

Foundation Focus

from the Allegheny County Bar Foundation
Spring 2019



Attorneys Against Hunger

Thank you for Another Successful Year Meet Some of Our Outreach Volunteers

Once again, our donors and volunteers have shown their deep commitment to the Attorneys Against Hunger Campaign. AAH is having another successful year, raising more than \$107,000 as of April 4, 2019, with more to come before the end of the campaign!

Because of the continued generous underwriting of Lead Sponsor Steidl & Steinberg and Supporting Sponsors Gleason Experts and The Honorable Raymond A. Novak (Ret.), every dollar donated goes directly to 17 Allegheny County agencies committed to providing food and services to people and families with low incomes.

In addition, once the campaign raised \$85,000, Eckert Seamans, Cherin & Mellott, the Rita M. McGinley Foundation, and the McGinley family members of the bar generously donated a \$15,000 challenge grant!



Kickoff AAH Outreach Event at First Presbyterian Church

Each year, the Attorneys Against Hunger campaign hosts at least 4 outreach events at area hunger service organizations. Volunteers help stock pantry shelves, sort goods for pick-up, and prepare and serve meals to people in our community experiencing food insecurity.



AAH volunteers at Rainbow Kitchen

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

Lead Sponsor



Supporting Sponsors



Hon. Raymond A. Novak

Challenge Grant Donors

Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott
Rita M. McGinley Foundation
McGinley family members of the bar

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Summer Fellowships

John P. Gismondi Certified Law Student Summer Fellowship



In its 6th year, the John P. Gismondi Certified Law Student Fellowship Program will provide four students from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law with the opportunity to gain valuable courtroom experience while working at local legal services organizations this summer.

Congratulations to the 2019 Gismondi Fellows:

Ohara Hamlin, District Attorney's Office
Casey Hemphill, KidsVoice
Karly Morgan, Neighborhood Legal Services
Cailee St. Jean, Neighborhood Legal Services

Lawyers' Fund Law Student Summer Fellowship Program

The Lawyers' Fund Law Student Summer Fellowship Program also will sponsor eleven second-year law students to work at legal service organizations throughout the Pittsburgh area this summer. In addition to gaining valuable experience, the students will also help these agencies continue to make an impact on the lives of low-income residents in our community.

Congratulations to the 2019 Lawyers' Fund Fellows:

Brendan Bertig, Pitt, Jewish Family & Children's Services
Essence Kimes, Pitt, Education Law Center
Laurel Krajewski, Pitt, District Attorney's Office
Jayne Lester, Pitt, Women's Law Project
Mariah Mandy, Duquesne, Christian Legal Aid
Raven Moore, Pitt, Office of the Public Defender
Steve Reddy, Duquesne, Office of Conflicts Counsel
Isabella Simon, Duquesne, Women's Center & Shelter
Bethany Tate Brown, Pitt, Juvenile Court Project
Allison Ware, Duquesne, Disability Rights Network
Sara Weigelt, Duquesne, KidsVoice

Donate!

Gifts of every size are important. Visit www.acbf.org/Giving-Options for great ideas on how you can support the Foundation. Questions? Contact Associate Executive Director Lorrie Albert at 412-402-6640 or lalbert@acba.org.

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

New Fellows Grants

You Funded \$40,000 in Fellows Grants

Using funds generated through the Fellows Program, ACBF has been awarding grants to providers of legal services since 2000. Congratulations to the following 2019 grantees:

Christian Legal Aid • Focus on Renewal
Jewish Family & Community Services • KidsVoice
Neighborhood Legal Services
North Hills Community Outreach
Pittsburgh Mercy Health System, Operation Safety Net
Women's Center & Shelter of Greater Pittsburgh

\$10,000 will help the Following Organizations Serve Military Veterans and Older Adults

The Military Veterans and Elderly Fund awards grants providing fiduciary and legal services to military veterans and older adults. ACBF selected the following organizations to receive grants for the 2019-20 year.

Achieva
Neighborhood Legal Services
North Hills Community Outreach

Strike Out Hunger

The ACBA Young Lawyers Division Public Service Committee held their 5th annual Strike Out Hunger Fundraiser on Sunday, March 24 at Pines Plaza Lanes in the North Hills. The afternoon of bowling raised \$6,710 for the Attorneys Against Hunger campaign. Thank you to the YLD for hosting another successful event!



Andria Krupa Voelker, Event Chair, and Maggie Prescott celebrating a great event!



Another Fun Year for Jeans for Justice



Thanks to all firms and corporations that participated in the 2018 Pro Bono Center Jeans for Justice, our 6th annual event. Jeans for Justice is a fun and easy way to support local pro bono programs that match volunteer attorneys with

individuals with low incomes. By making a donation to the Pro Bono Center, participating attorneys and staff members are permitted to wear jeans, sports jerseys, or sometimes even Halloween costumes to work, as organized by their workplace. Over the last six years, Jeans for Justice has raised over \$34,000 for the ACBF's pro bono programs. *Special thanks to Cohen & Grigsby for consistently topping the leader board!*

