



Oakland County Bar Foundation

Funded Grant Requests 2002-2017

This document provides a brief description of the organizations and programs to which the OCBF granted funding requests between 2002 and 2017. The name of the program or the organization includes an asterisk (“*”) if OCBF is no longer providing funding for it. Its purpose is to guide the OCBA / OCBF joint committee as it considers and evaluates programs.



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Overview

Since 2002, the Oakland County Bar Foundation (OCBF) has awarded grants in excess of \$2,273,500.¹ The information contained in this document was gathered from either the highlighted organization's grant request or its website.

OCBF Mission

The OCBF's Mission is to serve the citizens of Oakland County and the legal profession by funding or promoting:

1. Programs that foster the honor, integrity, welfare or understanding of the law or the legal system, or that educate the public about the role of lawyers in our society.
2. Programs that improve the accessibility and affordability of legal services.
3. The Adams-Pratt Collection of the Oakland County Law Library at the Oakland County Courthouse.

The specific purposes recited in The Foundation's Articles of Incorporation include:

1. Improving and facilitating the administration of justice in Oakland County and throughout the state of Michigan;
2. Ensuring to the fullest extent possible that legal services are made available to all members of the public;
3. Promoting legal research and the study of law as well as the diffusion of legal knowledge through support of the Adams-Pratt Oakland County Law Library;
4. Promoting the continuing legal education of lawyers and judges;
5. Educating the public as to their legal rights and obligations; and fostering and maintaining the honor and integrity of the profession of the law.

¹ See History of Grants (2002-2017) for additional information regarding the grants approved between 2002 and 2017.



Adams-Pratt Oakland County Law Library (The Law Library)

The Adams-Pratt Oakland County Law Library dates back to 1904 when it was housed at the County Courthouse in downtown Pontiac. The Law Library existed in various states of operation until 1960 when Richard Beer was hired as the court's first professionally trained librarian. He supervised the Law Library's relocation to the Courthouse Tower on Telegraph Road in 1961. Under his tutelage, the Law Library's collection grew at a continuous rate and the Law Library developed into one of the largest and most heavily used county law libraries in Michigan. In 1976, the Law Library formally took the name of the Clark J. Adams-Philip Pratt Oakland County Law Library, after two distinguished justices. In 1994, the Law Library outgrew its space in the main Courthouse tower and was moved to its current location in the West Wing Extension of the Courthouse.

Hein Online Subscription and Renewal

Although it is common in other research disciplines, the vast majority of database vendors in the legal research marketplace simply do not provide online access to libraries. The one exception to this business practice is the William S. Hein & Co, Inc. (Hein), which produces the Hein Online legal research database. The Law Library already has an in-library use subscription to Hein Online and attorneys are the biggest users of this product. Hein will allow limited remote access to Hein Online. Their limitation is that remote access would be restricted only to licensed attorneys. Because of this restriction, the Law Library cannot purchase a remote access subscription. The Law Library's budget comes directly from public funds and as such, all members of the public would have to have full access to any service offered by the Law Library.



Beaumont Health

Beaumont Health, a not-for-profit organization, was formed in 2014 through a merger between Beaumont Health System, Botsford Health Care and Oakwood Healthcare to provide patients with the benefit of greater access to extraordinary, compassionate care, no matter where they live in Southeast Michigan. Beaumont Health is Michigan's largest health care system based on inpatient admissions and net patient revenue of \$4.4 billion. It consists of eight hospitals located in Royal Oak, Dearborn, Troy, Grosse Pointe, Farmington Hills, Taylor, Trenton and Wayne. Beaumont has a total of 3,429 beds, 174 outpatient sites, nearly 5,000 physicians, more than 38,000 employees and 3,500 volunteers. In 2016, its combined hospitals had more than 177,000 discharges; 567,000 emergency center visits; and 17,000 births.

Legal Aid for Children and Families (LACF) Program

Over the years, Beaumont Health has submitted grant requests to fund its LACF Program. LACF provides free, on-site legal assistance for low-income patients and helps remove legal barriers that may negatively impact their health and well-being. For those living in difficult, low-income situations, the factors that can impact health are varied and range from trouble obtaining appropriate food and housing to diminished access to education and health care. The LACF team also provides training for health care providers, helping them recognize the kind of issues that may negatively impact the health and well-being of patients and identify those who may benefit from a referral to LACF. The LACF team works to ensure that health care providers know which questions to ask in order to determine underlying economic factors that contribute to a patient's health. Since its inception, LACF has had more than 2,000 referrals, with 502 referrals in 2016 alone. Many of these referrals entail multiple legal issues.



*CARE House of Oakland County**

CARE House of Oakland County is the only Child Advocacy Center (CAC) in Oakland County and the largest single site CAC in the State of Michigan. CARE House of Oakland County was founded in 1977 as the Child Abuse and Neglect Council by Oakland County law enforcement agencies, the County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, Children's Protective Services and the Junior League of Birmingham to bring the devastating impact of child abuse and neglect to the forefront of the community. It has continued that tradition for nearly 40 years, with program and service goals reflecting its core belief: It shouldn't hurt to be a child. CARE House is a 501(c)(3) non-profit agency based in Pontiac, Michigan, serving the residents of Oakland County Michigan. CARE House currently offers an array of programs focused on the identification and treatment of child abuse victims, and on child abuse prevention.

