



OHIO STATE BAR
FOUNDATION

GRATITUDE REPORT



2021 LEADERSHIP

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A MESSAGE TO OUR DONORS, PARTNERS, AND FRIENDS



We are proud
to share the
2021 OSBF
Gratitude Report
with you.



Last April marked the 70th anniversary of the Ohio State Bar Foundation. Although the ongoing pandemic in part eclipsed this milestone in our history, the occasion reminds us of how far we have come since our founding in 1951. Over seven decades, our mission has evolved, and our programs have grown but the cornerstone laid by founders to help Ohioans better understand the rule of law remains. In these changing and sometimes turbulent times, this occasion also compels us to reaffirm our purpose and strengthen our resolve at a time when the need for justice has never been greater.

As we embark on a new decade, your generous support enables us to continue advancing our work and broadening our reach to more Ohio communities. Through collaborations with grant partners, we continue to ensure that our most vulnerable and marginalized populations have unencumbered pathways to equality and justice.

As testament to our commitment, we awarded \$1.1 million in grants in 2021. These grants will mobilize 28 nonprofit organizations as they address relevant and urgent legal issues confronting the populations we serve.

These growing community investments are showing promising returns as grant partners complete projects and share impact reports. One uplifting example is a 2020 collaboration in response to the spike of evictions caused by the pandemic. Leveraging a recent court rule change entitling tenants to legal representation in city eviction proceedings, United Way of Cleveland established the Right to Counsel – Cleveland Community Education and Awareness Campaign to alert tenants to this fundamental right. Joining forces with Cleveland Legal Aid Society, this tandem effort resulted in 93% of tenants assisted remaining in their homes, thereby avoiding this greatest of threats to families.

We continue to advance our racial equity work. In its second year, OSBF's Racial Justice Initiative, now a nationally recognized program, awarded \$352,355 in grants in 2021.

Last fall, we completed our first-ever Strategic Grant, a three-year, \$300,000 investment to improve the civics knowledge of adults in Ohio. Working in partnership with Issue Media Group (IMG), this multi-faceted, interactive project reached and informed nearly 4 million people with stories about carefully chosen legal issues impacting their communities and the laws behind them.

You will read more about the Strategic Grant, RJI and many noteworthy achievements in the pages that follow, including recognition of the many donors whose continued support and abundant gifts fuel our work.

As we begin a new year and transition of leadership, we congratulate and welcome Kristin Burkett as President of the OSBF Board of Trustees. Kris brings depth of expertise, commitment, and passion to her role. Along with President-Elect David Hejmanowski, continuing Trustees, and a new generation of leaders with diversity of perspective, it is an honor to be your partner in driving change and realizing our vision.

With deep appreciation,



Velda K. Hofacker
2021 President



Heidi Keating
Executive Director

2021

HIGHLIGHTS



OSBF TURNS 70

The Ohio State Bar Foundation was incorporated in 1951 for charitable and educational purposes. On April 11, 2021, the OSBF celebrated 70 years of service to the Ohio community. While much has changed in OSBF's seven-decade legacy, the core principles of promoting public understanding of the rule of law and working to build a better justice system remain. Some highlights from the first 70 years of the OSBF:

- Grantmaking efforts began in 1992 with \$112,873 awarded to nine grantees. In 2021, the OSBF granted over \$1 million to nearly 30 grantees.
- Since 1992, the OSBF has awarded over \$14 million in grants to Ohio nonprofits advancing our mission.
- The OSBF welcomed 30 Fellows to its Inaugural Fellows Class in 1998. Currently, the OSBF is proud to have 1,077 fellows.
- Since 1998, OSBF Fellows have developed 25 community service initiatives focused on topics such as human trafficking, immigrant/refugee citizen education, prisoner reentry into communities, access to justice for developmentally disabled youth, foster youth care, journalism and reporting on the legal system, and more.
- In 1964, the Foundation instituted a statewide awards program and since then, the OSBF has honored hundreds of individuals and organizations for excellence in the profession and service to their communities.
- More recently, the growth of the Foundation's mission, along with an evolving legal profession, prompted new award categories such as The Community Service Award for Attorneys 40 years or Under and the Outstanding Program or Organization Award. The George W. Ritter Award, named after the Foundation's first honoree, remains the Foundation's highest honor.

As the OSBF embarks on the next decade of anniversaries, we are grateful to our OSBF Fellows, leaders, grant partners, donors, and all those who keep our mission moving. We look forward to celebrating the next big milestone of progress for justice. We cannot do this work without you!

JUSTICE IN MOTION

COVID restricted in-person gatherings early in the year, but it didn't prevent OSBF Fellows and guest presenters from connecting with students in virtual classrooms to teach and discuss the fundamentals of law. Legal experts and justice advocates volunteered time to share their expertise and personal experiences in Civic Education, Civil Liberties and Rights, and issues related to Racial and Social Justice. OSBF's FWD@18 program, which addresses the legal rights and responsibilities that come with adulthood, was also part of the 2021 curriculum.

Lexington High School
FWD@18; Civic Education
Presenter: Jeff Heck, OSBF Fellow
Educator: Rebecca Bigley

Lead the Way Learning Academy
Presenter: Tabatha Woodruff, OSBF Fellow
Educator: Ernest Levert

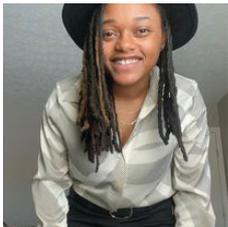
The Graham School
Constitution Classroom
Presenter: Francesca Miller, Columbus Artist/Muralist
Educator: Kevin Elliott

Linworth Alternative School
FWD@18; Civil Liberties & Rights
Presenter: Joseph Wenger, OSBF Fellow
Educators: Rosanne Nagel, Laura Zelch



“OVER THE LAST YEAR MY WORK HAS MOSTLY BEEN GEARED TOWARDS ENCOURAGING AND EMPOWERING THE AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY, REMINDING US THAT WE ARE MORE THAN OUR LONG HISTORY OF OPPRESSION AND TRAUMA, AND USING EXPRESSIVE ART TO HIGHLIGHT OUR JOY AND TRIUMPH.”

