

BestforBabies



Improving Outcomes for Arizona's Infants and Toddlers in Juvenile Court

a project of



**Prevent Child Abuse
Arizona**

Best for Babies Court Space Improvement Grant Application

Court Space Improvement Grant Application

HRSA has funded up to 10 county sites to receive up to \$10,000 to improve family spaces within the court as part of our Safe Babies work. Counties do not need to be an enhancement site to apply. These spaces must be available to the priority population, families with children birth to three.

Counties applying will need to submit a statement of need and work plan. Funding could be used to improve reception spaces for families entering court (child sized furniture, toys, books), therapeutic play and family time/visit or therapy spaces at the court, provide books in the courtroom for children to take home. Courts may apply to use funding for other trauma responsive improvements (outdoor seating, water dispensers, baby changing tables in restrooms, signage, soundproofing of spaces used by families).

The goal of this funding opportunity is to support parents and children in fully engaging in hearings and family team meetings and other services provided at the court.

A subrecipient of Federal Funds is required to comply with the regulations set forth in 2 CFR 200. This includes, but is not limited to, procurement, capitalized property, record keeping, maintenance, and selling/disposing of asset/equipment.

Application deadline: 2/9/2024

1. County requesting funds

Pinal County

2. Main contact for funds

Name

Valerie Silvas

Email

vsilvas@courts.az.gov

3. Statement of Need

Please upload statement, Maximum two pages

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✓ PCAA Court Space Improvement - Statement of Need.pdf

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4. How will this space improvement support families?

Families come to our courthouse to attend in person Pre-Protective Conferences and Hearings. Families also have the opportunity to come in person for all mediations and Family Team Meetings. These meetings are held in the Dependency conference room within the courthouse. Additionally, there is a smaller room beside our conference room where attorney's often meet with their clients (parents, children, and caregivers), or families and teams use to meet outside of the conference or meditation. Currently, our meeting space is bare, with white walls, limited décor, and old and uncomfortable seating. There are no child friendly pieces, chairs, or areas in either room. Having child welfare and court involvement can be a scary time for families and coming into the court space can often feel intimidating. The goal of the Juvenile Court is to offer a safe, supportive, and collaborative environment, focusing on child safety and the needs of the families in our community involved in a dependency. It is important the Juvenile Court be able to offer a welcoming, family friendly space that can better support the collaborative process through conferences, mediations, and family team meetings.

5. How does this improvement support family centered cultural practices in your community?

Having the opportunity to offer a meeting space that feels open, safe, and supportive of collaborative efforts will help to increase parent comfort, engagement and voice in the process. Pinal Juvenile Court returned to in-person Pre-Protective Conferences and Hearings in October 2023. It is important that parents are able to have in person contact with their counsel as well as to have opportunity for in-person collaboration and problem solving within teams outside of the courtroom, whenever possible. Court hearings can feel adversarial at times. Our goal is to support increased collaboration between parents, the Department, attorneys, and other team members in effort to identify resources, navigate barriers, and support increased timely permanency for children in care.

6. Please provide current pictures of space you wish to improve.

[Replace File](#) [Current Room Photos.docx](#) [Remove File](#)

7. Please submit workplan with any images of proposed items and estimated costs.

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8. This funding will be provided through reimbursement. Funding is limited to \$10,000. Up to \$5,000 may be used for one item or improvement i.e. painting, physical improvements. Receipts are required. Do you agree to this?

Yes

No

9. Awarded counties must submit photographs of the improvements and track outcomes around family engagement, and survey data from families. Do you agree to this?

Yes

No

10. All reimbursements must be submitted by August 30, 2024. If awarded, do you agree to this?

Yes

No



See how easy it is to [create a survey](#).

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