*Court-Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) Program**

CARE House submitted a grant request to fund its CASA Program. CASA is a national court advocacy program for children who have been removed from their home due to abuse or neglect. CARE House trains and supports adult volunteers to whom the court assigns to various cases, acting as a constant, stabilizing figure for the child until they achieve permanency through family reunification, guardianship or adoption. In 2016, CARE House served 84 children as part of the CASA program. In 2017, a Victims of Crime Act grant enabled an expansion of CASA program, doubling the number of volunteers who can be trained and assigned as advocates to children in need.

*Intervention and Treatment Program**

CARE House submitted a grant request to fund its Intervention and Treatment Program. Through this program, CARE House provides specialized intervention and treatment services for child victims of sexual and severe physical abuse, with the goal of minimizing their emotional trauma and facilitating their healing and recovery. CARE House additionally serves as Oakland County's designated local council for the prevention of child abuse and neglect, as identified by the Children's Trust Fund, to stimulate the development of model programs and services to prevent abuse from occurring, and to provide community education on this crucial issue. Its mission is to be a leading resource in the prevention of child abuse and neglect, and the protection of children through advocacy, education, intervention, research and treatment, in collaboration with the community. In 2016, CARE House conducted 852 forensic interviews; 757 crisis counseling sessions; and 23 medical examinations. 2017 is on track to conduct nearly 1,000 interviews. In 2016, CARE House therapists increased their monthly caseload from 75 clients to 125 clients.



*Due Process**

Due Process was a weekly half hour program that features leading attorneys, noted experts, and prominent public figures brought together to provide viewers simple and helpful information about common legal issues and processes. Henry Baskin hosted Due Process for several years for 20 seasons, making it one of the longest running programs in Michigan television history.

*Freedom House Detroit**

Freedom House Detroit is a temporary home for indigent survivors of persecution from around the world who are seeking asylum in the United States and Canada. Its mission is to uphold a fundamental American principle, one inscribed on the base of the Statue of Liberty, providing safety for those “yearning to breathe free.” In 2012 it became a formal partner in the Northern Tier Anti-Trafficking Consortium servicing victims of human trafficking.

*Generation of Promise**

The Generation of Promise Program is a cross-school district, multi-cultural, urban/suburban student leadership development program. Participating students meet initially at a weekend retreat in August and one full day per month from October through April to focus on the resources, leadership, and critical issues that influence the quality of life in Metropolitan Detroit. Session topics include education, volunteerism, racial/cultural diversity, economic development, and youth leadership issues. The mission of the Generation of Promise Program is to build a community of young leaders who celebrate diversity and are dedicated to the elimination of discrimination in metropolitan Detroit. Its efforts are guided by the belief that building relationships among youth of many cultures and ethnicities results in stronger relationships, an appreciation of individual differences, and creates a valuable corps of future leaders. During its early years, Generation of Promise was closely affiliated with the Birmingham Schools Experiential Learning Center and housed in Birmingham. Subsequently, it relocated its offices to the campus of Focus: HOPE in Detroit. In January 2012, it deepened its relationship with Focus: HOPE by establishing itself as a subsidiary. As such, Generation of Promise is now poised to better share expertise and leverage valuable cost savings with Focus: HOPE. While maintaining its independent 501 (c)(3) status, Generation of Promise is also able to preserve its own identity and retain the committed leadership of its Board of Directors.



HAVEN*

HAVEN seeks to eliminate domestic violence and sexual assault across Oakland County and the surrounding communities by empowering survivors through advocacy and social change.

You are Not Alone Booklet*

HAVEN submitted a grant request to cover the cost of printing the You Are Not Alone booklet. Individuals do not and cannot anticipate what it will be like to be a victim of domestic violence. They are not able to foresee the information and resources that will be needed when they are victimized. It is difficult to find reliable and organized information about how to get help, what domestic violence is, what their rights are, and how to access legal assistance. The You Are Not Alone booklet addresses these needs. Now published in four languages (English, Spanish, Arabic, and Mandarin Chinese), this booklet received national attention as it became apparent that so few communities had a comprehensive guide such as this one for victims of domestic violence. The utility of this booklet is evidenced by the number of organizations that currently distribute it to victims, which include Beaumont Hospital, local police departments, district and circuit court judges, the Oakland County Prosecutor's Office, and victim advocacy organizations, like HAVEN. The You Are Not Alone booklets are intended for victims of domestic violence, no matter where they enter the "system." Some may disclose to their doctor, while others will not share details of their victimization until law enforcement is involved. Others may seek assistance at a victim service agency. No matter where these individuals go for help, Haven wants to be sure they have access to the most recent and accurate information about their legal rights, how to access assistance, and how to understand what is happening to them.

Plant the Seeds of Hope Campaign*

HAVEN submitted a grant request to construct a legal consultation and court advocacy meeting space for survivors of domestic and sexual violence. HAVEN completed construction on their new facility in December 2015 and it includes a plaque recognizing the Oakland County Bar Foundation for its generous donation. All rooms utilized for legal consultation are equipped with sound dampening technology to ensure full confidentiality. Private rooms enable attorneys, HAVEN court advocates, and their clients a safe space to discuss sensitive legal issues, including intake meetings and legal consultations. Space for legal counsel at HAVEN is especially important because the courts themselves often do not provide private space for clients to confer with their attorneys and court advocates. HAVEN's new facility is in very close proximity to the court, making its location especially appealing. Most importantly, clients who utilize the space for legal counsel are safer, as they incur less risk of encountering an abuser or assailant, and are now serviced in a secure facility designed specifically for the maximum comfort and safety of survivors.



