 4 in conjunction with IOLA Board meeting of the same date.
4) With Christine Fecko, attended site visits of nine grantees in Kingston, Buffalo, Rochester, Albany, and Schenectady. (April – May). Drafted summaries of all site visits with recommendations for grantees. Site visit for two Syracuse grantees planned for June 4.
5) Engaged in discussions with counterpart IOLTA programs, advocacy groups, and other stakeholders regarding changing federal funding landscape for nonprofits. (Ongoing).

Attorney and Bar Association Matters

1) Attended meeting of NYC Bar Association’s Pro Bono and Legal Services Committee. (April 10).
2) Attended Immigration Rights Funder Working Group Meetings. (March 12, April 9, April 30).
3) Attended the ABA/ Equal Justice Conference in San Francisco (May 15-17); attended NAIP IOLTA Funders pre-conference meeting in San Francisco (May 14).
4) Responded to numerous phone calls and emails from attorneys, bank officials, and other interested parties regarding administration of IOLA accounts. (Ongoing).

Banking Compliance

1) Sent approval letter to one bank authorizing their request for a rate change. (April).
2) Sent welcome letter to one bank who applied to be a new partner in the IOLA program. (April).

Legal Matters

1) Met with outside counsel regarding updates to IOLA's employee handbook. (May).
2) Negotiated reimbursement payment from outside vendor regarding contract dispute. (April - May).
3) Reviewed renewal contracts for Justice Infrastructure Project procurements. (Ongoing).
4) Engaged with outside counsel and real estate broker regarding lease negotiations of proposed new office space. (April - June).

State Budget Matters

1) Reviewed and discussed IOLA's budget appropriation in enacted state budget with internal stakeholders. (May).

Ethics Matters

1) Attended COELIG Ethics Officer Training Webinar. (March 12).
2) Drafted document to advise employees separating from state service of post-employment restrictions under Public Officers Law § 73. (April).
3) Oversaw annual compliance of designated agency filers of the Financial Disclosure Form (FDS). (March - May).

REGISTER TODAY

NEW YORK CITY BAR

IN-PERSON

35th Annual Legal Services Awards

Monday, June 2, 2025 | 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

The Legal Services Awards were established to recognize the efforts of lawyers and non-lawyers who have directly provided free legal services to disenfranchised clients on a full-time basis for an extended period of time.

Introduction:
Muhammad U. Faridi, President, New York City Bar Association

Presenter:
Hon. Rowan Wilson, Chief Judge, New York State Court of Appeals

Awards Recipients:
Christopher Lamb, Esq., Bronx Legal Services
Stephanie Taylor, Esq., VOLS Incarcerated Mothers Law Project
Elizabeth Brownback, Esq., Urban Resource Institute
Paula Segal, Esq., Equitable Neighborhoods practice at TakeRoot Justice
Paola Martinez-Boone, Senior Advocate and Special Education Coordinator, New York Law-yers for the Public Interest

Location: New York City Bar Association | 42 West 44th Street | New York, NY 10036

2025 SCHEDULE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETINGS

1st Quarter 2025		
March 12, 2025	1:00 PM	IOLA Fund, NYC

2nd Quarter 2025		
June 4, 2025	1:00 PM	Syracuse, NY

3rd Quarter 2025		
September 17, 2025	1:00PM	IOLA Fund, NYC

4rd Quarter 2025		
December 3, 2025	1:00 PM	IOLA Fund, NYC

2025

January

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September

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November

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30						

December

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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Holidays & Observances

Jan 01	New Year's Day
Jan 20	Martin Luther King Day
Jan 29	Chinese New Year
Feb 14	Valentine's Day
Feb 17	President's Day
Mar 01	Ramadan, 1st day
Mar 05	Ash Wednesday
Mar 17	St. Patrick's Day
Mar 20	March equinox (GMT)
Apr 01	April Fool's Day
Apr 13	Passover
Apr 20	Easter
Apr 22	Earth Day
Apr 23	Admin Assistants Day
May 05	Cinco de Mayo
May 11	Mother's Day
May 26	Memorial Day
Jun 08	Pentecost
Jun 14	Flag Day
Jun 15	Father's Day
Jun 19	Juneteenth
Jun 21	June Solstice (GMT)
Jul 04	Independence Day
Sep 01	Labor Day
Sep 22	September equinox (GMT)
Sep 23	Rosh Hashanah
Oct 13	Federal Holiday
Oct 31	Halloween
Nov 11	Veterans Day
Nov 27	Thanksgiving
Dec 14	Hanukkah begins
Dec 21	December Solstice (GMT)
Dec 25	Christmas Day
Dec 26	Kwanzaa begins
Dec 31	New Year's Eve

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MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE IOLA FUND OF NEW YORK
June 4, 2025

MOTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

I, _____, hereby move, pursuant to the New York Open Meetings Law, Section 105, including subparagraph (f), that this meeting of the Board of Trustees of the IOLA Fund of New York shall now enter into Executive Session for the purposes of considering matters relating to (1) the financial history and appointment of a particular corporation, specifically an IOLA grant applicant; and (2) matters leading to the appointment and employment of particular persons, specifically employees.

Seconded by: _____

Vote: Yea ___ Nay ___ Abstain ___

Vote Recorded by: _____
Licha M. Nyiendo
General Counsel

Syracuse, New York
June 4, 2025

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE IOLA FUND OF NEW YORK

June 4, 2025

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the IOLA Fund of New York approves the following title and base salary changes for certain IOLA Fund staff, effective FY2026:

	Current (FY2025)		**Updated (FY2026)**	
	Title	**Base Salary**	**Title**	**Base Salary**
1.	Deputy Director - Grants Administration	No change	Deputy Director of Programs	No change
2.	Grants Assistant	$50,923	Program Associate	$65,000
3.	Grants Assistant	$50,923	Procurement Specialist	$65,000

Motion by: _____

Seconded by: _____

Vote: Yea ___ Nay ___ Abstain ___

Vote Recorded by: _____
Licha M. Nyiendo
General Counsel

Syracuse, New York
June 4, 2025