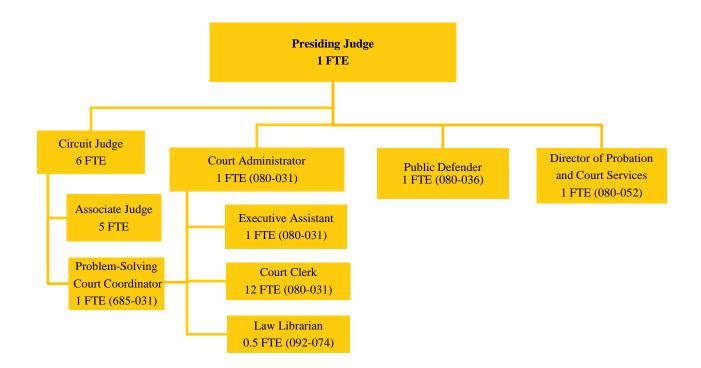
CIRCUIT COURT Fund 080-031



Circuit Court positions: 11 FTE Judges (paid by the State), 15.5 FTE Circuit Court (080-031), 1 FTE Joint Dept Reg (080-031, 092-074, 093-031), 0.5 FTE Law Library Clerk (092-074), and 1 FTE Problem Solving Court Coordinator (685-031).

Article VI – The Judiciary – of the Illinois Constitution vests the judicial powers "in a Supreme Court, an Appellate Court and Circuit Courts." The Circuit Courts Act (705 ILCS 35/0.01 *et seq.*) created the judicial circuits with Champaign County being part of the Sixth Circuit along with Douglas, Moultrie, Macon, DeWitt, and Piatt counties.

MISSION STATEMENT

To carry out constitutional and statutory responsibilities vested in the Circuit Court, providing trials, hearings, and proceedings in civil and criminal cases.

BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

Most of the court's non-personnel expenditures are for mandated services. The number of cases filed each year fluctuates, and it is not possible to predict how many of those cases will result in jury trials or require the court to appoint counsel, order psychiatric evaluations, retain interpreters, or provide reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities. The remainder of the Circuit Court's budget is used to

Circuit Court General Fund 080-031 compensate and support the staff who carry out these mandated services, ensuring equal access to justice through the courts.

In FY2019, expenditures from multiple line items exceeded requested budgets. After the Court requested a budget amendment for a considerable increase at the close of FY2019, it was suggested that a more realistic budget would account for greater increases in costs at the outset.

Expenditures for professional services (psychiatric evaluations, interpreters, etc.), have exceeded budget projections increasingly since FY2016, which demonstrates the need for an increase to the professional services line item. The need for an increase in juror expenses has been documented in past years but is not expected to be a concern in either FY2020 or FY2021.

The coronavirus pandemic has affected all aspects of court operations. The courthouse was closed for regular business from March 20 through May 29, 2020. During this time, only essential hearings were held. No jury trials were conducted. Most proceedings that had been scheduled in March, April, and May are being rescheduled, and many cases originally scheduled for hearings in June and July are being pushed back to accommodate hearings on more time-sensitive matters. The backlog of cases will likely affect operations into FY2021. Even with the courthouse closed and operations at a minimum, expenditures for professional services from March until the end of May 2020 were higher than expenditures for those services during the same period in FY2019.

Although the Circuit Court's general fund budget cannot be reduced for FY2021 given the ongoing need to provide mandated services and address the backlog of cases, the reduction in expenditures for juries and attorney fees resulting from the courthouse closure is expected to reduce the Court's budget by approximately 3% in FY2020. Additionally, reimbursement from the state for the Specialty Courts Coordinator's salary, paid from one of the court's special revenue funds, will alleviate the burden on Champaign County's public safety sales tax fund in both FY2020 and FY2021.

FINANCIAL

		Fund 080 Dept 031		2019 Actual	2020 Original	2020 Projected	2021 Budget
369	90	OTHER MISC. REVENUE		\$0	\$0	\$25	\$0
		MISCELLANEOUS		\$0	\$0	\$25	\$0
371	92	FROM LAW LIBRARY FUND 092		\$15,000	\$0	\$0	\$15,000
		INTERFUND REVENUE		\$15,000	\$0	\$0	\$15,000
		REVENUE TOTALS		\$15,000	\$0	\$25	\$15,000
511	3	REG. FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES		\$571,806	\$592,656	\$592,656	\$620,893
511	10	JUDGES' SALARY INCREASE		\$6,604	\$6,622	\$6,622	\$6,622
		PERSONNEL		\$578,410	\$599,278	\$599,278	\$627,515
522	1	STATIONERY & PRINTING		\$2,110	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000
522	2	OFFICE SUPPLIES		\$6,616	\$8,000	\$7,500	\$8,000
522	44	EQUIPMENT LESS THAN \$5000		\$3,729	\$0	\$0	\$0
		COMMODITIES		\$12,455	\$11,000	\$10,500	\$11,000
FY20)21 Bi	ıdget	24			Circu	it Court
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Champaign County, Illinois