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| Alcoa, Inc. | Houston Harbaugh |
| Babst Calland Clements
Zomnir | K&L Gates |
| Burns White | Meyer Unkovic & Scott |
| Campbell Durrant Beatty
Palombo & Miller, P.C. | Ogletree Deakins |
| Cipriani & Werner | Pepper Hamilton |
| Clark Hill | Pietragallo Gordon Alfano
Bosick & Raspanti, LLP |
| Cohen & Grigsby | Raphael Ramsden & Behers |
| Cohen Seglias Pallas
Greenhall & Furman | Reed Smith |
| Creenan & Baczkowski | Schnader Harrison Segal &
Lewis, LLP |
| Dickie, McCamey &
Chilcote | Sherrard, German & Kelly, P.C. |
| Duquesne Light | Strassburger McKenna Gutnick
& Gefsky |
| Feinstein Doyle Payne &
Kravec | The Webb Law Firm, P.C. |
| Feldstein Grinberg Lang &
McKee, P.C. | Tucker Arensberg |
| | UPMC Health Plan |

CLE Credit for Pro Bono

The Pro Bono Center has been approved as an Accredited Provider of Pro Bono CLE by the Pennsylvania CLE Board. Under the new pilot program approved by the Supreme Court last year, attorneys may earn up to three CLE credits annually at the rate of one credit hour for every five hours of pro bono service reported by an approved pro bono CLE provider. The Center is in the process of developing forms and procedures for making referrals to volunteers and reporting credits under this program. Stay tuned!

Pro Bono Week



Lourdes Sanchez Ridge, Giselle Fetterman, Jennifer Andrade and Barbara Griffin enjoying the Pro Bono Volunteer Breakfast

Giselle Fetterman – Pennsylvania's "Second Lady" and wife of Lt. Gov. John Fetterman – highlighted the Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast during 2018 Pro Bono Week. She spoke emotionally about how volunteer attorneys helped her become a permanent U.S. resident after she and her family emigrated from Brazil. Attendees were also treated to a custom coffee bar and door prizes.

Other highlights included the presentation of **Pro Bono Week Proclamations** by Mayor William Peduto, Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald, state Sen. Jay Costa, and state Rep. Dom Costa. The Public Service Committee was instrumental in helping to secure these recognitions of the critical services provided by volunteer attorneys from all levels of state and local government.

Numbers at a Glance 2018

In addition to referring cases to volunteer attorneys, Pro Bono Center staff attorneys – with the assistance of a part-time law student – provide direct legal services to hundreds of people every year through our Divorce Law Project and other programs. Here's who our staff served in 2018:

576 individuals provided with advice, brief services, or full representation

637 people connected with other legal aid providers

96 final divorce decrees entered by the Divorce Law Project

21 domestic violence victims represented at final Protection from Abuse hearings

ACBF Celebrates the 2018 Fellows Class and Award Winners at the Fall Foundation Reception

In September, ACBF hosted almost 200 award winners, new Fellows, and friends to celebrate a strong year of balancing justice, serving our community, and serving our profession.



Attendees enjoying the Fall Foundation Reception

John A. Meehan Citizenship Institute Graduates New Citizen

The John A. Meehan Citizenship Institute graduated its first new citizen – Moo Shee – who was naturalized in a ceremony last November.

Established in 2015, the purpose of the John A. Meehan Citizenship Institute is to assist

immigrants with low income to apply for citizenship and inspire them to be active and knowledgeable participants in the American political process through classes provided by the Citizenship Institute. The Institute was made possible by a donation in memory of John A. Meehan, spouse of ACBA member Jackie Martinez, who was passionate about the issue of empowering new citizens through voting and the understanding of U.S. Government, court, and electoral systems.

Originally from Burma, Moo came to the United States after living in a refugee camp in Thailand. He is a full time student at CCAC and currently plans to be a welder. Moo was represented through the citizenship process by Jackie Martinez herself. *Congratulations!*



Naturalization Ceremony

Leadership Circle

Thank You Law Firm Leadership Circle Members



On February 13, 2019, Law Firm Leadership Circle Members attended an informational breakfast to discuss what's done and what's to come regarding opportunities made possible by their continued pledges and support. We celebrated the successful completion of our 2018-2021 Leadership Campaign and discussed completed and new projects and pro bono programs in the works. See members below.



Leadership Circle Breakfast Event

2018-2021 CAMPAIGN

- Babst Calland • Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC
- Burns White LLC
- Campbell Durrant Beatty Palombo & Miller, P.C.
- Clark Hill PLC • Cohen & Grigsby, P.C. • Cozen O'Connor
- Dickie, McCamey & Chilcote, P.C. • Duane Morris LLP
- Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC
- Edgar Snyder & Associates • Fox Rothschild LLP
- John P. Gismondi, Esq. • Goehring, Rutter & Boehm
- Jones Day • K&L Gates LLP
- Marshall Dennehey Warner Coleman & Goggin, P.C.
- McCarthy McDonald Schulberg & Joy
- McGuireWoods LLP
- Meyer Darragh Buckler Bebenek & Eck, PLLC
- Meyer, Unkovic & Scott LLP • Pepper Hamilton LLP
- Pollock Begg Komar Glasser & Vertz LLC
- Raphael, Ramsden & Behers, P.C. • Reed Smith LLP
- Saul Ewing Arnstein & Lehr LLP
- Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis LLP
- Sherrard, German & Kelly, P.C.
- Spilman, Thomas & Battle, PLLC
- Strassburger McKenna Gutnick & Gefsky
- The Webb Law Firm, P.C.
- Thomas, Thomas & Hafer LLP
- Tucker Arensberg, P.C. • Vuono & Gray, LLC
- Zimmer Kunz, PLLC