



2026 Budget Presentation

MARION SUPERIOR COURT



Overview

The Marion Superior Court is comprised of 36 presiding judges, 39 magistrates, and over 600 employees and is structured into three divisions: Civil, Criminal, and Family. Additionally, the Court has independent departments/divisions under its purview: Court Administration, Youth Services Center, Family and Youth Intervention Center and Probation.

The Court is structured with an Executive Committee consisting of four judges elected by fellow Superior Court judges for two-year terms. The Executive Committee oversees the general policy and management of the Court. The Civil, Criminal and Family divisions each have a chair who is appointed by the Executive Committee to serve a two-year term.



Fiscal Highlights

Legal Resource Center

- The Legal Resource Center is designed to offer information and resources to people who have chosen to represent themselves in court. The center partners with multiple legal service providers and volunteer attorneys in an effort to increase court efficiency and services offered to self-represented litigants.
- The Center is staffed by four full time Court Navigators who are employees of the court. Our navigators have experience in all case types and can assist in many areas such as family relations, civil collections, challenges involving driver's licenses, landlord/tenant issues and guardianships. Two of our navigators are bilingual.



Fiscal Highlights

Legal Resource Center

Court Navigator responsibilities include but aren't limited to:

- Assisting self-represented litigants navigate to court approved forms, legal services and information.
- Coordinating, scheduling and facilitating detailed workshops led by volunteer attorneys and legal service providers in areas most helpful to the self-represented community.
- Gathering analytical data on a consistent basis for reporting and identifying ways to improve help and resources offered.

Since opening in June 2022, the Legal Resource Center has had over **34,000** visits by self-represented litigants seeking assistance.

- In 2025, the center is averaging **1500** visits per month compared to **900** in 2024.



Fiscal Highlights

Probation Community Service Work Program

Year	Total CSW Hours	Cost Benefit (7.25 per hour)	CCo
2024	32,994.25 (12-month total)	\$239,208	
2025	11,041 (6-month total)	\$80,047	

Government Organizations	2024 Total Hours	2024 Cost Benefit (\$7.25 per hour)	2025 Total Hours (6-month total)	2025 Cost Benefit (\$7.25 per hour)
DPW- Indy Park East	981	\$7,112.25	275.5	\$1,997
DPW- Garfield Park	483	\$3,501.75	220	\$1,595
DPW- Eagle Creek Park	792	\$5,742	332	\$2,407
White River State Park	214	\$1,551.50	60	\$435
Indianapolis Fire Department-Fleet Services	552.75	\$4,007	441.5	\$3,200
Animal Care Services	469	\$3,400.25	68.5	\$496
GRAND TOTAL	3,491.75	\$25,315	1,397.5	\$10,131



Fiscal Highlights

Kiosks - Probation Reporting

The Kiosk Check in program is a major component of our service delivery in best practice models and reducing probation staff caseload totals. Both pretrial and probation clients can utilize this reporting format.

Kiosk Probation Reporting program was implemented in October of 2019.

In 2024, **9,551** check ins occurred (an increase of 2,450 events from 2023) and so far in 2025 through June 16 of this year, **4,885** have occurred which is anticipated to meet or slightly exceed total checks in from 2024.

Current Kiosk locations:

- Community Justice Campus lobby (providing 24/7 access).
- Government Centers in Center, Lawrence, Warren, Wayne, Perry and Pike townships.

Kiosk Usage:

- This format of supervision focuses on low-risk clients as too much intervention increases likelihood to recidivate.
- Clients from neighboring counties can check in on our kiosks, reducing intrastate transfer cases.
- Moderate and high-risk clients can check in on the kiosk for sanctions, reducing in office appointment times.

Impact of Kiosk Program for Staffing – 1,600 average per month clients on this program equates to 12 probation officer positions not in need of hire to manage these cases in traditional manner. Most importantly, this program provides for staff to focus their time on case planning and improving outcomes with clients.



Fiscal Highlights

Family and Youth Intervention (FYI) Center

The FYI Center will provide an opportunity to decrease juvenile justice involvement and create positive outcomes by allowing a “cooling off” period and /or safe haven for youth and their families.

In 2024, the Family and Youth Intervention Center (FYI) began necessary improvements on the building located at 2401 E. 25th Street thanks to City of Indianapolis Opioid Settlement funding awarded. Director Lety Martinez joined the center in December 2024 and licensing process with the Department of Child Services began for the center in 2024.

Indiana Criminal Justice Institute grant awards have provided for 17 staff for the center; purchase of clothing and blankets for youth; toiletry items; marketing materials for the center and some operational costs to maintain the center with staff funding support

Grant funding fully supports operations through March 2027 with dedicated funding to be determined.

Collaborations with community partners include:

- A small library thanks to over 2,000 book donations from the Indy Book Project, Indianapolis Marion County Public Library and Marion Superior Court staff.
- Medical services.
- Transportation for youth and families to and from the center.
- I Support the Girls has donated feminine hygiene products and undergarments.
- Teacher’s Treasures has donated art supplies, books, office supplies, footballs, games, and hygiene essentials.
- Mental Health America of Indiana and Aspire are both establishing formal agreements to provide mental health employees and training to center staff.



