

# Tips on funding your court monitoring program

We understand that few things are possible without funding and we would love to help you raise money for your program. Some good places to start include soliciting contributions from individuals, asking local businesses to donate services/materials, and holding fundraising events. We also recommend researching private or corporate foundations with an interest in your mission. You may find some of the funding strategies below helpful when applying for those grants.

## Position court monitoring as an evaluation tool

More and more funders require that you evaluate your efforts and document your progress. Court monitoring is an excellent tool for evaluating the effectiveness of your work and the work of your criminal justice system. As you are writing grants, think about the ways you can incorporate court monitoring into the program evaluation section. WATCH can provide you with examples and ideas.

## Does your agency have a grant writer?

Sit down with the person who writes the grants to discuss options for funding a court monitoring project. Ask about submitting a special project grant for court monitoring to a loyal funder. Discuss whether a monitoring project could be added to a general operating or project grant already being developed.

## Consider a short-term project

Perhaps a shorter-term monitoring project could help document a systems problem you want to address. When you write the grant proposal, include the information gathered from court monitoring to demonstrate the need for funding to address the problem.

## Contact WATCH!

We would be happy to help you with funding strategies. Call and we can help you brainstorm.