General Fund 080-031

533	3	ATTORNEY/LEGAL SERVICES	\$67,253	\$70,000	\$55,000	\$70,000
533	5	COURT REPORTING	\$24,395	\$19,000	\$14,000	\$19,000
533	7	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$135,424	\$98,000	\$110,500	\$120,000
533	29	COMPUTER/INF TCH SERVICES	\$0	\$0	\$500	\$500
533	42	EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE	\$1,114	\$0	\$0	\$0
533	62	JUROR MEALS	\$5,483	\$5,425	\$2,100	\$5,000
533	63	JUROR EXPENSE	\$111,449	\$121,000	\$92,100	\$121,000
533	72	DEPARTMENT OPERAT EXP	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
533	85	PHOTOCOPY SERVICES	\$0	\$0	\$267	\$0
533	93	DUES AND LICENSES	\$585	\$585	\$585	\$0
534	37	FINANCE CHARGES, BANK FEES	\$5	\$0	\$0	\$0
534	74	CONTRACT ATTORNEYS	\$191,400	\$191,400	\$191,400	\$191,400
		SERVICES	\$538,108	\$506,410	\$467,452	\$527,900
		EXPENDITURE TOTALS	\$1,128,973	\$1,116,688	\$1,077,230	\$1,166,415

Note: The judges are not county employees and are not included in county personnel appropriation.

ALIGNMENT to STRATEGIC PLAN

County Board Goal 1 – Champaign County is committed to being a high-performing, open and transparent local government organization

• The Circuit Court continues to work with other justice-related departments to develop processes and explore new technologies that will allow the public easier, more efficient access to the court system.

County Board Goal 2 – Champaign County maintains high-quality public facilities and highways and provides a safe rural transportation system and infrastructure

- The Circuit Court will continue to work with the Physical Plant to ensure compliance with state and federal laws governing equal access to courthouse programs and services for persons with disabilities.
- The Circuit Court will work with the Sheriff, Physical Plant, and other courthouse officials to ensure the health and safety of all who must come to the court facility.

County Board Goal 3 – Champaign County promotes a safe, just and healthy community

- The Circuit Court will continue to support programs designed as alternatives to incarceration and will continue its representation on the Champaign County Reentry Council.
- The Circuit Court will continue to promote access to justice through staffing and programming initiatives, including the pursuit of grant funding where feasible.
- The Circuit Court will continue to provide the citizens of Champaign County a transparent, effective, and efficient venue for the redress of grievances.

County Board Goal 4 – Champaign County is a county that supports balanced, planned growth to balance economic growth with preservation of our natural resources

• The Circuit Court will work with the County Board and the County Executive to maximize efficiencies and operate a fiscally responsible court system.

DESCRIPTION

The Champaign County Circuit Court is a state court of general jurisdiction that adjudicates civil and criminal cases. Presiding Judge Thomas J. Difanis has administrative authority over court operations in Champaign County, including overall supervision of the Court Services and Public Defender departments. The eleven judges (six elected circuit judges and five appointed associate circuit judges) handle approximately 30,000 cases annually. The court is in session from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday (excluding holidays).

The circuit court currently employs fourteen full-time employees (twelve court clerks, one court administrator, and one executive secretary). Additional positions that fall under the court's authority include a full-time Problem-Solving Court (aka Drug Court) Coordinator, a part-time Law Librarian, and a temporary part-time Mortgage Foreclosure Mediation Program Coordinator. These positions are funded from special revenue funds. The court administrator is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the court, including personnel, budgeting, ADA compliance and other administrative responsibilities, and provides legal research assistance to the judiciary.

