

MICHIGAN STATE BAR FOUNDATION

2016 PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS



Margaret J. Nichols
President

69th Annual Members Meeting

September 21, 2016, 2:00 p.m.

Amway Grand Plaza

Grand Rapids, Michigan

MICHIGAN STATE BAR FOUNDATION

2015-2016 TRUSTEES



Officers

Margaret J. Nichols
President
Hon. Alfred M. Butzbaugh
Vice-President
Lamont E. Buffington
Treasurer
Stefani A. Carter
Secretary
Linda K. Rexer
Asst. Secretary/Treasurer

Trustees

Thomas W. Cranmer
Troy
Peter H. Ellsworth
Lansing
Julie I. Fershtman
Farmington Hills
Michael G. Harrison
Lansing
Hon. Elizabeth Pollard Hines
Ann Arbor
Hon. William B. Murphy
Grand Rapids
Edward H. Pappas
Troy
H. Rhett Pinsky
Grand Rapids
Richard K. Rappleye
Bloomfield Township

Hon. Victoria A. Roberts
Detroit
Richard A. Soble
Ann Arbor

Ex-Officio Trustees

Hon. Robert P. Young, Jr.
Chief Justice
Michigan Supreme Court
Lori A. Buiteweg
President
State Bar of Michigan
Lawrence Patrick Nolan
President-Elect
State Bar of Michigan

Michigan Supreme Court Liaison

Hon. Bridget M. McCormack



MICHIGAN STATE BAR FOUNDATION STAFF

Linda Rexer, Executive Director
Richard Winder, Deputy Director/Finance Manager
Celee Marchek, Program Coordinator
Jill Richard, Office/Data Assistant



MICHIGAN STATE BAR FOUNDATION FELLOWS OFFICERS AND FOUNDERS



Officers, 2014-2015

Charles R. Rutherford
Chairperson
Hon. Wendy L. Potts
Vice Chairperson
Edward H. Pappas
Secretary

Founders

Dennis W. Archer
Daniel M. Clark
Hon. Avern L. Cohn
Julia Donovan Darlow
Elliott S. Hall
Joseph L. Hardig, Jr.
Hon. Charles W. Joiner

John A. Krsul, Jr.
Hon. Lawrence B. Lindemer
Wallace D. Riley
Charles R. Rutherford
Norman Otto Stockmeyer, Jr.
Fred L. Woodworth

Founders, In Memoriam

Joel M. Boyden
Stephen C. Bransdorfer
Frederick G. Buesser, Jr.
George E. Bushnell, Jr.
John S. Clark
Hon. Mary S. Coleman
Kenneth O. Doyle
Stuart J. Dunnings, Jr.
Emmett E. Eagan
Leo A. Farhat

Michael Franck
Nathan B. Goodnow
William T. Gossett
Hon. Cornelia G. Kennedy
Robert E. LeMire
Dean S. Lewis
A. DeVere Ruegsegger
Robert G. Russell
Brian Sullivan

MICHIGAN STATE BAR FOUNDATION
COMPILED LIST OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES PRESIDENTS

Margaret J. Nichols	2000 - Present	*Mary H. Zimmerman	1972 - 1974
Michael G. Harrison	1991 - 2000	*Henry L. Woolfenden	1968 - 1972
Charles R. Rutherford	1985 - 1991	*Fred Roland Allaben	1954 - 1968
Norman Otto Stockmeyer, Jr.	1982 - 1985	*Philip A. Hart	1952 - 1954
Wallace D. Riley	1974 - 1982	*Glenn C. Gillespie	1947 - 1952

FELLOWS OF THE
MICHIGAN STATE BAR FOUNDATION
COMPILED LIST OF CHAIRPERSONS

Charles R. Rutherford	2011 - Present	*Stephen C. Brandsdorfer	1987 - 1989
Hon. Julian A. Cook, Jr.	1993 - 2011	John A. Krsul, Jr.	1986 - 1987
Julia D. Darlow	1992 - 1993	Joseph L. Hardig, Jr.	1984 - 1986
*Joel M. Boyden	1989 - 1992		