ART AS A FORM OF PROTEST



Columbus muralist Francesca Miller met with students at The Graham School in Columbus where she discussed art as a form of protest. Her colorful illustrations depicting joy and triumph over oppression and adversity can be seen on murals throughout Columbus and in the Abercrombie & Fitch new capsule collection For Justice. On her work and inspiration, Francesca said, “Over the last year my work has mostly been geared towards encouraging and empowering the African American community, reminding us that we are more than our long

history of oppression and trauma, and using expressive art to highlight our joy and triumph. During the protests last summer, I considered myself a sort of medic artistically. While many were out on the front lines, feeling the weight of the moment - the frustration, pain, etc., myself and so many others were painting murals that we hoped would help ‘balance the energy,’ as a mentor of mine said. It is absolutely necessary to feel, acknowledge and display the pain and frustration, but it is also extremely necessary for us to remember that there is more to our story than that. Our joy, our beauty, our brilliance, our resilience.”

FELLOWS RAISE THE BAR ON GIVING

We're proud to share that OSBF's inaugural Raise the Bar Ohio campaign brought in \$31,505. Formerly a friendly competition among OSBF Fellows on Giving Tuesday, the month-long effort kicked off November 1 and wrapped up November 30. Teams of Fellows worked together to raise public awareness and support of OSBF's mission.

When the results were tallied, Bill Weisenberg's Team (Team Berg) took top honors, raising \$12,275. As the 2021 Raise the Bar Prevailing Party, Team Berg will maintain possession of the perpetual trophy until a new winner is crowned in 2022. Velda Hofacker's Team (Aunt Velda's Advocates) secured the Most New Donors award, and OSBF Executive Director Lori Keating of Team Boaty McBoatface took home the award for Team Member Securing the Largest Gift.

Unless otherwise designated, 100% of the proceeds will be used for grantmaking.

SPIRIT OF SERVICE



OSBF FELLOWS CLASS OF 2020

As the Professional Honorary of Ohio Lawyers, the Ohio State Bar Foundation (“OSBF”) welcomes a new class of Fellows each year, a group of attorneys who exemplify the highest standards of professionalism and are committed to serving their communities. Each Fellows class designs its own class experience, creating a Fellows Week of Service centered around a topic they choose.

In April 2021, the 2020 Class of OSBF Fellows launched the Legal Learning with Lawyers program for their Fellows Week of Service. Fellows developed presentations by adapting existing OSBF programs to teach the public on the American justice system at high schools, colleges, civic organizations, associations, and law firms. Topics included the legal ramifications of turning 18, the hidden problem of human trafficking in Ohio, our rights under the US Constitution, and more. The goal was to blanket the state with lawyer-inspired presentations revealing the OSBF’s educational mission.



David
Bressman
Dublin, OH



Christopher L.
Brown
Mansfield, OH



Chenee M.
Castruita
Columbus, OH



Anna E.
Davis
West Portsmouth, OH



Ian F.
Gaunt
Columbus, OH



William R.
Groves
Springfield, OH



James
Hardgrove
Reynoldsburg, OH



Laura I.
Hillerich
Cincinnati, OH



Jasmin
Hurley
Columbus, OH



John
Izzo
Columbus, OH



Amanda J.
Lantz
Springfield, OH



Jeffrey
Loeser
Columbus, OH



Scott
Lundregan
Columbus, OH



Michelle
Maciorowski
Centerville, OH



Naomi H.
Maletz
New Albany, OH



Azure'D K.
Metoyer
Columbus, OH



Andromeda
Morrison
Gabanna, OH



Elizabeth
Mote
Columbus, OH



Stephen A.
Moyer
Columbus, OH



Will
Nesbitt
Columbus, OH



Elizabeth
Orlando
Dayton, OH



Kelly C.
Parks
Columbus, OH



Jonathan
Scandling
Cleveland, OH



Kerstin E.
Sjoberg
Columbus, OH



Corey J.
Spewik
Perrysburg, OH



Christopher T.
Teodosio
Akron, OH



Stephanie
Dutchess Trudeau
Cleveland, OH



Laura L.
Wallerstein
Akron, OH



Jay R.
Wampler
Cincinnati, OH



Tabitha M.
Woodruff
Columbus, OH



Nikole E.
Xarhoulacos
Dayton, OH

STRATEGIC GRANT AWARD

**CIVICS ESSENTIAL OHIO:
CIVICS EDUCATION FOR ADULTS**



Issue
Media
G R O U P

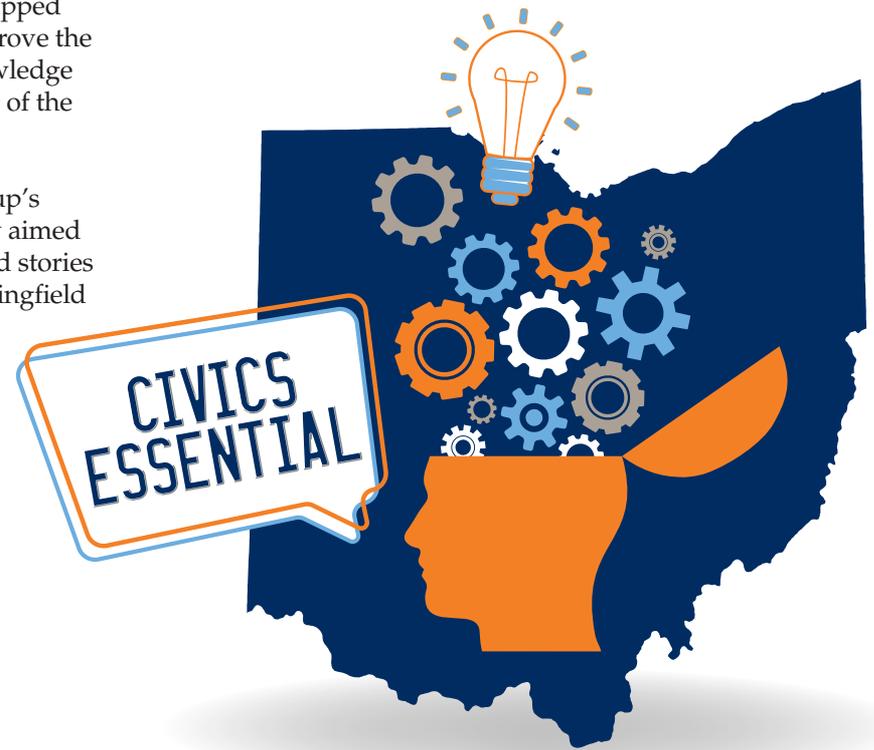
The Ohio State Bar Foundation's first three-year Strategic Grant Award wrapped up in 2021. Through this new strategic grant initiative, OSBF sought to improve the civics knowledge of adults in Ohio, enhance their participation in and knowledge of government, enable their access to justice, and improve their perceptions of the judicial system.