OBJECTIVES

- 1. To provide the judiciary with the personnel, facilities, technology, materials, and other support necessary for the administration of justice in Champaign County
- 2. To equip court personnel with training and materials necessary to support judicial functions, provide quality service to the public, and cooperate with other justice-related departments
- 3. To increase public confidence in the Champaign County justice system by providing timely access to court-related information and services

Indicator	FY2019 Actual	FY2020 Projected	FY2021 Budgeted
Cases Filed	33,811	24,000	30,000
Jury Trials	42	20	50
Non-English Language Interpreters (incl. sign language)	1,917	1,450	2,000

LAW LIBRARY Fund 092-074



Law Library position: 0.5 FTE

The Champaign County Law Library was established by the Champaign County Board pursuant to statute. The Law Library is funded through a \$17.00 fee assessed on the first pleading filed by each party in all civil cases pursuant to 55 ILCS 5/5-39001.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Champaign County Law Library is to provide access to legal research materials to members of the public, lawyers, judges, and other county officials in order to facilitate the just and equitable disposition of cases heard in Champaign County.

BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

Revenue generated by the operation of the law library continues to benefit the court, court-related departments, and court users. By subsidizing both the judiciary's and public defender's print materials and legal database subscriptions, law library fees have saved the general corporate fund an average of \$50,000 per year since 2015. Funding the Legal Self-Help Center (formerly the "Self-Representation Help Desk") navigator's salary and related expenses, in addition to continuing the operation of a functioning library offering legal research materials available to all, the law library fund is a valuable justice system resource.

The Legal Self-Help Center in the Champaign County courthouse advances the important goals of facilitating equal access to justice and judicial economy by providing self-represented litigants an on-site resource to help move their cases through the system fairly and efficiently. Illinois Bar Foundation JusticeCorps Program members continue to provide additional assistance to self-represented litigants at no cost to the county.

Through May 2020, the Law Library fund has accrued less than 30% of budgeted revenue for the fiscal year. Fees are assessed when civil cases are filed. There is no doubt that the number of civil filings has plummeted because of the global coronavirus pandemic. A revenue shortfall is expected for FY2020.

The law library and self-help center were closed from mid-March until the beginning of June due to the pandemic-related closure of the courthouse for regular business. The law librarian position has remained

vacant since mid-June 2016. A part-time librarian was budgeted for FY2020, but the courthouse closure and budgetary concerns have put that plan on hold. A new Access to Justice Program Coordinator position is being considered to fulfill library management, self-help center oversight, foreclosure mediation coordination, and language access responsibilities. Planning for this position is expected to begin in FY21.

The Law Library continues to maintain a small catalog of print materials to provide the minimum legal reference materials to the public, judges, and attorneys of Champaign County. Online legal research options for the public are available, but the cost of providing a Westlaw or LexisNexis patron access password remains prohibitive. As of July 1, the Court has begun using LexisNexis for legal research and investigations. The switch from Westlaw will result in considerable savings over the course of the new subscription contract. Some print material subscriptions are being suspended, as well.

FINANCIAL

		Fund 092 Dept 074	2019 Actual	2020 Original	2020 Projected	2021 Budget
341	38	LIBRARY FEES	\$102,051	\$95,000	\$76,000	\$90,000
011	00	FEES AND FINES	\$102,051	\$95,000	\$76,000	\$90,000
361	10	INVESTMENT INTEREST	\$2,015	\$1,000	\$600	\$600
		MISCELLANEOUS	\$2,015	\$1,000	\$600	\$600
		REVENUE TOTALS	\$104,066	\$96,000	\$76,600	\$90,600
511	4	REG. PART-TIME EMPLOYEES	\$0	\$18,990	\$0	\$0
513	1	SOCIAL SECURITY-EMPLOYER	\$0	\$1,453	\$0	\$0
513	2	IMRF - EMPLOYER COST	\$0	\$1,389	\$0	\$0
513	4	WORKERS' COMPENSATION INS	\$0	\$121	\$0	\$0
513	5	UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	\$0	\$233	\$0	\$0
513	6	EMPLOYEE HEALTH/LIFE INS	\$0	\$20	\$0	\$0
		PERSONNEL	\$0	\$22,206	\$0	\$0
522	2	OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$650	\$1,000	\$0	\$0
522	3	BOOKS, PERIODICALS & MAN.	\$58,873	\$46,000	\$48,000	\$50,000
522	44	EQUIPMENT LESS THAN \$5000	\$145	\$0	\$0	\$0
		COMMODITIES	\$59,668	\$47,000	\$48,000	\$50,000
533	7	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$19,424	\$21,000	\$21,000	\$21,000
533	29	COMPUTER/INF TCH SERVICES	\$0	\$500	\$669	\$0
533	33	TELEPHONE SERVICE	\$0	\$113	\$113	\$150
533	42	EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE	\$0	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200
533	85	PHOTOCOPY SERVICES	\$3,958	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500
533	93	DUES AND LICENSES	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$585
		SERVICES	\$23,382	\$25,313	\$25,482	\$25,435
571	80	TO GENERAL CORP FUND 080	\$15,000	\$0	\$0	\$15,000
		INTERFUND EXPENDITURE	\$15,000	\$0	\$0	\$15,000
		EXPENDITURE TOTALS	\$98,050	\$94,519	\$73,482	\$90,435
FY20)21 Bi	ıdget	28		Law	Library
Chan	npaign	n County, Illinois			Fund 0	92-074