MICHIGAN STATE BAR FOUNDATION - FOUNDERS AWARD
COMPILED LIST OF RECIPIENTS

George Googasian	2016	Patrick J. Bruetsch	2008
Jon Muth	2016	*Kimberly M. Cahill	2008
*Hon. Harold Hood	2015	Hon. Julian A. Cook, Jr.	2007
*Hon. Hilda Gage	2014	Charles R. Rutherford	2006
*John W. Cummiskey	2010	Wallace D. Riley	2005
Hon. Avern L. Cohn	2009	Dennis W. Archer	2004

MICHIGAN STATE BAR FOUNDATION – ACCESS TO JUSTICE AWARD
COMPILED LIST OF RECIPIENTS

Marilyn Mullane	2015	Hon. Chad C. Schmucker	2013
*Michael C. Chielens	2014	Candace Crowley	2012
*Holli J. Wallace	2014	Robert F. Gillett	2011

*Deceased

Michigan State Bar Foundation

2016 PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS

Margaret J. Nichols, President



69TH ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING

September 21, 2016
2 p.m., Amway Grand Plaza
Grand Rapids, Michigan

Table of Contents

Introduction	1
Foundation Fellows	1
Foundation Awards	1
Funding and Other Highlights.....	3
Funding Sources.....	3
Other Highlights.....	4
Grant Programs	5
Legal Aid Grants.....	5
Administration of Justice Grants.....	6
Contributions	7
ATJ Fund Giving Societies and Pro Bono Circle of Excellence	8
ATJ Fund Partner Programs.....	9

Michigan State Bar Foundation President's 2016 Report to the Members Margaret J. Nichols, President

INTRODUCTION

Since its inception in 1947, the Michigan State Bar Foundation has made 1,950 grants totaling almost \$190 million, including \$9.7 million in the last year, in support of its mission to provide leadership and grants to improve access for all to the justice system, including support for civil legal aid to the poor, law-related education, and conflict resolution.

Foundation grants educate the public about the importance of the rule of law, train youth and other citizens in peaceful conflict resolution and assist those in need with critical civil legal services. As a result, young people know how to resolve problems peacefully; the public has educational information about the justice system; teachers have new ways to engage students to learn legal principles; seniors are able to save their homes from unscrupulous contractors; children live in safer homes; and low-income families have somewhere to go for civil legal help.

During the last year, the Foundation made annual grants of \$7,152,830 for nonprofit civil legal aid agencies across our State, \$1,786,065 for projects to improve the administration of justice, and \$740,610 designated for particular organizations from the Access to Justice Fund. These funds have made a difference for people and for the justice system through the grants and projects described in this report.

Additional information about the Foundation and its public interest programs can be found on the Foundation's website at www.msbf.org.

FOUNDATION FELLOWS

Over 1,500 distinguished Michigan lawyers and judges are currently Foundation Fellows. They are elected for their professional excellence and community contributions. Since the program was established in 1984, Fellows have contributed more than \$1.8 million to support the Foundation's law-related public service programs. Without contributions and leadership from the

Fellows, many activities described in this report would not be possible.

FOUNDATION AWARDS

The Michigan State Bar Foundation has selected George Googasian and Jon Muth as 2016 recipients of its highest honor, the Founders Award. Foundation President Margaret Nichols said, "Both George Googasian and Jon Muth represent the highest traditions of our profession. No two Michigan lawyers could better exemplify the Founders Award criteria of professional excellence and outstanding community contributions." Past recipients included Dennis Archer, Wallace Riley, Charles Rutherford, Hon. Julian Cook, Patrick Bruetsch, Kim Cahill (posthumously), Hon. Avern Cohn, John Cumiskey (posthumously), Hon. Hilda Gage (posthumously) and Hon. Harold Hood (posthumously).

Googasian and Muth are good friends who greatly admire each other. In filmed comments about this award, each described the special qualities of the other. Muth said Googasian is a true gentleman, a consummate professional, a talented lawyer of the highest ethics and a fierce competitor. Googasian said that Muth was one of the finest bar leaders in Michigan, a great trial lawyer with common sense, knowledge of the law and a sense of fairness. Those who know either know these compliments are correct and are why we look to both as examples of the best in our profession. That best goes beyond their legal excellence to bar leadership and generous commitments to access to justice. Both are past recipients of the Roberts P. Hudson Award (the State Bar's highest honor), Life Fellows of the Foundation, Past Presidents of the State Bar of Michigan and have given leadership to local bars and prestigious professional associations.