The Strategic Grant Award covered 3 years of support for Issue Media Group's Civic Education for Adults project, a multifaceted communications strategy aimed at improving the civics knowledge of adults. Civics Essential: Ohio included stories published in Soapbox Cincinnati, Fresh Water Cleveland, and The Hub Springfield with corresponding surveys and live and virtual events.

"WHAT ARE WE TRYING TO TEACH?"

Five broad narrative themes defined to help categorize subject matter.

- Your Individual Rights
- Your Power as a Citizen
- Your Government Representation
- How Your Government Works
- How Your Courts Work



3,851,142
PEOPLE REACHED

109,404
PAGE VIEWS

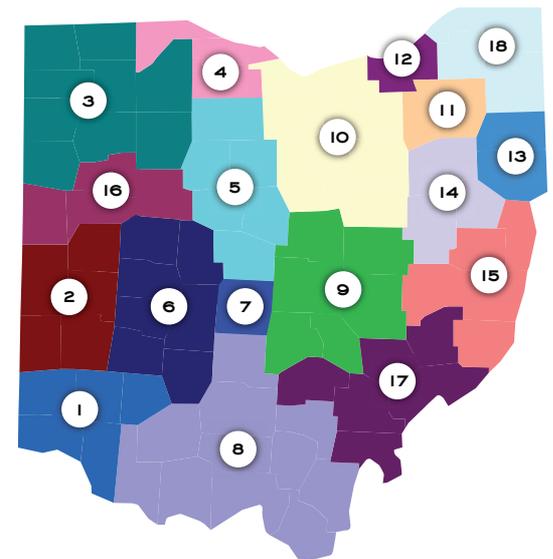
1,131
QUIZZES TAKEN

2021 GRANTS

In 2021, the OSBF granted **\$1,202,527** grants to Ohio nonprofits making a positive difference in the lives of Ohioans across the state. This brings the total number of dollars granted since 1992 to over \$14 million.



OSBA DISTRICT MAP



BUILDING A BETTER JUSTICE SYSTEM ONE GRANT AT A TIME

IN 2021, WE ARE PROUD TO HAVE SUPPORTED PROJECTS THAT WILL:

EXPAND TRANSLATION AND INTERPRETATION SERVICES TO HELP THE UNMET NEEDS OF THE HISPANIC POPULATION.

—Legal Aid Society of Columbus—

CREATE A VOLUNTEER PORTAL TO ENGAGE, SUPPORT, TRAIN, AND RECOGNIZE PRO BONO ATTORNEYS AND OTHER VOLUNTEERS.

—Ohio State Legal Services Association—

DEVELOP NEW LEGAL CONTENT FOR OHIO LEGAL HELP'S WEBSITE, OFFERING VETTED LEGAL INFORMATION AND A TRUSTED PORTAL TO CONNECT OHIOANS WITH LEGAL SERVICES.

—Ohio Legal Help—

EXPAND LEGAL EDUCATION PROGRAMMING TO SERVE IMPOVERISHED LATINO IMMIGRANT FAMILIES.

—Dominican Sisters of Peace—

ADDRESS THE EPIDEMIC OF FINANCIAL ABUSE AND EXPLOITATION OF OLDER OHIOANS.

—ProSeniors—

PROVIDE LEGAL EDUCATION AND RESOURCE REFERRALS TO SURVIVORS OF SEX TRAFFICKING.

—Freedom a la Cart—

INCREASE ACCESS TO JUSTICE THROUGH THE USE OF TECHNOLOGY IN THE COURTS.

—National Center for State Courts—

MY OHIO RIGHTS

The Ohio State Bar Association launched My Ohio Rights, a series of videos focusing on the rights and responsibilities of Ohioans. Made possible through the foundation's William K. Weisenberg Fund for Civic Education, OSBA and the Akron Bar Foundation, the videos focused on a range of topics including police stops, police recording and changing the law.



SPRING GRANTS CYCLE

\$9,500 to **Disability Rights Ohio** to establish Virtual Parent Town Hall events to address challenges families face within the education system, including access to appropriate services, education with peers who do not have a disability, access to behavioral supports and compensatory services to address the effects of the pandemic on educational outcomes. Additionally, blog posts and self-advocacy materials will be developed to reinforce and supplement the information provided to parents through the town hall meetings, resulting in multiple ways of ensuring that families gain a better understanding of the law and its protections.

District(s) Served: 7

\$14,700 to the **Dominican Sisters of Peace** to serve impoverished Latino immigrant families in the Greater Columbus community by improving understanding of Ohio laws and by uncovering paths to citizenship for those who are not already citizens. Grant funding provided will help Dominican Sisters of Peace expand current programming by offering citizenship education, preparation, videos and online resources, DACA application support, and translation of legal documents.

District(s) Served: 7

\$15,000 to **Legalworks** to expand legal outreach and education services through walk-in office hours at several branches of the Cleveland Public Library. Partnerships with several urban media providers will also be utilized to broadcast informational advertisements on audience-targeted radio and TV stations to publicize these services to disadvantaged communities and those in need.

District(s) Served: 12

\$76,489 to the **National Center of State Courts** to pilot the Access & Fairness in the Virtual Delivery of Court Services in response to the use of greater technology in court proceedings because of the

COVID-19 pandemic. Virtual delivery of court services must ensure principles of due process, procedural fairness, transparency, and equal access, and research is necessary to ensure this is happening. NCSC will partner with the Supreme Court of Ohio and trial court practitioners in four jurisdictions, participating as pilot sites. Collecting data and analyzing that data will help the courts to adjust and ensure fair access to justice of remote court proceedings given the impact of a diverse population in terms of age, socioeconomic status, gender, race, and ethnicity.

District(s) Served: 12

\$116,000 to the **Ohio Center for Law Related Education** to provide students with access to high-quality civics content and opportunities to practice responsible citizenship through OCLRE programming and the study of the US Constitution, our judicial system, and the community impact of social issues. Educators also learn valuable teaching strategies and create lesson plans and student activities, and share substantive knowledge through OCLRE professional development opportunities. Grant funding will support further development and expansion of student programs, teacher professional development and outreach efforts.

