

Foundation Focus

from the Allegheny County Bar Foundation

Winter 2016

Thank you, Fellows Class of 2016!

Thirty-seven new Fellows, eleven new Sustaining Fellows, and four new Patron Fellows joined the Fellows Class of 2016. Members of the Class of 2016 were nominated by their peers for their commitment to philanthropy, professionalism, and public service.

The generous financial support provided by Fellows enables the ACBF to award yearly grants to organizations that provide critical legal assistance to low-income Allegheny County residents.

THANK YOU to all of our new Fellows for pledging to make a difference in our community!



Jordan Shuber (left), board member, Christian Legal Aid, and Will King (right), Operation Safety Net spoke about how their organizations have benefited from Fellows Grants at the Fellows Reception on October 20 at Hotel Monaco.



Class of 2016 Fellows

Fellows

Susan Abramowich
Christopher A. Amar
Stephanie T. Anderson
Hilary A. Bendik
Richard L. Byrne
Pauline M. Calabrese
Amy G. Carpenter
Patrick M. Connelly
Mandi L. Culhane
Danielle Dietrich
Hon. Kim D. Eaton
Samuel Robert Grego
Ronald L. Hicks, Jr.
Meri Mimura Iannetti
Cynthia E. Kernick
Dennis J. Kusturiss
Joanne M. La Rose
Ayanna M. Lee-Davis
Tina O. Miller
Charles Moellenberg, Jr.
Laura D. Phillips
Sally Thomas
Richard T. Ting
Hon. Donald R. Walko, Jr.
Lyle D. Washowich
Devin A. Winklosky

Associate Fellow

(awarded to a non-attorney who has made significant contributions to legal profession)

Diane K. McMillen, CPA,
Allegheny County
Bar Association

Young Lawyer Fellows

Lori Wisniewski Azzara
Joseph V. Balestrino
Lauren Melfa Catanzarite
Richard T. Ernsberger
Mark C. Hamilton
Ron G. Jones
Alexandra L. Kovalchick
Michaelene E. Rose
Corinne McGinley Smith
Heather C. Stumpf

Sustaining Fellows

Susan A. Ardisson
Jay A. Blechman
Aimee L. Burton
William D. Clifford
Lori McMaster
Jennifer Fox Rabold
Heather Schmidt-Bresnahan
Howard J. Schulberg
Susan Seitz
David J. Shrager
William L. Steiner

Patron Fellows

Zelda G. Curtiss
Jeffrey D. Heeter
Dusty Elias Kirk
Joseph A. Napoli

Join
the
Conversation

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 www.acbf.org



2016-17 Fellows Grant Recipients

Generous donations from Fellows will allow the ACBF to distribute \$35,500 in grants to the following legal service agencies in January 2017:

Christian Legal Aid

To continue to expand the legal aid provided to members of the community up to 250% of the Federal Poverty Guideline to meet the ever-growing need in Allegheny County.

Focus on Renewal

To continue to provide low-income individuals and families with legal assistance for non-criminal matters and with legal documents, such as wills, power of attorney, and health care directives.

Jewish Family & Children's Service of Pittsburgh

To train 15-20 pro bono attorneys to assist clients with citizenship and naturalization applications in community workshops, thereby increasing capacity to assist 30-40 additional clients with applications for citizenship.

Neighborhood Legal Services Association

To educate and assist low-income individuals who are experiencing financial difficulties and facing bankruptcy about income contingent student loan repayment plans and to educate low-income students and their parents about the debt weight of student loans.

North Hills Community Outreach

To help low-income and elderly individuals access the legal resources they need, including arranging one-on-one legal consultations with attorneys through the Ask the Attorney Program.

Women's Center & Shelter of Greater Pittsburgh

To support the Civil Legal Project which provides representation and advice on civil legal matters in divorce cases involving intimate partner violence.

ACBF provides grants to benefit the elderly

In January 2017, the ACBF will award \$7,500 in grants from the Military Veterans & Elderly Fund to assist the following organizations in their efforts to provide legal services to the elderly in our community:

Achieva

To provide outreach, education, and guidance regarding assets, wills, trusts, and powers of attorney so that elderly caregivers can make a plan, and to engage and educate local attorneys on proper planning for families of individuals with disabilities so that these caregivers have access to competent and affordable legal assistance.

North Hills Community Outreach

To help low-income and elderly individuals access the legal resources they need, including arranging one-on-one legal consultations with attorneys through the Ask the Attorney Program.

Upcoming Events...

March 2017

Strike Out Hunger

*benefiting Attorneys Against Hunger
Sponsored by ACBA Young Lawyers Division*

May 4 - 6, 2017

American Bar Association Equal Justice Conference

David L. Lawrence Convention Center

July 17, 2017

25th Annual ACBA Golf Tournament

The Club at Nevillewood

Volunteer!