Googasian is a fellow in the International Academy of Trial Lawyers, the American College of Trial Lawyers, and the American Board of Trial Advocates. He has received major awards for

service from the State Bar of Michigan, the Oakland County Bar Association and the American Judicature Society, among other groups. He is past Vice-President of the Oakland County chapter of the American Inns of Court. Googasian worked as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Eastern District of Michigan for the U.S. Department of Justice in Detroit before becoming a private practitioner specializing in trial work and serves as a mediator and arbitrator. He has been President of the Oakland County Bar Association, giving countless hours there and in state level efforts to assist the profession and its obligations to the public. Many of these important works were done quietly and would not appear on a resume; one example is his quick agreement to host a benefit to honor a long-time legal aid lawyer which raised funds that will support law interns at legal aid into the future.

Similarly Muth has made a difference for those who cannot afford to hire a lawyer, a key example being his leadership in establishing the Kent County Legal Assistance Center which now helps more than 18,000 self-represented persons annually navigate the legal system in civil matters. He also served on the Foundation's Board and on its Legal Services Grants Committee during years in which the Foundation, the State Bar and the providers collaborated to build the Access to Justice Fund and other delivery innovations. His creative ideas are still tapped by those working on access to justice; he served last year on the Access Committee of the State Bar's 21st Century Practice Task Force. He has received awards and recognitions for his bar leadership, which has included many local and state bar committees. He has been a Master with the American Inns of Court, a member of the Federal Bar Association, a member of the American Bar Association including serving on its House of Delegates. He has served as chair of the Grand Rapids Bar Association's Pro Bono Committee and organizational chair of the Kent County Legal Assistance Center where he remains a Trustee.

Foundation Executive Director, Linda Rexer, said "George and Jon have been models to me of able and generous professionals. They have both long inspired me and many others more than they know in our work to make access to justice a reality for all."

The Founder's award will be presented on behalf of the Foundation at the September 21,

2016 State Bar Awards Banquet during the State Bar's Annual Meeting in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

FUNDING AND OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

FUNDING SOURCES

The Foundation has several sources of funding to support its programs and grants.

The IOLTA (Interest on Lawyers Trust Accounts) program was adopted by the Michigan Supreme Court in 1990. Under IOLTA, the Foundation receives interest on lawyers' pooled trust accounts which hold client funds that are too small in amount or held for such a brief period to generate net interest over costs to benefit the client. Many Michigan banks help provide more revenue for the Foundation's public interest grants by waiving fees on IOLTA accounts (see www.msbf.org/iolta/HonorRoll.pdf).

IOLTA provides revenue designated by the Michigan Supreme Court for public purposes, with seventy percent (70%) of net IOLTA proceeds allocated for civil legal aid to the poor. Nationally, IOLTA is the second largest funder of civil legal aid for the poor.

In addition, 15% of net IOLTA funds are allocated for improvements in the administration of justice (AOJ). The Foundation offers several grant cycles annually for AOJ projects that advance law-related education, conflict resolution, civil legal aid to the poor, and other law-related programs. Information about grant applications and deadlines can be found at www.msbf.org.

The Foundation also continues to be a partner in the Access to Justice (ATJ) Campaign along with the State Bar of Michigan and Michigan's civil legal aid programs. The ATJ Campaign seeks private donations to increase resources for civil legal aid for the poor. The Foundation holds the Access to Justice Fund and receives and manages donations and distributions for it. The Access to Justice Fund has received more than \$15.2 million in contributions and pledges since its inception in 1997, including more than \$4.95 million now growing in a permanent endowment. ATJ Fund donations, as well as endowment earnings, make it possible for legal aid agencies to assist low-income families throughout Michigan to stay safe from family violence, prevent homelessness, access medical care, obtain child support and

resolve other critical civil legal needs.

Since the last Foundation members meeting, the Foundation distributed \$740,610 designated by ATJ Fund donors for individual nonprofit legal aid programs. Also, earnings from several designated ATJ Fund endowments were allocated for the designated agencies. Contributions from lawyers and judges to the ATJ Fund are one method of satisfying obligations under the State Bar's voluntary pro bono standard, and many Foundation members have made their own gifts to this important effort. For information about how to support the ATJ Fund, see www.atjfund.org.

Other sources of funding are listed on page 6.