District(s) Served: All Districts

\$34,300 to the **Ohio Domestic Violence Network** to survey 500 survivors of domestic violence to develop a statewide report on the experiences of marginalized survivors including people of color, LGBTQ, and immigrant survivors. The purpose of collecting data through this survey is to gain a deeper understanding of racism as it manifests in legal systems which survivors of domestic violence may utilize to find safety and to protect their children. ODVN will also conduct 10 brief legal advice clinics for the general population of domestic violence survivors, which will enable survivors to meet individually with clinic attorneys to discuss legal issues.

District(s) Served: All Districts

100,000 to **Ohio Legal Help** to develop new legal content for its website, including topics on disability, civil rights, employment discrimination, equal credit opportunity, fair housing, immigration, and youth and foster law. In light of increasing legal issues due to COVID-19 and the growing interest in civil rights, Ohio Legal Help offers vetted legal information and a trusted portal to connect Ohioans with lawyer referral services, legal aid, and social services. Additionally, Ohio Legal Help will implement a Spanish language version of the site, which will also include development of tools to allow for translation of the site into additional languages in the future.

District(s) Served: All Districts

\$49,258 to **The Ohio State University** to in support of its Aligning Algorithmic Risk Assessments with Criminal Justice Values project to study Ohio courts' use of algorithmic risk assessments (ARA). ARAs are data analytics tools that predict the risk that an individual will engage in future misconduct. Increasingly, Ohio courts employ ARAs to inform bail and sentencing decisions. ARAs can reduce human error and increase consistency in judicial criminal justice decision-making. Through research, discussion with stakeholders, and thoughtful consideration, OSU hopes to develop a plan for how Ohio can best implement ARAs consistent with its values.

District(s) Served: All Districts

\$20,000 to **Pro Seniors** for its Safe Ohio Seniors project to address the epidemic of financial abuse and exploitation of older Ohioans. Their approach is to immediately stop the financial loss and put protections in place to prevent any further exploitation by using legal advice and representation, online and in-person public and professional education, and innovative collaboration. Outreach and education efforts are anticipated to reach 400 people, including seniors, family members, the general public, advocates, and professionals.

District(s) Served: All Districts

\$12,000 to **Women Helping Women** to create a new DVERT Advocacy resource for survivors of domestic violence/intimate partner violence who are met on-scene by the Domestic Violence Enhancement Response Team. DVERT serves the dual purpose of disrupting violence and supporting the survivor by providing a trained advocate to accompany them through the entire legal process, including assistance with resources or referrals. Advocates will receive 40-hours of expert training through WHW at onboarding, including specific focuses on populations who have been marginalized, face-to-face advocacy, and how to train others in supporting survivors.

District(s) Served: 1

FALL GRANTS CYCLE

\$40,400 to the **Benjamin Rose Institute** on Aging to create an online training program for mandatory reporters on Ohio law regarding elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation. Without systematic training across groups, many mandated reporters continue to struggle with understanding their legal responsibilities to report abuse. Grant dollars will support efforts statewide.

District(s) Served: All Districts

\$9,700 to the **Children's Advocacy Center of Portage County**. For over twenty years the Children's Advocacy Center of Portage County has provided services to children and families who have experienced sexual abuse. This grant will support the expansion of services to support victims of physical abuse and domestic violence; funding will go toward training, outreach, and essential program supplies. Grant dollars will support efforts in Summit and Portage Counties.

District(s) Served: 11

\$25,000 to the **Council on American Islamic Relations** (2nd Chances Clinic) to continue and expand its Second Chances Clinic. These record sealing clinics serve predominantly Muslim, immigrant, and Black clients and lessens the collateral impact of a criminal legal system which disproportionately impacts them. Funding will support the expansion of clinics to include a full representation option for clients who would like to seal Ohio convictions but have moved out of state or are otherwise unable to file petitions themselves.

District(s) Served: 1, 2, 4, 7, 8

\$19,500 to **Freedom a la Cart** for its new Legal Resource & Education Project which provides legal education and resource referrals to survivors of sex trafficking. The project will also create digital educational videos on specialty dockets and restorative justice throughout the state. Grant dollars will support efforts statewide.

District(s) Served: All Districts

\$138,325 to the **Law and Leadership Institute** to support its legal educational programming that prepares youth from underserved communities to compete at high academic levels and empower youth to become more responsible citizens by fostering leadership skills, increasing confidence, and facilitating the pursuit of higher education.

District(s) Served: 1, 2, 7, 11, 12

\$25,000 to the **Legal Aid Society of Columbus**. Funding will support translation and interpretation services to increase program capacity for the Essential Immigration Legal Services Project which addresses the unmet needs of the Hispanic immigrant population in Ohio to resolve legal matters around immigration, landlord/tenant, small claims, or domestic relations and child custody matters.

District(s) Served: 5, 6, 7

\$50,000 to the **Ohio Alliance of YMCA's Foundation** for its Youth & Government program, which provides leadership training, stimulates interest in the government, and creates opportunities for civic engagement for middle and high school students throughout Ohio.

District(s) Served: All Districts

\$20,000 to the **Ohio Federation for Health Equity and Social Justice** for the Legal Process: A Guide for Communities of Color project. Funding will facilitate a process for judges and attorneys to work directly with the community to identify and implement a series of recommendations that address issues stemming from systemic and institutional racism.

District(s) Served: 7, 12

\$25,000 to the **Ohio State Legal Services Association** for its Volunteer Connection project which will create a volunteer portal and platform that will focus to engage, support, train, and recognize pro bono attorneys and other volunteers. Added burdens of the pandemic for the pro bono program make the need for this new system even more critical and highlight the reality of permanent virtual adjustments.

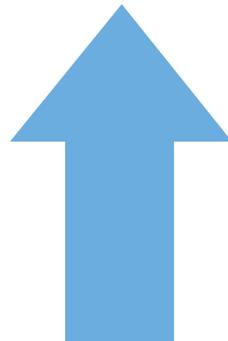
District(s) Served: 5, 7, 8, 9, 17

\$50,000 to the **United Way of Greater Cleveland** in support of an educational campaign to increase awareness about Cuyahoga County's right to counsel rule change in eviction cases policy and improve access to legal representation.

