

Foundation News

Michigan State Bar Foundation



Funding and Leadership for Justice Since 1947

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Foundation Grants Fund Law-Related Education and Improvements in Civil Legal Aid

The Michigan State Bar Foundation recently awarded over \$139,000 in Administration of Justice grants to ten nonprofit organizations.

The Foundation's Administration of Justice Grants program supports projects that assist civil legal aid for the poor or innovative projects that educate Michigan children and adults about their legal rights and responsibilities, the American justice system, and opportunities for conflict and dispute resolution.

Organizations receiving Administration of Justice Grants include:

Elder Law of Michigan Inc. - for technology to improve communications for the Legal Hotline for Michigan Seniors through web-based tools that help low-income seniors access civil legal advice.

Historical Society for the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan - for development of a teacher's curriculum that meets Michigan social studies standards to accompany a documentary DVD of the 1953 *Case of the Detroit Six*.

Huron County Bar Association - for costs toward educational classes for the residents of Huron County about the legal system, legal rights and responsibilities, and common civil legal issues.

Lakeshore Legal Aid - for telephone technology and software to improve communications with low-income clients phoning the CALL legal hotline with civil legal problems.

Legal Aid and Defender of Detroit – for start-up expenses of a collaborative legal-medical program with the Children's Hospital of Michigan to assist with legal problems affecting the health of low-income children and their families.

Legal Aid of Western Michigan – for costs of educational materials, training and outreach to help resolve civil legal issues for low-income prisoners re-entering the community.

Legal Services of Northern Michigan – for expert assistance to create a program-based fund development plan to help increase resources in Northern Michigan.

Michigan Center for Civic Education – for consultant help in designing an organizational strategic and fund development plan and for selected expenses of a statewide conference for teachers of law-related education in Michigan schools.

National Conference of Chief Justices – to help fund speakers for the National Conference of Chief Justices at their national meeting to be held in Michigan in 2007.

Washtenaw County/ Eastern Michigan University Legal Resource Center- for computer technology and related needs to operate a district court outreach site assisting pro se litigants.

The Michigan State Bar Foundation was established in 1947 by lawyers and judges and has made more than 500 grants totaling over \$80 million. See www.msbf.org for more information on the Foundation and its grants programs, including applications, due dates, and grant criteria.