Budget Breakdown - Total

Total Overall Budget By Fund

10101- County General Fund:	\$41,757,810
20321- Adult Probation Fund:	\$965,000
20411- Alcohol & Drug Services Fund:	\$282,097
20401- Alt Dispute Resolution Fund:	\$20,000
20501- Public Safety Income Tax Fund:	\$13,128,548
20551- Drug Treatment Diversion Program:	\$60,019
20361- Guardian Ad Litem:	\$6,799,906
20351- Commissioner and Guardian Ad Litem	\$1,131,240
20674- Community Transition Program:	\$176,666
20541- Jury Pay Fund:	\$750,000
20331- Marion Superior Court Equipment Fund :	\$62,500
20362- Domestic Relation Counseling Bureau	\$115,015
21151- County Grants:	\$7,000
21001- Federal Grants:	\$1,420,645
21051- State Grants:	<u>\$7,823,075</u>

TOTAL

\$74,499,520

**Total increase of \$698,051
from 2025 Adopted Budget
due to grant fund increases**



**2025
Adopted Budget \$73,801,470**

Revenue

- Revenue for the Marion Superior Court is generated through assessed court costs, fines, and probation fees.
- The Marion Superior Court collaborates with the Office of Finance and Management's Revenue Recovery team to help collect fees owed for ordinance violations and traffic infractions.
- Effective July 1, 2025, the Marion Superior Court began working with an external collection agency to recover unpaid probation fines, fees and costs.



Revenue

Indigency determinations and how they relate to fines, costs, and Public Defender Fees

IC 35-33-7-6.5 (2024)

In determining whether a person is indigent, the court **shall** consider the following:

- The person's assets.
- The person's income.
- The person's necessary expenses.
- The court **may** consider that a person's eligibility for any public assistance (SNAP, TANF)
- If the court finds that the person is able to pay some of the fines, fees, and court costs, the court may prorate the person's fine, fee, and court costs, and require the person to pay an amount that the person can reasonably afford.

Spells v. State, 225 N.E. 767 (Ind. 2024)

- If a bond is paid PD fees can come from it without a determination
- Even if a bond is paid an indigency determination/hearing must be held to determine if other fines and costs can be assessed. (Court Costs, Probation fees, etc)



Grants

- ❖ The Indiana Department of Correction provides funding to support the following programs:
 - Drug Treatment Court
 - Mental Health Alternative Court
 - Re-Entry Court
 - Veteran's Court
 - Probation's Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative

- ❖ Indiana Office of Court Services provides funding to support the following programs:
 - Drug Treatment Court
 - Mental Health Alternative Court
 - Re-Entry Court
 - Veteran's Court
 - Commercial Court Law Clerks
 - Adult Guardian Ad Litem
 - Interpreters
 - Justice Partners Addictions Response Grant

- ❖ Indiana Criminal Justice Institute provides funding to support the following program:
 - Family and Youth Intervention Center



Budget Breakdown – Character 1

Total Character 1 Budget By Fund:

10101- County General Fund:	\$22,211,402
20321- Adult Probation: (All Character 1)	\$965,000
20411- Alcohol & Drug Services: (All in Character 1)	\$282,097
20501- Public Safety Income Tax Fund: (All in Character 1)	\$13,128,548
20362- Domestic Relation Counseling Bureau (DRCB)	\$115,015
20551- Drug Treatment Diversion Program:	\$30,019
20674- Community Transition Program:	\$142,928
21001- Federal Grants:	\$250,706
21051- State Grants:	<u>\$5,314,776</u>

TOTAL: **\$42,440,491**

**2025 to 2026 Character 1
Budget Variance: Increase of
\$1,663,204
Increase in grant funding**



**2025 Total Character 1 Adopted
Budget: \$40,777,287**

Budget Breakdown – Character 2

Total Character 2 Budget By Fund:

10101- County General Fund:	\$165,535
20674- Community Transition Program:	\$1,200
21151- County Grants:	\$1,000
21001- Federal Grants:	\$13,000
21051- State Grants:	<u>\$66,800</u>
TOTAL:	\$247,535

**2025 to 2026 Character 2
Budget Variance: Decrease of
\$8,184**

- Decrease in grant funding
and Fleet Gasoline Budget



**2025 Total Character 2
Adopted Budget: \$255,719**

Budget Breakdown – Character 3

Total Character 3 Budget By Fund:

10101- County General Fund:	\$19,206,373
20401- Alt Dispute Resolution Fund:	\$20,000
20351- Commissioner & Guardian Ad Litem	\$1,131,240
20551- Drug Treatment Diversion Program:	\$30,000
20361- Guardian Ad Litem:	\$6,799,906
20674- Community Transition Program:	\$32,538
20541- Jury Pay Fund:	\$750,000
20331- Marion Superior Court Equipment Fund :	\$55,000
21151- County Grants:	\$5,000
21001- Federal Grants:	\$1,101,939
21051- State Grants:	<u>\$2,421,499</u>
TOTAL	\$31,553,495

**2025 to 2026 Character 3 Budget
Variance: Decrease of \$1,010,969**

- Decreases in Controlled Accounts



**2025 Total Character 3
Adopted Budget:
\$32,564,464**

Budget Breakdown – Character 4

Total Character 4 Budget By Fund:

10101- County General Fund:	\$174,500
20331- Marion Superior Court Equipment Fund :	\$7,500
21151- County Grants:	\$1,000
21001- Federal Grants:	\$55,000
21051- State Grants:	<u>\$20,000</u>
TOTAL	\$258,000

**2025 to 2026 Character 4
Budget Variance: Increase
of \$54,000**

-Increase in Federal Grant Budget

**Total 2025 Character 4
Adopted Budget: \$204,000**



Questions?