JARC^{2*}

JARC is a human service agency established in 1969 by a small group of Oakland County parents concerned about the future of their young adult children with developmental disabilities. At that time, institutions were closing and community-based group homes were being developed. The parents wanted to ensure that their children would live in safe, comfortable homes and be cared for by trained and loving staff. The first JARC group home opened in 1972.

Understanding Guardianship Relating to Persons with Developmental Disabilities*

JARC submitted a grant request to fund four in-depth training sessions on the salient legal topics of Guardianship, Power of Attorney, Do Not Resuscitate directives and Trusts for its home and program managers, program coordinators and administrators. JARC also planned to offer two annual sessions to families whose loved ones are served by JARC. JARC planned to engage one or several knowledgeable and experienced attorneys to provide the training and to work with the presenters to develop the curriculum to ensure it meets the specific needs of the organization. The attorneys will also be engaged to answer specific questions as they arise over the two years. Approximately 40 staff members and 50 families would receive the training. Additionally, JARC planned to videotape the sessions for future training opportunities.

² JARC originally stood for Jewish Association for Retarded Citizens but it officially changed its name in the 1980s when that language was no longer considered dignified or accurate to describe the people serviced and it adopted JARC (the acronym) as its legal name.



Lakeshore Legal Aid

Lakeshore Legal Aid’s mission is to exercise all methods of legal advocacy, training and outreach to empower people, provide access to the legal system, and preserve the dignity of clients.

Family Legal Aid Program (FLAP)

Lakeshore Legal Aid submitted several grant requests over the years to fund FLAP. FLAP is a collaborative project of Lakeshore Legal Aid and the Western Michigan University Cooley Law School (Cooley Law School). Lakeshore Legal Aid and Cooley Law School were brought together to help resolve a crisis in family law services in the county when the Women’s Survival Center unexpectedly closed in 2006. Since then FLAP has provided free legal assistance to very low income Oakland County residents who find themselves in domestic violence situations, protracted custody and parenting time disputes, or other contentious family law matters. FLAP incorporates law students working under the direct supervision of two staff attorneys, along with the assistance of volunteer attorneys from the private bar. When FLAP was first conceived it was anticipated that FLAP might be able to resolve up to 350 legal matters per year. Over the past 12 months, FLAP handled 485 clients with 689 distinct legal matters.

Estate Planning Clinic (EPC)

Lakeshore Legal Aid submitted several grant requests over the years to fund EPC. EPC is designed to provide free legal assistance to low income seniors in our community, while providing law students with practical experience interviewing clients, analyzing their legal needs, and then drafting and executing the appropriate legal documents. In 2016-2017 grant year, the EPC program trained 28 law students, who handled 234 legal matters for 99 individual senior clients. The student lawyers provided 2,054 hours of free legal services. In addition, the EPC students assisted the Oakland County Probate Court by conducting periodic reviews of guardianships. These reviews must occur after the first year from the appointment of a guardian and no later than the third year. Additionally, the law students reviewed 105 guardianships for the court and provided another 284 hours of free legal services to the community.



*Legal Aid and Defender Association, Inc. (LAD)**

LAD has actively served the Wayne County community since its inception in 1909. In 2003, LAD expanded its service area to include low income residents of Oakland and Macomb Counties. LAD staff has expertise in poverty law issues. In fact, LAD's Civil Law Group represents its clients in virtually all kinds of civil legal matters including social security and public benefits, landlord-tenant issues, mortgage and tax foreclosure defense, other critical housing issues such as evictions, illegal lockouts and preservation of Section 8 and subsidized/public housing subsidies, consumer issues, child custody, utility shutoffs, and other civil legal assistance.

*Free Legal Information Help Desk (Help Desk)**

LAD began operating the Help Desk in 2009. The OCBA provides LAD with the referral list of pro bona attorneys in Oakland County that volunteer to provide legal information to people requesting assistance, and in providing legal advice for eligible clients. Previously, the Help Desk was located on the first floor of the north lobby. In 2016, LAD proposed moving the Help Desk to the Adams-Pratt Law and Research Library from the north lobby area and conduct two outreaches per month and one of the monthly outreaches will be staffed by an Arabic and Chaldean-speaking attorney. LAD planned to operate the Help Desk two times per month---utilizing pro bono attorneys once per month and LAD's Arabic and Chaldean-speaking attorney once per month. All visitors will receive legal information and for those that are income eligible, a file will be opened to provide legal advice and further legal assistance and/or representation.



Michigan Civic Center for Education (MCCE)

MCCE is a non-partisan 501(c)(3) corporation, established in 1982 as Michigan's premier organization solely dedicated to preparing an active and informed citizenry through law-related and civic education. It is dedicated to providing youth with the knowledge and skills needed to become engaged citizens.