District(s) Served: 12

RACIAL JUSTICE INITIATIVE

In August 2020, the OSBF announced its Racial Justice Initiative (RJI), created to provide up to \$500,000 in new grant funding to focus on advancing racial justice in Ohio. In 2021, the OSBF awarded \$352,355 to projects that specifically identify, address and challenge systemic racism which hinders the pursuit of justice and public understanding of the rule of law for historically marginalized communities of color in Ohio.



IN 2021, WE ARE PROUD TO HAVE SUPPORTED PROJECTS THAT WILL:

EXPLORE THE CONNECTION BETWEEN CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND HEALTH.

—Health Policy Institute Of Ohio, Racism And Health Policy Brief—

SHINE A SPOTLIGHT ON WAYS IN WHICH SYSTEMIC RACISM WITHIN THE LEGAL SYSTEM IMPACTS BLACK WOMEN AND GIRLS.

—Innovation Ohio Education Fund—

CONVENE STAKEHOLDERS TO IDENTIFY LEGAL ISSUES IMPACTING COMMUNITIES OF COLOR AND CREATE ACTION PLANS THAT ELIMINATE SYSTEMIC BARRIERS.

—Ohio Access to Justice Foundation—

PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR LAW STUDENTS TO WORK WITH NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS THAT SERVE MARGINALIZED POPULATIONS AND PROMOTE RACIAL JUSTICE

—Case Western University School of Law—

ILLUMINATE INEQUITIES FOR BLACK AND BROWN INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE UNDERGONE CRIMINAL SENTENCING IN CUYAHOGA COUNTY WITH THE GOAL OF PROMOTING POSITIVE CHANGE IN RACIAL EQUITY IN THE ACTIONS OF JUDGES

—Case Western Reserve University—



“IT’S OFTEN REALLY HARD TO GET FUNDING FOR THINGS LIKE THIS. AFTER THE GEORGE FLOYD MOMENT—I’M NOT GOING CALL IT A MOVEMENT—ALL THESE CORPORATIONS SAID THEY WERE GOING FUND BLACK-LED ORGANIZATIONS, AND IT JUST WENT AWAY. THE OHIO STATE BAR FOUNDATION IS REALLY WALKING THE WALK. WE NEED FUNDING FOR CAPACITY FOR STAFF TO BE ABLE TO DO THIS WORK.”

– DESIREE TIMS, INNOVATION OHIO



“I JUST THINK IT’S SO CRITICALLY IMPORTANT THAT ORGANIZATIONS LIKE OURS ARE LOOKING AT THE IMPACTS OF STRUCTURAL RACISM ACROSS THE SPECTRUM. WE’RE SO THANKFUL THAT THE OHIO STATE BAR FOUNDATION CHOSE TO INVEST IN POLICY RESEARCH AND IMPACTING POLICY CHANGE BECAUSE WHEN WE’RE TALKING ABOUT SYSTEMIC RACISM, POLICY CHANGE AT A SYSTEMIC LEVEL IS A REALLY CRITICAL WAY TO ADDRESS IT.”

– HAILEY AKAH, HEALTH POLICY INSTITUTE OHIO

RACIAL JUSTICE INITIATIVE

\$20,000 to **Disability Rights Ohio** (DRO) to help initiate its program “Alternatives to Policing and Law Enforcement: Emergency Response Systems in Ohio”. Since the Columbus City Council is working to redesign its community emergency response system as it addresses police brutality, DRO is advocating for a non-policing emergency response system that is anti-racist and trauma-informed and that responds to the needs of people experiencing mental health crises with trained crisis professionals and without the threat of arrest, incarceration, involuntary hospitalization, or other harmful outcomes. DRO will also research what is happening with police reforms in other cities and create written materials around evidence-based best practices for a non-policing emergency response system. This project will also serve to educate the public around these response issues, especially as they relate to the Americans with Disabilities Act.

District(s) Served: 7

\$50,000 to the **Ohio Family Care Association** to evaluate racial equity in family participation in Ohio’s Child Welfare System by completing a year-long systematic review of related Ohio policy and procedures. This project aims to identify laws and practices that present systemic racism in Ohio’s Child Welfare system, identify ways that primary, kinship, foster and adoptive families are affected by these laws, codes and practices, highlight the intersection of systemic racism and family involvement in the Ohio child welfare system, and communicate with the child welfare system in implementing a change in embedded racism.

District(s) Served: All Districts

\$25,000 to the **Westerville for Racial Equity, Inclusion and Social Justice Engagement** (WeRISE), who is a recently established civil rights and social advocacy group of 30 members serving the community in the geographic area of the Westerville City School District. WeRISE plans to conduct a comprehensive audit of all diversity, inclusion and anti-racism programming, activism and activity taking place within greater Westerville. The audit will identify what inclusion work is underway by the Westerville Partnership and associated organizations and identify where multiple efforts overlap and what gaps exist. The audit’s goals include increased resource sharing for antiracist legislative, political, and social activism; increased information sharing among partners; increased programming among multiple partners that is deployed more effectively by Westerville’s governmental, educational and community-based entities.

District(s) Served: 7

\$50,000 to **Case Western Reserve University** for the Criminal Sentencing Project; a study that seeks to illuminate inequities for Black and brown individuals who have undergone criminal sentencing in Cuyahoga County between 2010-2020 with the goal of promoting positive change in racial equity in the actions of judges.

District(s) Served: 12

\$50,000 to **Case Western Reserve University** for School of Law Racial Justice Fellowships which will provide opportunities for law students to work with nonprofit organizations that serve marginalized populations and promote racial justice. This program will benefit community partners that do not have the resources to provide paid internships while providing valuable work experience to the law students.

District(s) Served: 1, 7, 12

\$20,000 to **Health Policy Institute of Ohio** to support the creation of the second policy brief in a series on the connection between criminal justice and health. This research will focus on initial court hearings, pretrial detention, and the bail system.

District(s) Served: All Districts

\$50,000 to **Innovation Ohio Education Fund** for the Justice Agenda for Black Women and Girls in Ohio Project. This research will shine a spotlight on ways in which systemic racism within the legal and criminal justice systems impacts Black women and girls and look for proactive solutions to address those barriers.

District(s) Served: 2, 7, 12

\$32,392 to **Ohio Access to Justice Foundation** for its Improving Access to Justice in Ohio’s Civil Legal Arena project which will convene stakeholders to identify legal issues impacting communities of color and create action plans that eliminate systemic barriers around issues in the civil justice system such as child support, debt and financing, sealing of records, and access to fair and affordable housing.