FUND BALANCE

FY2019 Actual	FY2020 Projected	FY2021 Budgeted
\$112,524	\$115,642	\$115,807

The minimum fund balance goal is 25% of operating expense or approximately \$20,000.

FULL TIME EMPLOYEE HISTORY

FY2017	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020	FY2021
0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5

ALIGNMENT to STRATEGIC PLAN

County Board Goal 1 – Champaign County is committed to being a high performing, open and transparent local government organization

- This special revenue will continue to be allocated within the limits prescribed by statute.
- A public access workstation is available for researching legal and court information.
- Development of technology solutions continues to minimize requirements for printed materials, while the maintenance of a print collection allows for broader access to information.

DESCRIPTION

The Champaign County Law Library, a small suite of rooms on the second floor of the Champaign County Courthouse, is open to the public during regular courthouse operating hours and provides legal reference material access to judges, lawyers, and members of the community.

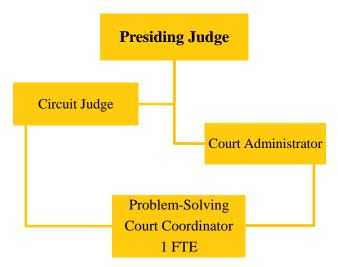
OBJECTIVES

Consistent with its mission and as a complement to the Circuit Court, the Law Library's objectives include the following:

- Maintaining an up-to-date catalog of legal research materials in both print and electronic formats, available to the public, attorneys, and judges whenever the courthouse is open;
- Providing quality service to all Law Library patrons while maintaining the highest standards of professional responsibility;
- Supporting programs and initiatives designed to help self-represented litigants navigate the legal system;
- Supporting the judiciary by offering legal research assistance and information updates; Assisting the Court Administrator in additional duties that support the efficient operation of the Circuit Court.

	FY2019	FY2020	FY2021
Indicator	Actual	Projected	Budgeted
Legal Database subscription for PDO & Circuit Court	\$11,683	\$8,732	\$6,600
Legal Self-Help Center navigator contract	\$19,424	\$20,000	\$21,000
Legal Self-Help Center inquiries	4,070	3,000	4,000
Legal Self-Help Center days open	218	168	218

SPECIALTY COURTS Fund 685-031



Specialty Courts position: 1 FTE

BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

Drug Court continues to benefit from the work of the Specialty Courts Coordinator.

Retroactive to July 1, 2019, and through FY2021, the State of Illinois will reimburse Champaign County the actual cost of the Specialty Courts Coordinator's salary. This reimbursement will benefit the county by reducing the burden on the Public Safety Sales Tax.