Mock Trials

Mock Trials are exciting activities to teach content and appreciation of our adversarial judicial system. They are designed to re-enact much of what might take place in a trial court. Students take on the roles of attorneys and witnesses and compete against each other in real courtrooms in front of real judges and lawyers. Students interpret legal documents, witness statements, and take on roles and simulate a trial in real life and real time. Participants adjust to the strategies employed by the opposing side. Mock trials draw upon historical events, trials of contemporary interest, school or classroom situations, or hypothetical and entertaining fact patterns to inspire students to think critically and creatively about the law.

Michigan Community Legal Resources (CLR)^{3}*

CLR's mission is to support and empower nonprofit community organizations in Michigan that serve low-income individuals and communities, with an emphasis on community economic development, by providing pro bono legal services and technical assistance. CLR provides pro bono legal services and legal education to community-based organizations focusing on neighborhood revitalization and neighborhood economic development to promote access to justice. The main components of CLR include: (1) Legal Pro Bono Referral Program; (2) eLearning; (3) Publications; and (4) Workshops & Clinics.

³ A request was made for CLR to return these funds based on its interim report that it had not expended same before the end of the grant year.



*Michigan Lawyers Auxiliary (MLA)**

The MLA is a special-purpose organization affiliated with the State Bar of Michigan. A small group of lawyers' wives created MLA during the 1956 State Bar Annual Meeting with the intent of fostering entertainment for the lawyers' spouses attending the meeting. In 1987, MLA was incorporated as a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation committed to promoting better relationships and understanding between the profession and the public; cooperating with local and state bar associations; promoting local bar auxiliaries; and promoting fellowship among members and families of the legal profession. MLA focuses on Law-related Education such a distribution of a booklet titled "You and the Law;" distribution of the videotape "The Case of Gold E. Locks;" support of the High School Mock Trial Tournament; support to the Michigan Law-related Education Projects; offering a teaching unit for third graders titled "Law, Rights, and Responsibilities;" and awards and scholarship.



Oakland County Bar Association

Law-related Educational Programming

The OCBA is proud of its tradition of providing educational opportunities to schools throughout Oakland County. Law-related educational programming is offered to students at each level of the school population and is overseen by OCBA's Law-related Education (LRE) committee. In addition, OCBA offers law-related education to members of the general public through the People's Law College.

Constitution Day Program

OCBA designed its Constitution Day program to increase civics engagement and participation. It is a two-hour interactive program for seventh- and eighth-grade students in Oakland County schools. The purpose of the Constitution Day program is to increase civics engagement, participation and knowledge among these students. As part of this program, students gain exposure to the rights and duties of citizenship via speakers, informative videos, mock trials and discussion sessions led by attorneys.

Elementary Mock Trial Program

The OCBA presents the Elementary Mock Trial program to the elementary and social studies teachers in Oakland County each Fall to inform them about our educational programming and the opportunities for their schools to participate. The Elementary Mock Trial program is primarily geared toward elementary school students, specifically second- and third- grade students, although it has been expanded to fifth- and sixth-grade students with some additional content and concepts. Facilitated by volunteer attorneys, students learn about the court system through interactive role play and a field trip to a local courtroom. This program fits within the State of Michigan Social Studies Content Expectation and within the Michigan Citizenship Collaborative Curriculum for second- and third- grade students. As of 2016, this program has served a total of 2,631 students!

Judicial Candidate Forum

The OCBA partners with the League of Women Voters-Oakland Area and the *Detroit Free Press* to host Judicial Candidate Forums for all contested judicial races in an election year. Each forum consists of two panelists – one from the OCBA and one from the *Detroit Free Press* – who ask questions of each of the judicial candidates. A representative of the League of Women Voters moderates the forum. These forums are recorded so they may be aired on cable channels in the communities where the races take place and can also be streamed.



Youth Law Day Conference

The Youth Law Day Conference educates high school juniors and seniors about career options in the legal profession and the general legal process, and provides tools for better decision-making. By tailoring the conference to the interests and issues of its teen audience, the OCBA and its volunteer attorneys deliver an engaging program that is a hit with students and teachers alike. At the conference, students and teachers participate in breakout sessions where they hear from prominent speakers from both the bench and the bar. Past conference topics have included computer forensics, a legal professionals panel, street law, using forensic evidence to solve crimes, military law, domestic violence law, employment law, identity protection, K-9 Unit, cyberbullying, TV shows: fact or fiction, law school admission, and more! The OCBA offers OCBF scholarships to school districts that are identified as having budget constraints that would prevent them from participating in the conference. The OCBA allocates additional funds to cover the school district's transportation costs as well as registration fees. The OCBA LRE committee reviews each district's request for funds and identifies the schools to which the transportation assistance and/or scholarship funds will be offered.

Public Service Programs

The OCBA has a long and well-recognized tradition of contributing toward the provision of legal services for citizens who are unable to afford an attorney and to providing legal information to persons for whom access to such information is not readily available yet is sorely needed, such as senior citizens and residents of lower income communities. The funding for public service programming helps to defray the cost of publication materials, facility rental (where applicable), handouts and materials at the events, audio-visual equipment rental, refreshments for volunteers and participants, and a portion of staff time.