They include private donations received through the Fellows program, the Memorial and Tribute Program, the Michael Franck Fund, and the Irwin I. Cohn Endowment Fund.

Earnings from the Irwin I. Cohn Endowment Fund now support the Cohn Bar Excellence Program, which promotes excellence in bar association work by supporting training or other development opportunities for Michigan bar leaders. Since 2013, thirteen emerging bar leaders have received Cohn Bar Excellence Program scholarships which made it possible for each to attend the State Bar's annual Bar Leadership Forum. Recipients have reported great benefits in developing their own bar leadership skills; their comments to date have included "I have taken (leadership) techniques I learned and applied them in my everyday work" and "(the training) was the perfect blend of professional development, board training and professional and personal connections with other great leaders in our profession that you may never have the opportunity to experience all in one place ever (again)."

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

Despite historically-low interest rates, the Foundation benefitted in recent years from the amended IOLTA rule (MRPC 1.15) adopted in 2005 by the Michigan Supreme Court. Now, IOLTA accounts may only be kept at financial institutions which pay IOLTA customers rates comparable to rates generally available to that institution's similarly-situated non-IOLTA customers. The increase in revenue during higher interest rate periods allowed the Foundation to establish a reserve for the purpose of sustaining annual grant levels and supporting selected

strategies to advance legal aid services throughout Michigan.

These reserves helped avoid drastic cuts to grants made by IOLTA foundations in other states in the last few years. Income from the Access to Justice Fund statewide endowment and other donations also helped avoid deep cuts to annual grants and allowed the Foundation to provide significant support to the Michigan Legal Help program to assist the large number of self-represented persons who cannot afford to hire a lawyer for their simple civil matter.

The Foundation continued to work with the State Bar and credit union groups to implement an amendment to MRPC 1.15 allowing lawyers to deposit IOLTA funds in credit unions. This followed a change in federal law assuring federal deposit insurance was available for IOLTA accounts at credit unions. The Foundation's long-standing relationship with Michigan's financial institutions and working partnership with the State Bar helped make the new program operational quickly. Now lawyers have additional options for IOLTA accounts.

The Michigan Legal Help program began with the aid of Foundation funding. It consists of a user-friendly interactive website written in plain English at www.MichiganLegalHelp.org and a number of affiliated local self-help centers. Michigan Legal Help is currently expanding the number of local self-help centers, adding content to the website, launching a Spanish website and implementing Live Help through which pro bono law students help users navigate the website. Since the website launched in late 2012, it has had 5.5 million visits from more than 1.59 million visitors. It is 3rd in the nation (behind only New York and California) in the number of automated documents generated for users.

The Foundation remains involved in leadership for the Michigan Legal Help program effort through its funding and participation by Judge Butzbaugh and Ms. Rexer in the Michigan Legal Help Program Advisory Committee. Currently, the web site provides information in the areas of family law, protection from abuse, consumer law, housing law, expungement, income tax and public benefits. In addition, web site users can find information about local court procedures, videos and other instructions about

going to court, toolkits and forms and referral information to help find a local lawyer or legal assistance center or community agency.

Because the State Bar's Voluntary Pro Bono Standard involves both volunteer legal services and financial donations to support civil legal aid for low-income persons, the Foundation works with the State Bar on the Bar's Circle of Excellence (COE) which recognizes law firms that meet the annual aspirational goals of the Pro Bono Standard. The Foundation and the State Bar work together on the COE application process and support a committee to decide on COE firms. A recognition flyer including COE firms and the largest cumulative ATJ Fund donor firms is jointly published annually by the State Bar and the Foundation (see current flyer on page 7).

Foundation representatives continued to participate in the State Planning Body which includes civil legal aid and indigent defense providers, bar and bench leaders, the State Bar of Michigan and the Foundation. Its work involves projects that can be addressed collectively to improve the delivery of legal aid for the poor. In addition, Foundation representatives continue to serve on the State Bar's Committee on Justice Initiatives which addresses pro bono, criminal issues, equal access and justice policy matters.

Foundation leadership also served on the State Bar's 21st Century Task Force on the Future of Legal Services and its subgroups examining possible innovations, including enhancing access to justice for those in need. With Foundation Trustee Hon. Libby Hines, Ms. Rexer co-chaired the Task Force's Access and Affordability committee which offered 40 recommendations to enhance access to justice. Ms. Rexer also chaired the State Bar's work group on Limited Scope Representation.

