

# Foundation Focus

from the Allegheny County Bar Foundation  
Spring 2016

## Red Tie Gala

Be sure to check out our special “35 Years of Giving” tribute video at [www.acbf.org/35yearsvideo](http://www.acbf.org/35yearsvideo).

## Red Tie Gala celebrates Heart of Pittsburgh’s Legal Community<sup>SM</sup>

Over 300 guests filled the Circuit Center & Ballroom on March 12 to celebrate the ACBF’s 35 years of service to the community and profession. Attendees, dressed to the nines in red gowns and bow-ties, were treated to food by The Fluted Mushroom and live music from South City Jazz and Pittsburgh favorite No Bad Juju. Thanks to all who supported this wonderful event!



*Above, attorneys Carol Behers and Ron Jones were recognized for their professionalism and commitment to pro bono and public service. Below, our guests really got into the spirit of the occasion.*



## Law Firm Leadership Circle

### Law Firm Leadership Circle continues to make an impact



The Law Firm Leadership Circle was created in 2012 to ensure the continuation of the ACBF’s pro bono programs. Since then, thirty-one law firms have led the way in supporting our mission to serve low-income residents through the Pro Bono Center and Divorce Law Project. Thank you to the following firms for taking the lead!

#### 2012-2015

Edgar Snyder & Associates  
Houston Harbaugh, P.C.  
Rothman Gordon P.C.

McCarthy McDonald  
Schulberg & Joy  
McGuireWoods LLP  
Meyer Darragh Buckler  
Bebenek & Eck, PLLC

#### 2012-2018

Babst Calland  
Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC  
Burns White LLC  
Campbell Durrant Beatty Palombo & Miller, P.C.  
Clark Hill PLC  
Cohen & Grigsby, P.C.  
Dickie, McCamey & Chilcote, P.C.  
Duane Morris LLP

Meyer, Unkovic & Scott LLP  
Raphael, Ramsden & Behers, P.C.  
Reed Smith LLP  
Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis LLP  
Sherrard, German & Kelly, P.C.

Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC  
Fox Rothschild LLP  
John P. Gismondi, Esq.  
Goehring, Rutter & Boehm  
Jones Day  
Marshall Dennehey Warner Coleman & Goggin, P.C.

Strassburger McKenna Gutnick & Gefsky  
Tucker Arensberg, P.C.  
The Webb Law Firm, P.C.  
Zimmer Kunz, PLLC

#### 2015-2018

K&L Gates LLP  
Saul Ewing LLP

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the  
Conversation

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 [@acbarfoundation](https://twitter.com/acbarfoundation)

 [www.acbf.org](http://www.acbf.org)



# Attorneys Against Hunger



## Your support helps hundreds of families

Thanks to everyone who donated to this year's Attorneys Against Hunger campaign. Your support allowed us to surpass our \$100,000 goal! Every dollar raised will go directly to local hunger service organizations who are on the front lines in the fight against hunger. Stay tuned for an announcement on this year's final campaign total!



*AAH volunteers started the year off right at Squirrel Hill Community Food Pantry's January Packout.*



*Attorneys Against Hunger was recognized for twelve years of service to the Urban League's annual Thanksgiving Distribution. From left, Esther Bush, Urban League President & CEO; Bill Stang, Attorneys Against Hunger Co-Chair; Erin Rhodes, ACBF Programs & Projects Coordinator; and Jim Jackson, Urban League Hunger Services Program Manager.*



*Over 80 guests attended the ACBA Young Lawyers Division Public Service Committee 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Strike Out Hunger fundraiser, raising over \$3,000 for Attorneys Against Hunger.*



*AAH volunteers gathered to serve Easter Brunch at Rainbow Kitchen in Homestead.*

Lead Sponsor –

The Law Offices of  
**Steidl & Steinberg PC**

Supporting Sponsors –

**G&A** Gleason & Associates, PC  
Certified Public Accountants & Consultants

&

The Honorable  
Raymond A. Novak

**Save the Date –**  
24<sup>th</sup> Annual ACBA Golf Tournament &  
4<sup>th</sup> Annual Bocce Tournament  
Monday, July 25, 2016 | Allegheny Country Club