District(s) Served: All Districts

\$54,963 to the **Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity** to support the Opportunity Mapping for Inclusion project. This study will equip policymakers with the data they need to eliminate racial inequality in housing and development, and provide the tools to reform zoning updates with the end goal of creating more equitable and just communities in Ohio.

District(s) Served: 7

ALL RISE AWARDS



RE-EMERGING *Together*

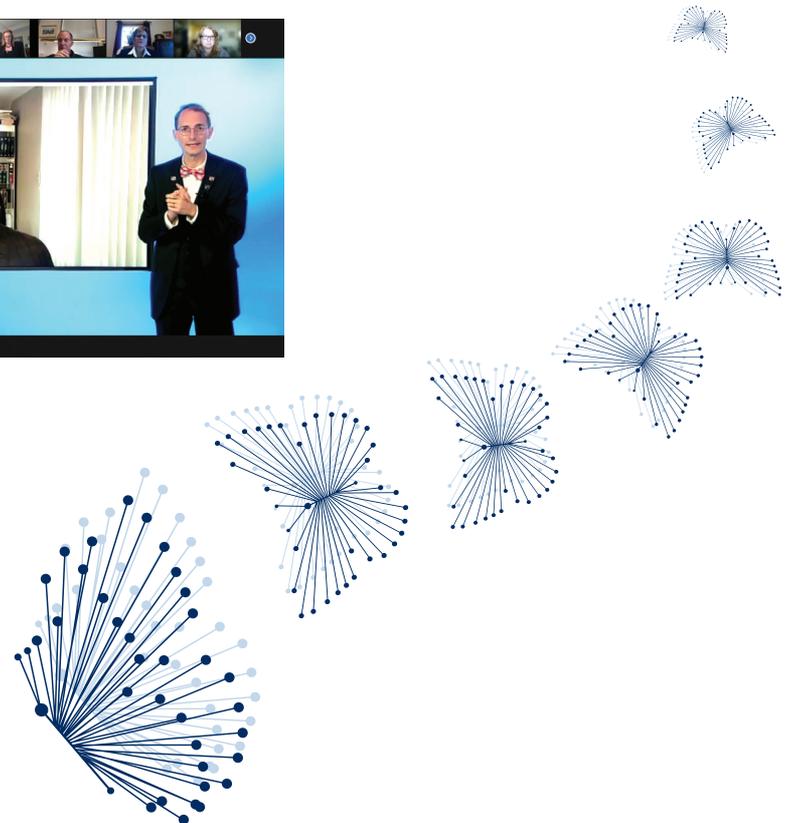
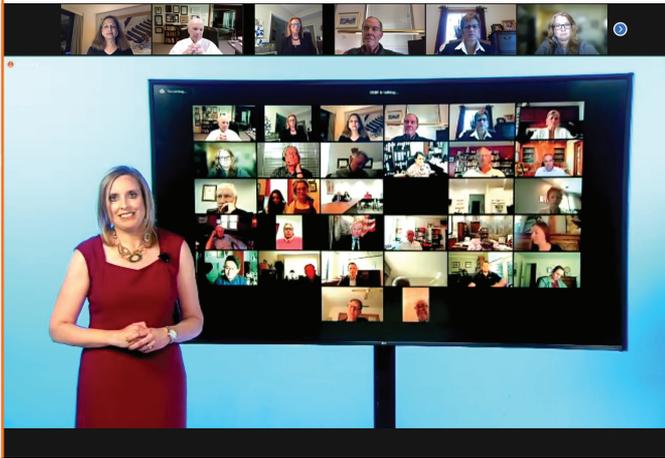
The 2021 All-Rise Awards took place virtually on October 1, 2021. It was an honor to celebrate the achievements of several worthy, dedicated members of the legal community working to create a better justice system and educate Ohioans on the rule of law. The theme for the All-Rise 2021 Awards, “Re-emerging Together,” offered hope and resilience in the face of adversity.

Thank you to Event Sponsor Bahl & Gaynor Investment Counsel and Presenting Sponsors, the law firms of Porter Wright and Tucker Ellis. And a very special thanks to the All-Rise Awards emcee, Judge David Hejmanowski.

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RAMEY AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED COMMUNITY SERVICE | SANFORD E. WATSON

"THIS IS TRULY AN HONOR. I'M HERE BECAUSE I STOOD ON THE SHOULDERS OF THOSE WHO MADE THE WAY FOR ME. IF I CAN PERSUADE YOU TO DO ONE THING, MENTOR SOMEONE IN YOUR PROFESSION OR IN YOUR JOB. WE ALL CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE, I KNOW THAT I'VE BEEN INSPIRED TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE MYSELF."



Given annually to an Ohio attorney whose career has been exemplified by dedication of the goals and values sought to be furthered by the Foundation; a lifetime of service to the public and the community; and integrity, honor, courtesy and professionalism. This service must be outside the recipients' practice of law and must be given without compensation.

Sanford E. Watson is a partner at Tucker Ellis, LLP in Cleveland, Ohio practicing in the areas of business litigation, products liability litigation, and public law. An experienced trial lawyer and arbitrator, Sanford's distinguished career includes roles Chief Prosecutor for the City of Cleveland and the Director of Public Safety. At Tucker Ellis, Sanford has devoted a significant portion of his time shaping their award-winning equity and inclusion policy.

Sanford's service extends well beyond his legal practice, serving on non-profit boards for more than 20 years. Sanford continues to volunteer his time and expertise in the community through his work mentoring young Black lawyers, providing free-advice legal clinics in underserved communities, or cooking and serving meals at his church.

Past Winners: Jeffrey Pollock, Cleveland (2020), Donald H. Messinger, Cleveland (2019), Melinda G. Seeds, Pataskala (2018), Stephen F. Tilson, Galion (2017), Ronald L. Kahn, Cleveland (2016), Steven W. Jemison, Cincinnati (2015), Carter E. Strang, Cleveland (2014), Edward G. Marks, Cincinnati (2013), Merle F. Wilberding, Dayton (2012)

OUTSTANDING PROGRAM OR ORGANIZATION | THE DIVERSITY CENTER OF NORTHEAST OHIO

"THIS AWARD MEANS A GREAT DEAL TO US. THE OSBF AND THE DIVERSITY CENTER SHARE A CORE COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION. I ADMIRE THE OSBF'S BELIEF IN THE POWER OF INCLUSIVE AND DIVERSE PERSPECTIVES AND CREATING AN ENVIRONMENT WHERE EVERYONE IS TREATED EQUALLY WITH DIGNITY AND RESPECT."