Nationally, Foundation Executive Director Linda Rexer served as co-chair of the ABA National Association of IOLTA Programs National Meetings Committee which produces national trainings for IOLTA programs. She also chaired the National Association of IOLTA Programs Foundation Leadership Committee using special national funding to help IOLTA leaders educate general foundations about the value of supporting civil legal aid to the poor. She also serves on the Council of Michigan Foundations (CMF) Public Policy Committee.

Ms. Rexer received a national award, the Charles Dorsey Award from the National Legal Aid and Defender Association, for her work advancing access to justice for the poor. She was also selected as the recipient of the State Bar of Michigan's highest honor, the 2016 Roberts P. Hudson Award acknowledging her work over 30 years as Executive Director of the Michigan State Bar Foundation enhancing access to justice for those in need in Michigan. In addition, Foundation Trustee Rhett Pinsky will receive a State Bar Champion of Justice Award. See details about both awards at: <http://www.michbar.org/News/NewsDetail/nid/5357> Also, Foundation Trustee Julie Fershtman was selected Woman of the Year, among the Women in the Law class of 2016, by Michigan Lawyers Weekly.

GRANT PROGRAMS

The Foundation's grants process includes an applicant's written application, signed grant assurances, and often additional information requested by Foundation staff after receipt of the grant proposal. The Foundation receives and manages all data electronically to facilitate analyzing information. Each recipient must have an evaluation plan and must submit a report after the project is completed and often an interim report while the project is active.

All Foundation grants are approved by the Board of Trustees under published criteria for each grant program after review and recommendations by staff and the appropriate grants committee. Grant conditions are often used to promote accountability, collaboration or replicability. These requirements promote more effective and efficient grant making by linking one applicant with another, facilitating sharing materials and lessons, or encouraging matching grants from other funders, thus leveraging scarce funding resources.

The Foundation's two major grant programs are: 1) support for civil legal services to the poor and 2) improvements in the administration of justice. Detailed descriptions of the Foundation's grant programs, application forms, criteria and other information can be found at www.msbf.org.

LEGAL AID GRANTS

Supporting civil legal aid for the poor is the

Foundation's largest grants program, awarding more than \$7.15 million in annual funding in the last year. Despite these resources and impressive efforts by the state's nonprofit civil legal aid programs to achieve efficiencies and innovations, the need remains far greater than available resources.

A State Bar study showed legal aid programs must turn away nearly half of those who seek their help due to lack of resources. An American Bar Association study has also estimated that no more than 20% of the civil legal needs of the poor are being met each year. Michigan's difficult economy has widened that gap even further. Persons who live at or below 200% of the federal poverty standard (\$23,760 annually for an individual) qualify for help from legal aid agencies. In Michigan, that is almost 3.4 million persons of the state's population of almost 10 million.

Legal aid programs funded by the Foundation closed 55,518 cases for low-income persons in Michigan last year in areas of family, housing, consumer, income and other challenges faced by clients.

Some 36,727 (66%) clients benefited from legal advice and counsel for problems that could be prevented or resolved through informing clients of their legal rights and responsibilities. Talking with an attorney about a problem before action is taken often helps people make good choices as employees, tenants, parents or citizens, and it can prevent the legal problem from getting worse.

Another 7,370 (13%) were helped with limited action services such as filling out forms, calling a landlord or reviewing documents, so that disputes could be worked out without going to court. An additional 9,977 clients received representation through litigation (4%), negotiated settlements (7%) or administrative agency decisions (7%) helping with problems affecting basics such as food, shelter, employment and access to health care.

Also, 1,444 (3%) received extensive services or other services, such as legal research, preparation of complex documents, extensive interaction with third parties or ongoing help to persons proceeding pro se. Legal aid programs work closely with community agencies on referrals and finding solutions for recurring problems.

Legal aid programs also handle a significant

number of non-case "matters" that help clients prevent legal problems or seek community solutions, such as referrals for human service help, legal education, and community outreach or trainings. Also, working with the State Bar and local bars, legal aid programs have recruited and supported pro bono attorneys who gave 38,460 hours of free legal help last year to educate and serve low-income families.