The Pro Bono Center is always looking for volunteer attorneys to help low-income residents of Allegheny County with civil legal matters. Contact Barbara Griffin, Esq. at bgriffin@acba.org for more information on how you can help.

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, Esq. at 412-402-6640 or lalbert@acba.org.

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!



Pro Bono Week Celebrations

A whirlwind week of activities celebrated the life-changing work that volunteers perform on behalf of individuals and families with low incomes in Allegheny County. The Public Service Committee kicked off the week by hosting volunteers, legal aid attorneys, and members of the judiciary for a festive lunch at the Rivers Club, complete with door prizes. The Pittsburgh Pro Bono Partnership held its annual meeting at which Dr. Jim Withers – one of the 2016 CNN Heroes top 10 – spoke about how professionals intersect with the lives of homeless persons. Finally, the Pro Bono Center hosted a CLE program at which dozens of attorneys were trained to prepare petitions for criminal records expungements. A city-wide expungement clinic will be held in November to match these new volunteers with people in need.

Jeans for Justice



Thanks to the 21 law firms and corporate legal departments who signed on to participate in Jeans for Justice Day in support of the Pro Bono Center.

BNY Mellon	Meyer, Unkovic & Scott
Burns White	Pepper Hamilton
Campbell Durrant Beatty Palombo & Miller	Picadio Sneath Miller & Norton
Cohen & Grigsby	Pietragallo Gordon Alfano Bosick & Raspanti
Cohen Seglias Pallas Greenhall & Furman	Raphael Ramsden & Behers
Feinstein Doyle Payne & Kravec	Reed Smith
Feldstein Grinberg Lang & McKee	Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis
K&L Gates	Strassburger McKenna Gutnick & Gefsky
Keevican Weiss Bauerle & Hirsch LLC	Tucker Arensberg
Meyer Darragh Buckler Bebenek & Eck	UPMC
	The Webb Law Firm

Congratulations 2016 Pro Bono Achievement Award Recipients!



The 2016 Pro Bono Achievement Awards were presented at the Fellows Reception on October 20 at Hotel Monaco.

The following individuals and organizations were honored for their outstanding contributions to providing free legal services to low-income individuals facing critical legal issues.

Paul H. Titus, Esq. <i>Lifetime Pro Bono Service Award</i>	Stoll Keenon Ogden PLLC <i>Law Firm Award</i>
Beth A. Dodson, Esq. <i>Jane F. Hepting Individual Attorney Award</i>	Katherine Leech Vollen, Esq. <i>Young Lawyer Award</i>
Barbara L. Clements, Esq. <i>Lorraine M. Bittner Public Interest Attorney Award</i>	Miranda J. Settlemyer <i>Legal Assistant Award</i>
	Jason E. Piatt <i>Law Student Award</i>

Pro Bono Center by the Numbers

Calendar Year 2015 Pro Bono Center statistics:

- 6,682 individuals assisted by Pro Bono Center programs and member organizations
- 1,009 individuals assisted by Pro Bono Center staff attorneys, law students, and volunteers
- 1,141 volunteer attorneys reported by Pro Bono Center programs and member organizations
- 458 volunteers attended 13 CLE and informational programs
- 245 Divorce Law Project cases closed

Attorneys Against Hunger helps make the holiday season brighter



As the 2016-17 Attorneys Against Hunger campaign gets underway, we're excited to announce that all three of our underwriting sponsors have made additional donations to help kick off this year's campaign! While these generous donations will no doubt set the campaign on a strong course, we still need your help to reach our \$100,000 goal. A gift in any amount will help! Our sponsors allow **every dollar** donated to go directly to seventeen area hunger agencies. Gifts are tax-deductible and can be mailed directly to the ACBF, or you can make a secure gift online by visiting our website at www.acbf.org and clicking on "Make a Donation." **Thank you for standing up against hunger this holiday season!**



Lead Sponsor:
The Law Offices of
Steidl & Steinberg PC

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Gleason & Associates, PC
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&
The Honorable Raymond A. Novak

Challenge Grant Donors
Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott
Rita M. McGinley Foundation
McGinley Family Members of the Bar Association

2016 Golf & Bocce Tournament tees up friendly competition for a great cause

The 24th Annual ACBA Golf Tournament & 4th Annual Bocce Tournament was held on July 25 at Allegheny Country Club. Over 130 guests attended to enjoy a day of golf, bocce, skill contests, dinner and auctions. We are pleased to report that the tournament raised over \$38,000 in support of the ACBF and Neighborhood Legal Services Association. **Thank you to all of the sponsors, in-kind donors, and participants who made this event such a success!** To see a full list of sponsors, donors, and tournament results, please visit www.acbf.org/golftournament16.



Special congratulations to K&L Gates attorney James Angelo who shot a hole-in-one on 180-yard par 3. For this rare feat, James won a three-day golf vacation to French Lick Resort in Indiana.