FINANCIAL

		Fund 685 Dept 031	2019 Actual	2020 Original	2020 Projected	2021 Budget
335	60	STATE REIMBURSEMENT	\$0	\$0	\$66,803	\$45,610
		FEDERAL, STATE & LOCAL SHARED REVENUE	\$0	\$0	\$66,803	\$45,610
341	10	COURT FEES AND CHARGES	\$18,568	\$19,000	\$16,000	\$16,000
		FEES AND FINES	\$18,568	\$19,000	\$16,000	\$16,000
361	10	INVESTMENT INTEREST	\$1,940	\$1,000	\$200	\$200
363	10	GIFTS AND DONATIONS	\$143	\$100	\$0	\$0
		MISCELLANEOUS	\$2,083	\$1,100	\$200	\$200
371	6	FROM PUB SAF SALES TAX FD	\$57,944	\$61,784	\$0	\$0
		INTERFUND REVENUE	\$57,944	\$61,784	\$0	\$0
		REVENUE TOTALS	\$78,595	\$81,884	\$83,003	\$61,810
511	3	REG. FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES	\$44,298	\$45,785	\$45,785	\$46,765
513	1	SOCIAL SECURITY-EMPLOYER	\$3,288	\$3,503	\$3,503	\$3,503
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513	2	IMRF - EMPLOYER COST	\$2,571	\$3,347	\$3,347	\$3,347
513	4	WORKERS' COMPENSATION INS	\$288	\$140	\$140	\$140
513	5	UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	\$466	\$233	\$233	\$233
513	6	EMPLOYEE HEALTH/LIFE INS	\$7,046	\$10,243	\$10,243	\$10,939
		PERSONNEL	\$57,957	\$63,251	\$63,251	\$64,927
533	33	TELEPHONE SERVICE	\$613	\$618	\$618	\$618
533	53	SPECIALTY COURTS EXPENSES	\$8,262	\$13,000	\$10,000	\$13,000
		SERVICES	\$8,875	\$13,618	\$10,618	\$13,618
		EXPENDITURE TOTALS	\$66,832	\$76,869	\$73,869	\$78,545

FUND BALANCE

FY2019 Actual	FY2020 Projected	FY2021 Budgeted
\$146,353	\$155,487	\$138,752

<u>Fund Balance Goal:</u> To maintain adequate cash flow for the operations of the Champaign County Drug Court.

FULL TIME EMPLOYEE HISTORY

FY2017	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020	FY2021
1	1	1	1	1

ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PLAN

County Board Goal 3 – Champaign County promotes a safe, just, and healthy community

- The Champaign County Drug Court provides a cost-effective and just alternative to incarceration by allowing those convicted of felonies related to their drug/alcohol dependency an opportunity to address their addictions through treatment and monitoring in the community.
- By providing an alternative to incarceration, the Champaign County Drug Court returns individuals to the community with the skills and resources necessary to become productive members of society.

DESCRIPTION

The Champaign County Drug Court continues to provide a safe, cost-effective, and successful alternative to incarceration for individuals involved in the criminal justice system because of their addictions. Additionally, pursuant to 730 ILCS 167/15, amended effective January 1, 2018, by PA 99-807, a Veterans and Servicemembers Court has been established as a distinct track within the Drug Court program. This change has not resulted in a significant burden on the Specialty Courts fund.

The Drug Court continues to accept those eligible for the program and assist them in graduating as productive members of the community.

As in previous years, the assessments collected for this fund will be used to provide services to Drug Court clients. Examples of client needs include medical care, dental care, education, housing, and transportation. Drug Court provides small incentives to clients to encourage their success in the program. Drug Court funds are also used for equipment and training associated with the program. Expenditure of these funds will be approved by the Drug Court Steering Committee and distributed in accordance with their guidelines and procedures.

OBJECTIVES

• Use Drug Court revenue to provide incentives and support the clinical progress of Drug Court participants

	FY2019	FY2020	FY2021
Indicator	Actual	Projected	Budgeted
Drug Court Clients	80	70	90
Drug Court Graduates	17	13	20
Drug Tests Performed	3,021	4,000	4,500
Cognitive Class Participants	53	40	70

FORECLOSURE MEDIATION Fund 093-031

BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

In 2014, pursuant to Illinois Supreme Court Rule 99.1, and with the assistance of the Community Preservation Clinic at the University of Illinois College of Law, the Champaign County Circuit Court established a mandatory residential foreclosure mediation program funded by a grant from the Illinois Attorney General's Office (Champaign County Circuit Court Administrative Order 2014-1). The primary grant funding expired at the end of May 2018. A smaller grant was used to provide payment to mediators through August 2018.

The sustainability plan submitted by the court as required by Rule 99.1 established a \$75 fee for each complaint filed to foreclose a residential real estate mortgage. This cost is borne by plaintiff lenders. Fees are maintained in a separate fund subject to disbursement on order of the Chief Judge of the Sixth Judicial Circuit. All program expenses are paid from this fund.

The program operates under the direction of Judge Bohm. A temporary, part-time program coordinator manages program operations. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the coordinator attended the mediation sessions held at the courthouse the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month, scheduled all pre-mediation, status, and full mediation conferences, assigned mediators, and prepared and submitted reports to the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts.

When the courthouse closed in March 2020, mediation program operations were suspended. The mediation program is slated to resume operations in the fall of 2020. A rule change will be necessary to allow for remote attendance at mediations. Originally, the rule required in-person attendance.