Through their work every day, nonprofit legal aid keep families safe from domestic violence, help the disabled obtain access to health care, protect a senior's home from predatory lenders, educate a community about their legal rights and responsibilities, or otherwise assist with civil legal needs. Five statewide programs and seven regional programs received annual legal services grants to support the delivery of civil legal aid for the poor. See the list of 2015 annual legal aid grantees at the end of this report. Also see reports and other information available at www.msbf.org, for more details on Foundation grants.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE GRANTS

In the last decade, the Foundation has distributed almost \$2.6 million in Administration of Justice Grants for projects that improve the administration of justice through law-related education, conflict resolution, or assisting the delivery of civil legal aid to the poor. The Foundation's Administration of Justice Grants Programs often helps innovative ideas get off the ground, expand successful projects for replication in other communities, and provide educational materials in print and on the Internet to expand access to law-related education.

Receiving an AOJ grant often creates opportunities for recipient organizations to obtain additional or matching funding from other sources. Also, AOJ grantees may work together as a result of Foundation grant conditions encouraging collaborative efforts. Many partnerships forged while working together on AOJ grant projects have lasted long after the project was finished.

This past year, \$1,786,065 was awarded from several Foundation funding sources for the following Administration of Justice grants:

Michigan Community Resources was awarded up to \$20,000 towards updating the Community Land Trust Legal Manual incorporating changes to

the law and to include commercial use and provide technical assistance for implementation.

Southwest Detroit Community Justice Center received funding up to \$10,000 to cover costs of purchasing equipment for translation and interpreter services.

Center for Civic Education received up to \$10,000 to enhance web-based law-related materials and training for use by teachers.

Legal Services of Northern Michigan was awarded \$12,000 toward the fellowship for the “Rapid Response: Integrating Free Legal Services into a Regional Response to Homelessness” project.

Michigan Advocacy Program - Michigan Poverty Law Program received up to \$1.2 million to support ongoing operations and expansion of resource materials for the Michigan Foreclosure Prevention Project.

Foreclosure Prevention Evaluation Project of the Michigan State Bar Foundation received up to \$30,000 for evaluating the quality of services and the management of partnerships related to foreclosure prevention in Michigan.

2016 Community Redevelopment Legal Services Project of the Michigan State Bar Foundation received up to \$100,000 for programs working on community redevelopment.

Cohn Bar Excellence Program received \$1,846 from the Foundation’s Irwin I. Cohn Memorial Fund toward three scholarships for local/special bar association representatives who could not otherwise attend the State Bar of Michigan’s Bar Leadership Institute.

Michael Franck Fund earnings (of varying annual amounts) were designated for a symposium at future State Bar annual meetings with a speaker addressing ethics/professionalism.

Michigan Legal Help received \$400,000 to support ongoing operations.

Restorative Justice benefited from a total of \$2,219 for further research on this topic.

CONTRIBUTIONS

Many of the Foundation’s charitable programs would not be possible without tax-deductible gifts to the Foundation.

Foundation Membership:

Foundation membership is open to all members in good standing of the State Bar of Michigan upon payment of dues.

Foundation Fellows:

Fellows who meet the criteria of professional excellence and service to community are elected by the Foundation Trustees after nomination by other Fellows. Fellows make a membership financial pledge at three levels of membership: Patron, Supporting and Fellow. Existing Fellows may upgrade their membership category at any time. Life Fellows have no further financial obligation; however, many Life Fellows continue to make voluntary donations.

Memorial/Tribute Fund:

Gifts in memory of deceased individuals may be made to the Foundation’s Memorial Fund. Donations may also be made to the Foundation’s Tribute Fund, which honors accomplishments of living persons.

Michael Franck Fund for Professional Responsibility:

This fund was established in memory of the long-time Executive Director of the State Bar of Michigan to support projects promoting professional responsibility.

Irwin I. Cohn Memorial Fund:

The Irwin I. Cohn Memorial Fund provides stipends and other support to promote education for and excellence in bar association leadership.

Access to Justice Fund:

The Access to Justice Fund supports civil legal aid for the poor, including building a permanent statewide endowment to generate future revenue and supporting local legal aid program fundraising through the Access to Justice Fund. The Access to Justice Campaign is a partnership of the State Bar of Michigan, the Michigan State Bar Foundation and Michigan’s nonprofit civil legal aid providers. For more information see www.atjfund.org.

