

Foundation Focus

from the Allegheny County Bar Foundation
Spring 2020



A Message from Our President

This year marks 40 years of outstanding service made possible by our dedicated volunteers and donors. You have contributed generously and helped to meaningfully expand the reach of legal aid throughout the Pittsburgh region by representing *thousands* in our community in need of legal services who would otherwise go without. We look forward to entering our fifth decade of service and embarking on a new chapter which, with your help, will continue to provide these much-needed services for our community and profession.

This newsletter captures just one season of giving by way of yearly grants to a network of community-based legal service organizations, support to law students searching for opportunities to engage in public interest work, and outreach and educational programs that continue to enrich the community and members of the Bar alike.

The ACBF helps us to realize a community where, no matter a person's economic status, they can receive a fair and just legal experience – a world where the legal community supports and raises up its members to be leaders and better lawyers and neighbors.

The work of the ACBF does not end at the office or courthouse door. Through all of its programs such as the Uptown Legal Clinic and Attorneys Against Hunger, we are directly impacting lives in the most vulnerable populations in Allegheny County.

If you have not yet joined our efforts, let us help you find your niche.

Jennifer R. Andrade
President, Board of Trustees

Attorneys Against Hunger

Campaign Exceeds \$2 Million

The Attorneys Against Hunger campaign achieved a huge milestone this year by surpassing 2 million dollars raised since the inception of the campaign in 1993! We are so thankful to everyone who has ever been a part of the committee, donated to the campaign or has participated in an outreach event. You are the reason why we are able to achieve this goal!

Each year, Attorneys Against Hunger raises funds to aid 17 area organizations committed to providing food and services to people and families with low incomes. In addition, we have had great volunteer participation at our outreach events.

AAH is grateful to our underwriters including our Lead Sponsor Steidl & Steinberg and Supporting Sponsors Gleason Experts and the Honorable Raymond A. Novak (Ret.) for their generous support.



The Attorneys Against Hunger campaign hosts 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. The events are very popular each year and a favorite of our members!

Join the Conversation
facebook.com/allegheycountybar
@allegheycobar
www.acbf.org



Attorneys Against Hunger (cont.)

Attorneys Against Hunger also thanks Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, the Rita M. McGinley Foundation, and the McGinley family members of the bar for their continued support of the campaign with a \$15,000 challenge grant. We are excited to see the total amount raised at the conclusion of our campaign. *Thank you!*

Lead Sponsor



Supporting Sponsors



Hon. Raymond A. Novak

Challenge Grant Donors

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

New Fellows Grants

Fellows Grants

Using funds generated through the Fellows Program, ACBF has been issuing grants to providers of legal services since 2000. This year, **\$40,000** was awarded to the following grantees through a competitive selection process:

Christian Legal Aid
Education Law Center
Focus on Renewal
Jewish Family & Community Services
KidsVoice
Neighborhood Legal Services
Women's Center & Shelter

Grants to Organizations Serve Military Veterans and Older Adults

This year, \$20,000 was awarded to the following organizations that provide services to military veterans and older adults:

Achieva
Neighborhood Legal Services
North Hills Community Outreach

Summer Law Student Fellowships

Congratulations to all of our Summer Law Student Fellows who will, once again, provide much-needed services to local legal aid organizations while learning valuable legal skills.

John P. Gismondi Certified Law Student Summer Fellowship

In its 7th 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 courtroom experience while working at local legal service organizations this summer.

Congratulations to the 2020 Gismondi Fellows:

Trevor Handlovitch, Pitt – Neighborhood Legal Services
Angel Otuwa, Pitt – Neighborhood Legal Services
Devon Slaughenaupt, Pitt – Pro Bono Center
Alison Terrell, Pitt – Neighborhood Legal Services

Lawyers' Fund Law Student Summer Fellowship Program

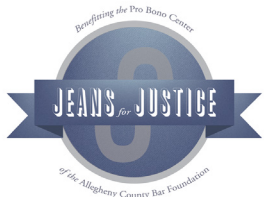
The Lawyers' Fund Law Student Summer Fellowship Program also will sponsor **eleven** second-year law students to work at legal service organizations throughout the Pittsburgh area this summer.