Senior Law Day

The Providing Access to Legal Services (PALS) Committee organizes and hosts Senior Law Day twice each year which always draw large crowds: a May event at the Waterford Senior Center and an October event in Farmington Hills at the Costick Center. While the speakers at each event may vary, each Senior Law Day features seminars and presentations on legal topics such as: Medicaid, Wills & Trusts, Reverse Mortgages, Veterans Benefits, Small Claims Court, and Credit Card and Financial Scams. Each attendee is provided with a lunch and has an opportunity to participate in the free "Ask a Lawyer" session at the end of the seminar.

People's Law College

The OCBA hosts People's Law College at the Southfield Public Library and its personnel assists to market and plan the event. Most recently, the Southfield Library personnel



asked for a session explaining citizens' rights in a variety of common every-day situations, for example a traffic stop or a landlord/tenant dispute. In response, the PALS committee created "Mythbusters," a panel presentation regarding common legal misconceptions. The myths and the correct procedure and law are explained to the participants.

Legal Aid Clinics

The OCBA piloted its legal aid mini clinics concept in partnership with the Oakland County Youth Assistance program in 2008. The Legal Aid Clinics was very successful and was offered twice: the fall and the spring. Most non-profit legal assistance organizations serving Oakland County belong to the HELP Task Force, established some years ago to share and coordinate resources when the legal assistance need in Oakland County was great. The OCBA participates on the Task Force to gather and share information, resources and volunteer opportunities. Because so many organizations in Oakland County are offering free legal assistance clinics, the OCBA reduced the number of legal aid mini-clinics it offers.

First Responders Clinic

Modeled after the State of Washington First Responder Will Clinic, the PALS committee hosts First Responder Clinics to provide free last will and testaments, health care directives and durable power of attorney documents. First responders are those persons in our community who are the first on the scene of an emergency, a public safety incident, a public health disaster and other crisis situations. First responders deal with life and death every day, often placing their lives in peril in order to save others. First responders include police officers, fire fighters, emergency management personnel, Red Cross volunteers, public health nurses, crisis intervention workers, emergency room personnel, mental health emergency responders and others whose jobs require immediate responses to emergencies. While these heroic citizens save lives and prevent disasters, they have often not planned adequately for their own families should something happen to them.

*Help End Legal Problems (HELP) Brochure**

The OCBA partnered with the HELP Task Force and LAD to produce a tri-fold brochure in 2012. The primary goal of this brochure is to inform the general public, or those who are unable to afford to retain an attorney, where to access services for their legal problems. The OCBA disseminates the HELP brochure to all of its legal aid partners including but not limited to: FLAP; LAD; Common Ground; the Law Library; UDM Mobile Law Office, Immigration Clinic and EPC; Salvation Army William Booth Legal Aid Clinic; Wayne State Justice for Veterans Clinic; and Lakeshore Legal Aid CALL.



Additionally, the Oakland County Friend of the Court makes great use of the brochures. The OCBA distributes the brochures at all of our public service outreach programs including Senior Law Day, the Youth Law Conference, etc.

New Lawyer Admission Ceremony

The OCBA's New Lawyers Committee, in conjunction with the Circuit Court Administrator's office, plan and coordinate a formal ceremony in May and November each year for the new attorneys who have passed the State Bar of Michigan bar examinations. The ceremonies take place in the Oakland County Board of Commissioners Auditorium at a special session of the Oakland County Circuit Court sitting *en banc* with the Chief Judge presiding.

Improving the Quality of Legal Services

A key provision of the OCBA mission is to improve the quality of legal services offered in Oakland County and offered by its members regardless of the county in which they practice. Several programs are offered by the bar to assist in this regard.

Pro Bono Mentor Match Program

The OCBA began its Pro Bono Mentor Match program in 2012 to accomplish two main goals: provide mentorship to a new lawyer and provide legal services to the indigent. The Pro Bono Mentor Match Program targets new lawyers (in practice five years or less) who are unemployed or underemployed. The OCBA matches the new lawyers with a mentor and a pro bono case. The goal is to engage its more experienced members in mentoring and training the next generation of the legal profession while also supporting new lawyers and their professional development while also supporting legal aid providers and those in need in the community. In 2017, the OCBA formed a partnership with the University of Detroit Mercy Law School, the Federal Bar Association, and the federal court bench to expand the Pro Bono Mentor Match program to include the Federal Court. These partners developed the expanded program at the request of Judges Denise Page Hood and Victoria Roberts to help to address the large volume of pro se litigants at federal court.

Bench/Bar Conference

The OCBA developed a standing Bench/Bar Committee in November 1999. The Committee grew out of a need for the practitioners and the judiciary in Oakland County to engage in regular and meaningful discussion so that the practice of law and delivery of justice would be enhanced and improved. The Bench/Bar Conferences proved a successful venue by which good faith is generated between the parties, providing for an exchange of ideas, and by developing and implementing creative ideas toward assisting in the delivery of justice and improving the justice system in Oakland County. The

Oakland County Bar Foundation



Bench/Bar Committee presents a Bench/Bar Conference each year, which alternates between the Circuit Court bench and the District Court bench. In 2014, the OCBA expanded attendance through a system of open registration as well as invitations, and offered additional breakout sessions.