Given annually to a program or organization that promotes the dissemination of information about, increase access to, and/or generates improvements in the Ohio justice system.

Founded in 1927 as the National Conference of Christians and Jews, the NCCJ of Cleveland became The Diversity Center of Northeast Ohio in 2006. Through their programs, the Diversity Center serves hundreds of schools and businesses, training thousands of youth, youth-serving professionals, and community leaders throughout eleven Northeast Ohio counties in an effort to eliminate bias, bigotry, and racism. The Diversity Center is a sought-after leader whose youth programming, development initiatives, and professional engagement is creating transformational systemic change.

The Outstanding Organization Award is accepted by Peggy Zone Fisher, President and CEO of the Diversity Center. Peggy has been a Cleveland business and community leader for over thirty years, receiving numerous local, state, and national recognitions. Under Peggy's leadership, the Diversity Center has expanded to more Ohio counties, reached more students, and broadened engagement and impact.

Past Winners: Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association/Rebecca McMahon, Cleveland (2020), Ohio Crime Victim Justice Center, Columbus (2019), Pro Bono Partnership of Ohio, Cincinnati (2018), Sisters In Law, Toledo (2017), Summit County Juvenile Court Crossroads Program, Akron (2016), Ohio Innocence Project, University of Cincinnati College of Law, Cincinnati (2015), Ao: Advocating Opportunity and Louis Stokes Scholars Program, Toledo/Cleveland (2014), START Program, Dayton (2013), Court Community Service, Cleveland (2012), Fugitive Safe Surrender Program of Cleveland, Cleveland (2011), Advocates for Basic Legal Equality & Legal Aid of Western Ohio, Dayton/Toledo/Defiance (2010), Interfaith Legal Services Clinic at Andrews House, Delaware (2009), Legal Aid Society of Cleveland - Community Advocacy Program, Cleveland (2009), Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association 3 Rs Program, Cleveland (2008), Summer Legal Academy of Cleveland, Cleveland (2006), Greater Dayton Volunteer Lawyers Project, Dayton (2005), Law Tuesday of the Toledo Bar Association's Pro Bono Services, Toledo (2004), Toledo Bar Association Law-Related School Education Committee, Toledo (2003), The Ohio State University Pro Bono Research Program, Columbus (2001)

JOHN AND GINNY ELAM PRO BONO AWARD | DURIYA DHINOJWALA

The John and Ginny Elam Pro Bono Award* was established in 2007 to recognize exceptional pro bono work in the state of Ohio. With the help of Chief Justice Tom Moyer, Ginny Elam created the Award as a tribute to her late husband John Elam who was an advocate for attorneys to provide public service through pro bono activities. Elam generously donated his own time and talents to support the Legal Aid Society of Columbus, as well as other groups working to provide access to the courts for those who are disadvantaged.

Duriya Dhinojwala is a partner at the Akron, Ohio firm of Brenna, Manna & Diamond, where she takes on both immigration and bankruptcy cases. She came to Akron in 1995 and has spent her career representing clients in federal and state courts in all aspects of the immigration process. Duriya has been a champion of pro bono work and established a pro bono committee at her law firm to expand help for those who need it most. She is a board member and volunteer attorney for Community Legal Aid Services, where she offers mentorship and guidance for lawyers. In addition, Duriya volunteers in service of the Indian-American and AsianAmerican community in Northeast Ohio. Duriya was named a recipient of the 2020 Crain's Women of Note Awards, given to women demonstrating exceptional commitment to Northeast Ohio.



"I'M DEEPLY HUMBLLED AND HONORED TO RECEIVE THE 2021 ELAM AWARD. THERE'S A SEGMENT IN OUR SOCIETY WHO DOES NOT HAVE ACCESS TO JUSTICE OR LAWYERS. THEREFORE, IT'S EXTREMELY IMPORTANT THAT WE DO PRO BONO LEGAL SERVICE BECAUSE IT CAN LITERALLY CHANGE SOMEONE'S LIFE. I KNOW IT DID MINE, AND I'M GRATEFUL FOR IT."

COMMUNITY SERVICE FOR ATTORNEYS 40 AND UNDER

This award is presented to attorneys, 40 years of age or younger, who contribute substantial time and effort in service to a local social service, or a local civic, artistic, or cultural organization. The service must be outside the nominee's practice of law and must be given without compensation. Emphasis is placed on current service. Recipients should represent the ideals of the legal profession and, by example, be a credit to the profession.

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District 4 - Marissa Fitzpatrick

District 7 - Lilian Vasquez

District 8 - S. Andrew Sturgill

District 9 - Kyle Witucky

District 10 - Elizabeth Bux

District 12 - Valissa Turner Howard

District 14 - Tonya Rogers

District 16 - Molli Schleucher



SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM VELDA HOFACKER, PRESIDENT OF THE OSBF BOARD OF TRUSTEES IN HONOR OF JACK STITH

It was my honor to nominate John S. Stith for the 2021 OSBF Ritter Award. There is simply no one that I know who better exemplifies the qualities recognized by this award. Jack's lifetime of service to his clients, the legal profession, and the community represents the best of the best in our profession. No one I know has greater personal and professional integrity than Jack. He is respected not only in the Cincinnati legal and business communities, but throughout the state of Ohio.

Jack spent the first 40 years of his career at Frost and Jacobs in Cincinnati, which later became Frost, Brown, and Todd. He began in 1964 with a general corporate practice that soon became more specialized. He helped create the securities regulations practice at the firm. Jack became known as an expert in a variety of specialties from venture capital to organization governance. Since 2004, Jack has proudly served as counsel to the firm of Porter Wright where he is "winding down" his storied career. Jack's legal practice has been characterized by the highest standards of professionalism, integrity and ethics...something all attorneys should seek to emulate.

Jack believed it was his responsibility to mentor other lawyers and many of those lawyers now hold important positions in the legal profession. Jack particularly focused on mentoring women attorneys at a time when they were just beginning to join the legal profession. As chair of the personnel committee at Frost and Jacobs, he hired and trained many female lawyers.