Congratulations to the 2020 Lawyers' Fund Fellows:

Jocelyn Converse, Pitt – Jewish Family & Children's Services
Natheena Tyler, Duquesne – Education Law Center
Alyssa Bartling, Duquesne – District Attorney's Office
Benjamin Kahn, Duquesne – District Attorney's Office
Royse Bachtel, Duquesne – Women's Law Project
Tristen Black, Duquesne – Christian Legal Aid
Kristen Patton, Duquesne – Office of the Public Defender
Grant Shonesky, Duquesne – Office of Conflicts Counsel
Rebecca Machtinger, Duquesne – Juvenile Court Project
Nicole D'Jovin Button, Duquesne – Disability Rights Network
Joshua Cohen, Duquesne – KidsVoice



Your Continued Support Helps Sustain Pro Bono Programs



Over the last seven years, the Pittsburgh legal community has raised nearly \$40,000 by participating in Jeans for Justice. This fun and easy way to support local pro bono programs

makes a big difference in our ability to continue to match volunteer attorneys with individuals in need of critical legal services.

*Special thanks to **Cohen & Grigsby** for leading the way with the highest amount raised in support of our programs.*

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| Alcoa, Inc. | Feinstein Doyle Payne & Kravec, LLC |
| Campbell, Durrant, Beatty, Palombo & Miller, P.C. | Goehring, Rutter & Boehm |
| Clark Hill PLC | Meyer, Unkovic & Scott LLP |
| Cohen Seglias Pallas Greenhall & Furman PC | Raphael, Ramsden & Behers, P.C. |
| Creenan & Baczkowski P.C. | Reed Smith LLP |
| Dentons Cohen & Grigsby | Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis, LLP |
| Dickie, McCamey & Chilcote, P.C. | The Webb Law Firm, P.C. |
| | Tucker Arensberg, P.C. |
| | UPMC Health Plan |

2019 Pro Bono Achievement Awards

Commitment to Service



These individuals and organizations made outstanding contributions to the delivery of free legal services over the past year. Their work reflects the many ways that attorneys can find a career or volunteer opportunity to match their time, talents, and interests. From helping with housing evictions to representing asylum seekers fleeing persecution in their home countries, there are many ways to help people in need. ***Congratulations!***

ACBA Immigration Law Committee
New Initiative Award

Alcoa Corporation and Arconic Inc.
Corporation Award

Lacey C. Ecker, Esq.
Young Lawyer Award

Jennifer McGarrity, Esq.
Lorraine M. Bittner Public Interest Attorney Award

McGuire Woods LLP
Law Firm Award

Hilary A. Spatz, Esq.
Jane F. Hepting Individual Attorney Award

Numbers at a Glance 2019

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 2019:

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

592 people connected with other legal aid providers

Pro Bono Center (cont.)

Bringing Lawyers to Communities in Need

The Pro Bono Center collaborates with ACBA committees, divisions, sections and community service organizations to make free legal information and advice more accessible to people in need. The Pitt Black Law Students Association and the ACBA Homer S. Brown Division hosted the Derrick A. Bell Community Legal Clinic in Homewood last fall and this spring in the Hill District. Volunteers from the Public Service Committee staffed an information table at the Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh's Thanksgiving Food Distribution which was attended by hundreds of families.

Presidential Merit Award

ACBF Presents the Presidential Merit Award at the Fall Foundation Reception

Presidential Merit Award

The Presidential Merit Award is given at the discretion of the President of the Foundation to recognize individuals in the legal community for exhibiting exceptional dedication to the Foundation and promoting pro bono service to people with low incomes in Allegheny County.



Kenneth M. Argentieri, Esq.

As managing partner of Duane Morris LLP's Pittsburgh office, Ken has regularly led the office to 100 percent attorney pro bono participation

for the past several years. Throughout his career, Ken has made substantial contributions to the delivery of free legal services while providing exceptional leadership in advancing pro bono efforts. He is a vocal advocate for the value and importance of pro bono service by attorneys, constantly promoting a culture of pro bono in the Pittsburgh area – in addition to assisting, mentoring and supervising attorneys and staff in pro bono work.

Law Firm Leadership Circle



We are grateful for our 2018-2021 Law Firm Leadership Circle members. Their continued pledges and support are an essential part in helping to keep our programs and projects grow.

2018-2021 LAW FIRM LEADERSHIP MEMBERS:

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

Donate! Gifts of any 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, Esq. at 412-402-6640 or lalbert@acba.org.

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!