ACCESS TO JUSTICE FUND CUMULATIVE DONOR SOCIETIES

Acknowledging gifts from the ATJ Campaign's inception through 8/31/2016

JUSTICE SOCIETY (\$500,000+)

Anonymous
Dykema Gossett PLLC
Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn LLP
Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone, PLC
Miller Johnson
W.K. Kellogg Foundation
Warner Norcross & Judd LLP
Varnum LLP

FOUNDERS (\$100,000-\$499,999)

Anonymous
Bodman PLC
Conlin, McKenney & Philbrick, PC
Dickinson Wright PLLC
DTE Energy Company and The DTE Energy Foundation
Ford Motor Company
Foster Swift Collins & Smith PC
General Motors Company
Howard & Howard
Michael & Peggy Pitt Charitable Trust
Mika Meyers PLC
Minority Counsel
Pitt McGehee Palmer & Rivers PC
Professionals Direct
Rhoades McKee PC
State Bar of Michigan
Thomas, Garvey & Garvey, PLLC

HUMANITARIANS (\$50,000-\$99,999)

Anonymous
Barris, Sott, Denn & Driker, PLLC
Butzel Long
Clark Hill PLC

HUMANITARIANS (\$50,000-\$99,999) *continued*

Robert F. Garvey
Gruel Mills Nims & Pylman LLP
Jaffe Raitt Heuer & Weiss, PC
Hooper, Hathaway, Price, Beuche & Wallace, PC
McShane & Bowie PLC
Michigan State Bar Foundation
The Miller Foundation
Jon and Carol Muth
Pear Sperling Eggan & Daniels, PC
Price Heneveld LLP
Sommers Schwartz, PC
State Bar of Michigan Business Law Section
Thrun Law Firm, PC

PRESIDENTS (\$25,000-\$49,999)

Anonymous
Hon. Alfred M. Butzbaugh
The Chrysler Foundation
Comerica, Inc.
Foley & Lardner LLP
Fraser Trebilcock
George A. Googasian
Johnson, Rosati, Schultz & Joppich, PC
The Kresge Foundation
Brian J. McKeen
Michigan State University College of Law
William F. Moses
Paul Goebel Group
Pepper Hamilton LLP
Sinas Dramis Law Firm
Smith Haughey Rice & Roegge
Arthur and Elizabeth Snell
State Bar of Michigan Real Property Law Section
Janet K. Welch and George W. Hare

Note: Law firm gifts may include contributions and pledges from individual members of the firm whose gifts are also noted separately.

2016 PRO BONO CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE

Recognizing law firms and corporations that met the State Bar of Michigan's Voluntary Pro Bono Standard

LEADERSHIP LEVEL

(\$500 per attorney average in financial donations)

Barris, Sott, Denn & Driker, PLLC
Bodman PLC
Bos & Glazier, P.L.C.
Buckles & Buckles, PLC
Butzel Long
Clark Hill PLC
Conlin, McKenney & Philbrick, PC
Crippen, Urquhart & Weber, LLP
Curtis Curtis & Brelinski PC
Dickinson Wright PLLC
DTE Energy Company
Dykema
Ferris & Salter PC
Fett & Fields PC
Fink & Fink, PLLC (formerly Fink & Valvo)
Foley & Lardner LLP
Ford Motor Company
Garris, Garris, Garris & Garris, PC
Gruel Mills Nims & Pylman PLLC
Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn LLP
Hooper Hathaway PC
Kline Legal Group
Miller Canfield
Miller Johnson
Muth Law, PC
Nichols, Sacks, Slank, Sendelbach & Buiteweg, PC
Pear Sperling Eggan & Daniels, PC
Pepper Hamilton LLP
Pitt McGehee Palmer Rivers PC
Rhoades McKee PC
Smith Haughey Rice & Roegge
Soble Rowe & Krichbaum
Thomas, Garvey, Garvey & Sciotti, PLLC
Thrun Law Firm, PC
Varnum LLP
Velzen, Johnsen & Wikander, P.C.
Warner Norcross & Judd LLP

EXCELLENCE LEVEL

(\$300 per attorney average in financial donations)