The pause in activity has resulted in far fewer expenditures from the program fund, which could allow the program to continue longer than previously anticipated. Because of the CARES Act, however, foreclosure litigation – and, consequently, fee revenue – has dropped considerably. It is possible that expenditures for the remainder of FY2020 and into FY2021 will exceed revenue, requiring reliance on the fund balance to sustain program operations. There are no plans to terminate the program while a fund balance remains.

FINANCIAL

		Fund 093 Dept 031	2019 Actual	2020 Original	2020 Projected	2021 Budget
341	63	MTGE FORECLSR MEDIATN FEE FEES AND FINES	\$15,075 \$15,075	\$19,200 \$19,200	\$7,500 \$7,500	\$15,000 \$15,000
361	10	INVESTMENT INTEREST MISCELLANEOUS	\$706 \$706	\$500 \$500	\$200 \$200	\$200 \$200
		REVENUE TOTALS	\$15,781	\$19,700	\$7,700	\$15,200

511 513 513 513	5 1 4 5	TEMP. SALARIES & WAGES SOCIAL SECURITY-EMPLOYER WORKERS' COMPENSATION INS UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	\$10,498 \$803 \$68 \$198	\$13,400 \$1,025 \$87 \$233	\$13,400 \$1,025 \$87 \$233	\$11,000 \$765 \$65 \$180
010	0	PERSONNEL	\$11,567	\$14,745	\$14,745	\$12,010
522	1	STATIONERY & PRINTING	\$38	\$0	\$0	\$0
522	6	POSTAGE, UPS, FED EXPRESS	\$165	\$200	\$50	\$200
		COMMODITIES	\$203	\$200	\$50	\$200
533	3	ATTORNEY/LEGAL SERVICES	\$10,200	\$10,000	\$8,000	\$10,000
533	7	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$790	\$0	\$0	\$0
533	29	COMPUTER/INF TCH SERVICES	\$0	\$500	\$500	\$500
533	33	TELEPHONE SERVICE	\$82	\$150	\$150	\$150
		SERVICES	\$11,072	\$10,650	\$8,650	\$10,650
		EXPENDITURE TOTALS	\$22,842	\$25,595	\$23,445	\$22,860

FUND BALANCE

FY2019 Actual	FY2020 Projected	FY2021 Budgeted
\$39,155	\$23,410	\$15,750

The minimum fund balance goal is equal to one year of revenues. The decrease in fund balance in FY2019 is the result of drawing on reserves that were retained for the purpose of operating the program in future fiscal years.

ALIGNMENT to STRATEGIC PLAN

County Board Goal 1 – Champaign County is committed to being a high performing, open, and transparent local government organization

• The self-funded Foreclosure Mediation Program reduces the number foreclosure cases that must be heard in court.

County Board Goal 3 – Champaign County promotes a safe, just, and healthy community

• The Foreclosure Mediation Program is designed to help keep families in homes and prevent vacant and abandoned houses in Champaign County from negatively affecting property values and destabilizing communities.

DESCRIPTION

The foreclosure mediation program helps to reduce the burden of expenses sustained by lenders, borrowers, and taxpayers resulting from residential mortgage foreclosures. It is designed to aid the administration of justice by reducing the number of court cases. Furthermore, the program is aimed at keeping families in homes, if possible, and preventing vacant and abandoned houses in Champaign County that negatively affect property values and destabilize neighborhoods.

Once a complaint is filed to foreclose a residential real estate mortgage, the case becomes subject to mediation. The additional filing fee is collected from lenders to defray the costs associated with operating

the program. The case is then added to a schedule of conferences during which defendant borrowers and lenders' representatives engage in the mediation process. No additional action to pursue a foreclosure can occur during the mediation timeline (which begins on the date summons is issued and ends on the date the mediator files a final report). The defendant's obligation to answer the complaint and the court case are stayed for this period.

OBJECTIVES

- 1. To reduce the burden of expenses sustained by lenders, borrowers, and taxpayers resulting from residential mortgage foreclosures.
- 2. To aid the administration of justice by reducing the number of court cases.
- 3. To keep families in homes when possible and prevent vacant houses from negatively affecting property values and destabilizing neighborhoods in Champaign County.

Indicator	FY2019 Actual	FY2020 Projected	FY2021 Budgeted
Number of new residential mortgage foreclosure filings	210	100	200
Total expenditures from fees collected	\$22,839	\$16,445	\$19,760