## Divorce Law Project welcomes new attorney

Patricia Jones, Esq., joined the ACBF's Divorce Law Project in January 2016. Ms. Jones was a volunteer who handled dozens of divorce cases before coming on board as a part-time staff attorney. She also formerly worked as a parent advocate for the Juvenile Court Project. In addition to providing direct representation to divorce clients, Ms. Jones is responsible for handling client intake and screening and informing callers about available services, referring cases to volunteer attorneys, providing volunteer attorneys with support, and recruiting volunteers. *"She brings with her not only experience and skills, but also a heart for serving with compassion individuals who are facing a difficult time in their lives,"* said Barbara Griffin, Director of the Pro Bono Center. Welcome, Patricia!

## Did you know?

The Pro Bono Center operates an advice and referral phone line that connects low-income individuals with the appropriate legal services or pro bono program. In calendar year 2015, Pro Bono Center staff attorneys and law student interns assisted 764 individuals with direct representation, brief advice, or referral to another legal services provider.

## Equal Justice Conference 2017 coming to Pittsburgh!

For the first time ever, the national Equal Justice Conference will be held in Pittsburgh on May 4 - 6, 2017! The ACBA/ACBF Public Service Committee is excited to be organizing the host committee's welcome reception and providing substantive and logistical support. In the near future, we will be reaching out to you for your help with sponsoring the reception. We hope you will join us for this excellent opportunity to showcase Pittsburgh and our region's commitment to legal services!



*Pictured above, from left to right, are Stanley Konoval, Jennifer Andrade, Ayanna Lee-Davis, and Tony Thompson.*

## Law students partner with Pro Bono Center and Homer S. Brown Division to bring lawyers to Hill District

On April 2, 2016, volunteer attorneys met with clients at the 2016 Derrick A. Bell Community Legal Clinic, held this year at the Center That CARES at the Jeron X. Grayson Community Center. Attendees were assisted with matters such as criminal records expungement, delinquent taxes, and family law issues. *Volunteers are making a difference in local communities!*



*Things got animated as attorneys performed a scene from The Merchant of Venice at PICT Classic Theatre's third annual "UnCommon Pleas" on April 7. PICT generously donated 5% of ticket revenue to the ACBF.*

# Lawyers Fund Summer Fellowship Program

## Law Student Summer Fellowship Program embarks on third year

We are pleased to announce that ten law students will participate in this year's Lawyers Fund Summer Fellowship Program. Each student will receive a stipend to work at a local legal service agency that serves low-income clients in the community. *Congratulations!*

Mohammed Al-Bidhawi  
Duquesne University – Education Law Center

Camille Davidson  
University of Pittsburgh – Public Defender's Office

Zach Fleming  
Duquesne University – Christian Legal Aid

Kristi Heidel  
Duquesne University – Juvenile Court Project

Emelina Perez  
University of Pittsburgh - Office of Conflict Counsel

Sarah Saba  
University of Pittsburgh – KidsVoice

Taylor Staiger  
University of Pittsburgh – District Attorney's Office

Lorraine Cecilia Sullivan  
Duquesne University – ACBF Pro Bono Center

Abigail Yochum  
University of Pittsburgh – Women's Center & Shelter

Zachary Zabawa  
Duquesne University – Jewish Family & Children's Service

## Fellows



## Nominate a Fellow

Do you know a colleague who is committed to professionalism and public service? Consider nominating him/her to the Fellows

Class of 2016. For more information, contact Erin Rhodes at 412-402-6641 or [erhodes@acba.org](mailto:erhodes@acba.org).

## Volunteer!

The Pro Bono Center is always looking for volunteer attorneys to help low-income residents of Allegheny County with civil legal matters. Contact Patricia Jones, Esq. at [pjones@acba.org](mailto:pjones@acba.org) for more information on how you can help.

## Donate!

Gifts of every size are important. Visit [www.acbf.org/Giving-Options](http://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](mailto:lalbert@acba.org).

*Thank you!*

*Thank you!*

*Thank you!*

**ZITTRAIN**  
*forums*  
on Law & Public Policy

“Hot Topics Facing the Upcoming 2016 Presidential Election”

A debate between national political commentators David Frum and Alex Wagner

Thursday, September 22, 2016 | Omni William Penn Hotel