Alane & Chartier, PLC
Dodge & Dodge
Foster Swift Collins & Smith, P.C.
Fraser Trebilcock
Goethel Engelhardt PLLC
Howard & Howard
Hubbell DuVall PLLC
Kerr, Russell and Weber, PLC
McGarry Bair PC
University of Michigan Law School Clinical Faculty
Parsons Law Firm PLC
Price Heneveld LLP
Glenn A. Saltsman PLC
Schmick Law Offices, PC
Sinas, Dramis, Brake, Boughton & McIntyre, PC
Vandervoort, Christ & Fisher, PC
Verspoor Waalkes PC
Willingham & Cote', PC
Willis Law

ATJ FUND - SUPPORTING CIVIL LEGAL AID TO THE POOR IN MICHIGAN

The State Bar of Michigan, the Michigan State Bar Foundation and Michigan's nonprofit civil legal aid programs encourage all Michigan lawyers to contribute to the Access to Justice Fund **statewide permanent endowment** to generate ongoing and sustainable revenue to support civil legal aid throughout the state. Donations to this fund support the provision of civil legal services in every part of the state. You may also designate your Access to Justice Fund donation for an **individual legal aid program** for that program's operations or endowment. A list of eligible partner programs appears below. To make a donation, see www.atjfund.org.

REGIONAL CIVIL LEGAL AID PROGRAMS WITH OFFICES LOCATED THROUGHOUT THEIR REGION

- Lakeshore Legal Aid* (E)
- Legal Aid & Defender Association Civil Law Group* (M)
- Legal Aid of Western Michigan* (W)
- Legal Services of Eastern Michigan* (E)
- Legal Services of Northern Michigan* (N)
- Legal Services of South Central Michigan - Michigan Advocacy Program* (S)

PROGRAMS PROVIDING STATEWIDE SERVICES

- Access to Justice Fund Statewide Endowment**
- American Civil Liberties Union Fund of Michigan
- Community Legal Resources*
(A Division of Michigan Community Resources)
- Elder Law of Michigan*
- Farmworker Legal Services*
- Michigan Elder Justice Initiative*
- Michigan Immigrant Rights Center*
- Michigan Indian Legal Services
- Michigan Legal Help*
- Michigan Migrant Legal Assistance Project
- Michigan Poverty Law Program*



OTHER LEGAL AID AND SPECIALITY PROGRAMS LOCATED IN MICHIGAN

- Access to Bankruptcy Court
- Bay Area Women's Center
- Blue Water Safe Horizons
- Center for Civil Justice
- Counsel and Advocacy Law Line – LLA*
- Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association Foundation
Access to Justice Programs*
- Diocese of Kalamazoo Immigration Assistance Program
- First Step Legal Advocacy Project
- Free Legal Aid Clinic
- Freedom House
- Guild/Sugar Law Center
- HAVEN*
- International Institute of Metropolitan Detroit
- Justice For Our Neighbors Southeastern Michigan
- Justice For Our Neighbors - West Michigan
Legal Assistance Center, Kent County
- Michigan Legal Services*
- Michigan Protection and Advocacy Service
- MSU College of Law Clinical Law Programs
- Neighborhood Legal Services Michigan
- Salvation Army William Booth Legal Aid Clinic
- Sixty Plus, Inc., Elder Law Clinic
- Student Advocacy Center of Michigan
- Underground Railroad Civil Legal Program
- University of Detroit Mercy School of Law Clinical Law Programs
- University of Michigan Law School Clinical Law Programs
- Washtenaw County/EMU Legal Resource Center
- Wayne State University Law School Clinical Law Programs

Programs followed by an asterisk () seek designated endowment funds in addition to designated gifts for current operations.
**The ATJ Fund Statewide Endowment produces earnings to support civil legal aid services throughout Michigan.



The ATJ Campaign is a partnership between the State Bar of Michigan, the Michigan State Bar Foundation and Michigan's civil legal aid programs to increase resources for civil legal aid to the poor in Michigan. Contributions to the ATJ Fund are received and administered by the Michigan State Bar Foundation according to the ATJ Fund guidelines located at www.msb.org/atjfund.

**The Michigan State Bar Foundation provides
leadership and grants
to improve access for all to the justice system,
including support for civil legal aid to the poor,
law-related education, and conflict resolution.**

MICHIGAN STATE BAR FOUNDATION

Michael Franck Building
306 Townsend Street
Lansing, Michigan 48933
Phone (800) 968-6723 - FAX (517) 371-3325
Web Site: www.msbf.org
E-Mail: msbf@msbf.org