Patriot Week

Oakland County Circuit Court Judge Michael Warren and his daughter Leah founded Patriot Week in 2009 when Leah demanded that they start a new holiday to celebrate America. Within a few months they designed a weeklong commemoration, which they anchored by the key dates of September 11 (the anniversary of the terrorist attacks) and September 17 (the anniversary of the signing of the Constitution - Constitution Day). Patriot Week celebrates America's founding First Principles; key Founding Fathers and other great Patriots that made those First Principles come alive; key documents and speeches embodying the First Principles; and flags that symbolize the First Principles. The Michigan State Senate unanimously declared September 11 to September 17 as Michigan Patriot Week in 2009 and about 20 different participants, including K-law schools and community organizations joined the effort.

National Library Initiative

Patriot Week created the National Library Initiative with the expectation that the libraries should be leveraged to renew the spirit of America by promoting their resources to help educate students and the general public about Patriot Week's themes. Patriot Week submitted this grant request for monies to be used to execute the National Library Initiative in Oakland County to cover:

- Printing costs for all materials associated with implementing the initiative including, but not limited, to: brochures, posters, flyers, stationary, envelopes, address and return address labels, printing of letters and copies for all participating libraries.
- Mailing, shipping and handling of all promotional materials associated with the initiative to libraries including, but not limited, to: posters, letters, brochures, books, etc.
- Donation of \$100.00 to each participating library for the procurement of relevant historical books.



*RESTORE Foundation**

The RESTORE Foundation was established in July 2008. The RESTORE Foundation is a non-profit; tax exempt 501(c)(3) organization and it focuses its efforts on supplementing the Oakland County adult and juvenile treatment courts with necessary funding to continue the work of these successful and effective programs, to help cover the costs of individual and family treatment services vital to drug court participants and training programs to keep the drug treatment courts active in rehabilitation issues. Additionally, the RESTORE Foundation focuses its assistance on the critical needs of young adults ages 18-25, and it collaborated with the Alliance of Coalitions for Healthy Communities (ACHC) in 2015 to support this focus. By raising funds to sustain the drug treatment courts and create a coordinated community response to address the 18-25 population, the RESTORE Foundation helps non-violent, substance abusing individuals who are sentenced to confinement for offenses arising out of their addiction.

Southwestern Detroit Immigrant and Refugee Center (SWIRC)

Oakland County Immigration and Refugee Law Center

SWIRC plans to launch the Oakland County Immigrant and Refugee Law Center in Pontiac to provide reliable and affordable legal services to Oakland County's immigrant population and to provide legal representation to Oakland County residents with cases pending at Detroit's Immigration Court. With nearly 150,000 foreign-born residents, Oakland County boasts the highest percentage of immigrant residents (11.8 percent) of the five counties that make up metropolitan Detroit. Of these immigrants, approximately half are U.S. citizens, with the other half including lawful permanent residents, persons holding non-immigrant visas, and about 10,000 to 15,000 without documents. Large immigrant communities are found in Troy, Madison Heights, West Bloomfield and Pontiac. Oakland County's immigrant population is diverse and includes South Asians, Middle Easterners, Eastern Europeans, Africans and Hispanics. For legal services, these immigrants have no reliable not-for-profit options. SWIRC identified three mission priorities: provide legal services; represent clients on housing issues; and counsel clients on business development.



Troy Historical Society (THS)

THS was organized in 1966 as a non-profit, project-driven club focused on the preservation and understanding of Troy's pioneer era. THS spearheaded the development of the Troy Historic Village by acquiring threatened historic buildings in Troy and the region through gifts or purchase agreements and by raising funds to relocate and help restore the structures on the land around the City of Troy's 1927 Township Hall. Between 1968 and 2011 the site, now known as the Troy Historic Village, grew into a local history museum, which highlighted Troy's past as an example of regional history.

Constitution Cafés

Constitution Cafés are focused versions of a Socrates Café, a concept initiated by educator and author Dr. Christopher Phillips. The Constitution Cafés provides opportunities for people of all walks of life, cultural origins and ages to engage in discussion and discovery using the Socratic Method. The process, which includes a trained facilitator, provides an in-depth examination of questions initiated by the group, which in turn shares information and ideas. Their discussion stimulates critical thinking, illuminates ideas and provides the opportunity for human interaction. It supports the evolution of a more inclusive, informed and participatory society and, as a result, of democracy itself. The Constitution Cafés is open to all. There is no fee or registration to participate.



University of Detroit Mercy School of Law (UDM)

UDM is an urban law school located in downtown Detroit where students are provided a personalized education delivered by exceptional, hands-on faculty who are committed to educating the complete lawyer and shaping the next generation of excellent, ethical and engaged lawyers. UDM began educating future lawyers in 1912 and is part of the larger University of Detroit Mercy, which grew out of the original Detroit College established in 1877.

Mobile Law Clinic*

The UDM clinics have served the community for over 40 years. The UDM clinics have provided legal services to hundreds of Oakland County residents on a range of issues, including social security and disability benefits, veterans claims, foreclosure, criminal matters, and immigration problems. The UDM clinics are committed to three goals: serving underserved members of our community, educating our law students to be skilled and empathic attorneys, and advancing the cause of justice. UDM operated the following six clinics: Veterans Law Clinic, Immigration Law Clinic, Criminal Trial Clinic, Juvenile Appellate Clinic, Veterans Appellate Clinic, and State Appellate Defender Clinic. UDM anticipated several new clinics in the near future to replace clinics recently phased out, including the Urban Law Clinic, Mortgage Foreclosure Defense Clinic, and Juvenile Justice Clinic.

