

Below are some talking points that might be helpful to use when contacting legislators:

- The AOC is requesting \$1,044,000 annually (around \$2 million per biennium) to sustain the important work of the Statewide Family Treatment Court Team, add a lived expertise position and support adoption of local FTC data collection systems.
- A federal grant currently funds the AOC's Statewide FTC Team that serves local FTCs in 19 counties and 3 Tribal Healing to Wellness Courts. But the grant will expire in September 2023 and federal funds will not be available for this important work.
- Maintaining this program is important to children, families and my community because:
 - Half of the children in Washington's dependency courts were removed from their families because a parent struggles with Substance Use Disorder.
 - Research shows that these families have better treatment and reunification outcomes when they are served by a Family Treatment Court that uses best practices.
 - The Statewide FTC Team provides critical support to FTCs to align with best practice and improve equity and outcomes for families. This includes:
 - High quality training and technical assistance
 - Data and research support to identify and share what works
 - Statewide Steering Committee that expands access to housing, treatment and transportation
 - Advocacy for stable funding and resources for local FTCs
- Without the Statewide FTC Team, local courts will lose critical coordinated training, data support and advocacy for the funding and resources families need to heal.
- The FTC Team's data collection and evaluation activities inform the larger child welfare system about the value of therapeutic court teams and the types of treatment, services and supports that are most effective for the families we serve.

Questions: Contact [Kelly Warner-King](#)