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Michigan State Bar Foundation

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Funding and Leadership for Justice Since 1947

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FOUNDATION AWARDS \$77,822 IN GRANTS

The Michigan State Bar Foundation recently awarded 7 grants to nonprofit organizations for projects which advance law-related education, peaceful conflict resolution and the delivery of civil legal services to low-income people in Michigan. The Michigan State Bar Foundation is a nonprofit corporation, established in 1947 by Michigan judges and lawyers to support law-related charitable programs.

Recent grants were awarded to:

Elder Law of Michigan - to support training to pro bono and legal aid attorneys providing legal services for vulnerable long term care residents facing guardianship or involuntary transfer issues.

International Institute of Metropolitan Detroit - to improve computer technology and case management systems to increase staff and law student volunteer legal services and provide access to updated legal resource materials.

Legal Services of Northern Michigan - to expand the *Internet Representation Project* which increases low-income rural client access to pro bono legal advice and counsel and legal educational materials over the Internet.

Michigan Interscholastic Forensic Association - to support a *Student Congress* which helps high school students develop critical thinking skills and learn about the rule of law and democratic government through research and mock legislative debate.

Michigan State University College of Law/Small Business & Nonprofit Clinic - to assist with costs of outreach and materials to educate nonprofit organizations about laws and regulations affecting nonprofit agency operations.

Michigan State University College of Education - to fund scholarships through the *Irwin I. Cohn Endowment Fund* to help Michigan social studies teachers attend a summer conference to learn techniques for effective law-related education.

State Bar of Michigan- Justice Initiatives Division - to help with costs of bringing Darryl Hunt, subject of the HBO documentary film "*The Trials of Darryl Hunt*," to the State Bar of Michigan annual conference as part of a dialogue about the criminal justice system and the civil collateral consequences that result from convictions.

For more information on the Foundation, grant deadlines, criteria and applications, please visit the Foundation's website at www.msbf.org.