Immigration Service Project*

UDM changed the focus of its services to Oakland County residents. UDM planned to partner with the OCBA's Pro Bono Mentor Match Program to provide services to Oakland County residents in the areas of immigration law and elder law. UDM benefits because the incubator attorneys will build the skills and contacts necessary for a successful solo or small firm career in immigration or elder law.

Federal Pro Se Legal Clinic

The Federal Pro Se Legal Assistance Clinic (Federal Pro Se Clinic) provides no-cost legal services to indigent and low income pro se litigants in the United States District Court, Eastern District of Michigan (ED Michigan). The Federal Pro Se Clinic is designed to increase fairness to pro se litigants while also facilitating the efficient administration of justice both for litigants and the District Court. The Federal Pro Se Clinic will be housed in the ED Michigan, which is located in Detroit, Michigan. The Federal Pro Se Clinic will serve indigent and low-income non-prisoner prose litigants filing in the ED Michigan. The ED Michigan handles cases from 13 counties, and includes courthouses in Detroit, Ann Arbor, Flint and Port Huron. The majority of litigants utilizing the services of the Federal Pro Se Clinic will reside in Oakland, Macomb and Wayne counties.

Oakland County Bar Foundation



The OCBA agreed to collaborate with the Federal Bar Association to provide volunteer attorneys to take Federal Pro Se Clinic appointments for Oakland County pro se litigants. The Federal Pro Se Clinic appointments may involve discovery facilitation that is similar to the services offered by the OCBA in its discovery facilitation program at the Sixth Judicial Circuit Court. The OCBA will additionally develop a new pro bono mentor match service for pairing experienced pro bona attorneys with new pro bono attorneys to offer legal assistance to Oakland County residents seeking the services of the Federal Pro Se Clinic.



*The Warriors Trust Fund (TWTF)**

Established in 2015 TWTF is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to assisting Combat Veterans with the conditions of felony probation while giving them the resources for full re-integration into the community at-large. TWTF's mission is to provide emergency funding and lifestyle support to and on behalf of Military Veterans who have honorably served in the U.S. Armed Forces. The organization was established to raise awareness and provide support to address the various needs of United States Armed Forces Combat Veterans associated with the Oakland County Combat Veterans Treatment Court (C-VTC). TWTF assists men and women who participate in Oakland County's C-VTC with overcoming identified barriers which may impact their ability to successfully complete probation thereby reducing recidivism rates among this population. TWTF assists eligible participants by

- Covering costs associated with court mandated drug testing,
- Providing access to alternative treatment modalities, such as yoga, acupuncture, and equine therapy to complement their substance treatment and mental health therapy programs,
- Providing transportation to treatment and other court mandated services, and
- Linking participants to appropriate providers for transitional housing, employment re-/training and entrepreneurial development.

*William Booth Legal Aid Clinic (WBLAC)**

WBLAC is an innovative legal services provider to low income clients committed to the belief that access to exceptional advocacy for all members of the community is a crucial component of a free society and that positive experiences with the legal system can be life changing. Established in 1994, WBLAC services residents from Wayne, Oakland and Macomb County, in addition to providing assistance to the indigent population participating in the Salvation Army's residential Harbor Light Programs. WBLAC provides legal counsel, advocacy and education, and facilitates social services on behalf of those in need within the community. Ninety percent of the clients are minorities, including African-Americans, Hispanics, Arab-Americans and Asian Americans.



Mini Grant Requests

The OCBF Mini Grant program was established to fund additional programs within Oakland County and to reach more people in need. The limit for each mini grant request is \$500. The application process for a mini-grant is more streamlined than the full grant application. Mini grants may be awarded at any time during the year and do not require a decision of the full board of trustees. Priority will be given to new grant applicants. The OCBF Projects Committee has authority to award up to 10 mini grants per year, depending on the level of funding available.

*CARE House - Alzheimer's Association Causal for a Cause Dress Down Day**

*Council on Legal Education Opportunity, Inc (CLEO) Program**

CLEO is a national organization that was founded in 1968 to expand opportunities for minority and low-income students to attend law school. Western Michigan University (WMU) Thomas M. Cooley Law School (WMU Cooley) hosted a pre-law summer institute on its Auburn Hills Campus. The institute is a four-week residential program with the aim of bringing together students from diverse racial, ethnic, socioeconomic and geographic backgrounds and provide them with the training necessary to successfully prepare and navigate the road to law school.

*Just The Beginning (JTB) Foundation**

JTB is a multiracial, nonprofit organization comprised of lawyers, judges, educators, academicians and other citizens that has served the legal community for nearly 25 years through education, mentorship and continual advocacy for diversity in the legal field. It is dedicated to developing and nurturing interest in the law among young persons from various socioeconomic, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds underrepresented in the legal profession and to supporting their continued advancement. By acting as a continual advocate for diversity and higher education, JTB sustains a cycle of academic and professional achievement and role models for underserved communities with a high proportion of at-risk-students. JTB offers the Summer Legal Institute (SLI) Program, which is a one-week legal immersion program for high school students in key cities including Detroit Michigan. The SLI's goal is to enhance skill sets that are essential for students to progress successfully through high school, college and law school. Scholars experience interactive sessions that will develop skills such as reading, writing, critical thinking, professional etiquette, financial literacy and public speaking. Through a unique curriculum designed to enhance these skill sets, the SLI program inspires diverse students to pursue advanced degrees and careers in the legal profession. WMU Cooley hosted a SLI program.



OCBA Diversity Scholarship

The OCBA Diversity in the Legal Professional Committee requested funds to provide financial assistance toward a new lawyer's OCBA dues after their first year of membership. To be eligible for receipt of the funds, the scholarship applicant must submit an essay speaking to their commitment to diversity.

WMU Cooley - Student Bar Association (SBA) Barrister's Ball^{4*}

Professional networking is essential in the legal field. WMU Cooley is a very unique law school because weekend and night classes are offered to students who have to work during the weekday with many of the networking events taking place during the weekday. The SBA planned to host the Barrister's Ball on a Saturday so that more students can attend and have the opportunity to network with legal professionals.

⁴ A request was made for WMU Cooley SBA to return these funds after it communicated that the Barrister Bar did not occur as planned.

Oakland County Bar Foundation



History of Grants (2002-2017)

History of Grants 2002-2017																	
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	TOTAL per program
Baumont Hospital							\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00		\$7,500.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$107,500.00
- Legal Aid for Children																	
- Legal Aid for Children and Families																	
CARE House				\$3,000.00										\$8,000.00		\$10,000.00	\$21,000.00
- Child Abuse and Neglect Council																	
- CASA																	
- Intervention and Treatment Program																	
Child Abuse & Neglect Council			\$2,500.00														\$2,500.00
Due Process	\$60,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$8,000.00											\$188,000.00
Freedom House											\$15,000.00						\$15,000.00
Generation of Promise		\$5,000.00															\$5,000.00
HAVEN												\$10,000.00		\$15,000.00			\$25,000.00
JARC														\$9,000.00			\$9,000.00
Lakeshore Legal Aid					\$30,000.00	\$45,000.00	\$45,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$45,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$52,500.00	\$52,500.00	\$570,000.00
- Estate Planning Clinic																	
- Family Legal Aid Planning Clinic																	
Law Library				\$10,852.61	\$9,792.25									\$8,000.00		\$4,690.00	\$33,334.86
Legal Aid & Defender															\$30,000.00		\$30,000.00
Michigan Civic Center for Education		\$5,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$5,000.00		\$10,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00		\$75,000.00
- Michigan Mock Trial																	
Michigan Community Legal Resources															\$5,000.00		\$5,000.00
Michigan Lawyer's Auxiliary	\$2,000.00																\$2,000.00
Mini-Grants										\$5,000.00		\$1,500.00		\$500.00	\$1,000.00		\$8,000.00
- Unknown (2011)																	
- CLEO Program (2013)																	
- Just the Beginning (2013)																	
- OCBA Constitutional Day (2009)																	
- OCBA Diversity Scholarship (2015 & 2016)																	
- WMU Cooley SBA (2016)																	
OCBA	\$23,000.00	\$24,045.00	\$27,000.00	\$27,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$30,500.00	\$61,055.00	\$36,500.00	\$63,136.33	\$48,000.00	\$58,500.00	\$60,656.14	\$74,400.00	\$59,000.00	\$45,000.00	\$36,700.00	\$704,492.47
- Youth Law Conference																	
- Senior Law Day																	
- Pro Bono Recruitment Mailing																	
- Judicial Candidate Forum																	
- Public Service																	
- Pro Bono Support																	
- Legal Aid Mini-Clinics																	
- Project Salute																	
- Mock Trials																	
- Pro Bono Mentor Match																	
- Constitutional Day																	
Patrol Week								\$10,000.00		\$1,818.00	\$20,000.00		\$20,000.00		\$5,370.00	\$10,211.00	\$15,581.00
RESTORE															\$20,000.00		\$20,000.00
SW Detroit Immigrant & Refugee Center																\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
Troy Historical Society													\$6,010.00	\$6,030.00		\$4,040.00	\$16,080.00
University of Detroit Mercy Law School			\$5,000.00	\$26,000.00	\$39,000.00	\$45,000.00	\$45,000.00	\$26,000.00	\$26,000.00	\$26,000.00	\$26,000.00	\$17,250.00	\$18,000.00			\$10,000.00	\$309,250.00
- Mobile Law Clinic																	
- Immigration Service Project																	
- Federal Pro Se Legal Clinic																	
Warriors Trust Fund														\$20,000.00			\$20,000.00
William Booth Salvation Legal Aid Clinic						\$5,000.00		\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00								\$15,000.00
																	\$0.00
																	\$0.00
																	\$0.00
																	\$0.00
																	\$0.00
TOTAL per year	\$85,000.00	\$64,045.00	\$74,500.00	\$101,852.61	\$138,792.25	\$143,500.00	\$161,055.00	\$137,500.00	\$149,136.33	\$138,318.00	\$174,500.00	\$174,406.14	\$188,410.00	\$211,900.00	\$172,711.00	\$157,930.00	\$2,273,556.33