Jack's high standards have led others to seek out his wisdom and assistance in a variety of projects. He served on the commission to organize the commercial docket in Ohio. Jack was the first Ohio Lawyer asked by former Chief Justice Moyer to serve on the Supreme Court's Commission on Professionalism. He was appointed to several terms on the Commission and even served as its chair.

Jack's outstanding leadership skills have placed him at the helm of many organizations, including the Cincinnati Bar Association and Greater Cincinnati Bar Foundation. As president of the Ohio State Bar Association, he led the development of the Association's first ever strategic plan. His service to the public includes 20 years as outside general counsel for the Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce. He has also served in leadership roles in many non-legal community groups. His commitment to the Ohio State Bar Foundation as a Fellow, Board Member, Committee member, Chair of the Audit and Finance Committee, and Treasurer has led to many improvements in our justice system and has helped many Ohioans better understand our legal system.

Not many lawyers have practiced nearly 60 years, much less done so in such an outstanding manner as Jack. Despite all his accomplishments and accolades, Jack is one of the humblest people I know. He leads quietly and encourages others to spread their wings and grow with his guidance. Jack's work ethic is beyond reproach and he gives so much time and effort to everything he does. Jack is kind and caring. He is always willing to share his wealth of knowledge and unique ability to create solutions.

Congratulations, Jack, on receiving the Ritter Award. It is so well-deserved. I am so grateful to have had the opportunity to work with you as officers of the Ohio State Bar Foundation and appreciate all your wise counsel and support. I am so proud to call you my colleague and my friend.



RITTER AWARD | JOHN S. STITH



The highest honor awarded by the Foundation, this award is given for a lifetime of service. The award recognizes the accomplishments of the honoree in attaining and promoting the highest level of professionalism, integrity and ethics in the practice of law while assisting other attorneys, the courts and the public to envision and cause changes which improve the justice system in Ohio.

With a career spanning nearly 5 decades, John “Jack” Stith has long been a leader in the legal profession, the business community, and the nonprofit sector, serving as an attorney since 1964. In 1990, Jack joined the Ohio State Bar Foundation and became an Honorary Life Fellow in 2002. In 2006, Jack became the President of the Ohio State Bar Association Board of Trustees, where he also served as an Ohio State Bar Foundation Board Trustee.

Jack served as outside general counsel for the Greater Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce (now the Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber) for nearly 20 years. Jack has been the recipient of numerous awards for professional excellence and community service, including being listed in Who’s Who in American Law, as well as in every edition of Best Lawyers® since 1993 in the area of Corporate Law. He also has been recognized by Ohio Super Lawyers®. Jack assisted the Ohio Supreme Court by serving several terms on the Court’s Commission on Professionalism and its Task Force on Commercial Dockets. In addition, Jack has been a part of numerous civic, church-related, youth-oriented and other charitable activities.

Jack’s leadership and contributions have made a tremendous impact that has resulted in many improvements to the justice system. And Jack Stith exemplifies every aspect of the Ritter Award, and his decades of service is marked by professionalism, ethics, and integrity.

Past Winners: Hon. Michael J. Newman (2020), Richard F. Swope (2019), Marvin L. Karp (2018), Retired Honorable Evelyn Lundberg Stratton (2017), Sandra J. Anderson (2016), Fred J. Ball (2015), Patrick J. Perotti (2014), Reginald S. Jackson, Jr. (2013), Ronald W. Dougherty (2012), Stephen E. Chappellear (2011), Hon. Richard K. Warren (2010), Robert M. Clyde (2009), Joseph W. Shea III (2008), Sally W. Bloomfield (2007), William J. Bingle (2006), Michael E. Flowers (2005), F.M. (Mike) Apicella (2004), Samuel H. Porter (2003), Ralph Kennedy Frasier (2002), Robert G. Morris (2001), Toledo Bar Association AIDS Assistance Committee (2000), Hon. John D. Holschuh (2000), Jack G. Day (1999), Nancy H. Rogers (1998), P.E.A.C.E Program (1997), Leslie W. Jacobs (1997), The Cleveland Bar Association Juvenile Justice Initiative (1996), Chief Justice Thomas J. Moyer (1996), The Toledo Bar Association Pro Bono Legal Services Program (1995), Hon. John M. Meagher (1994), Toledo Citizen Dispute Settlement Program (1993), Robert M. Duncan (1992), Supreme Court of Ohio’s Off-Site Court Program (1991), The Ohio Center for Law-Related Education Ohio Mock Trial Program (1990), Florence E. Allen (1989), Abraham Gertner (1998), Frank A. Bazler (1987), John A. Carnahan (1987), Ohio Northern University Law Review (1986), Ralph S. Locher (1985), Robert L. McBride (1984), Columbus Night Prosecutors Program (1983), James L. McCrystal (1982), Licking County Municipal Court (1981)

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Common Pleas, Greenville
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LPA, Columbus

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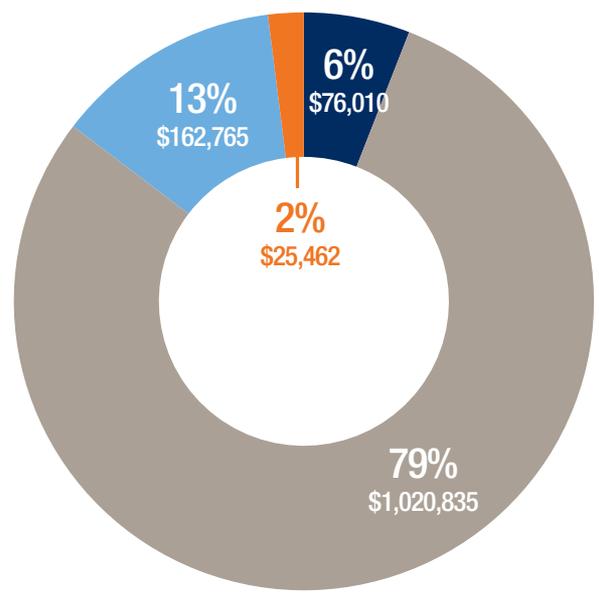
FINANCIAL SUMMARY

The financial information included in this report has been extracted from the audited financial statements. The audit was performed by John Gerlach & Company, LLP, who expressed an unmodified opinion on the financial statements. A complete copy of the audited financial statements is available upon request at the Ohio State Bar Foundation office.

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As of Dec. 31	2020	2019
Assets	<u>\$49,771,927</u>	<u>\$47,481,576</u>
Liabilities	\$255,257	\$210,302
Net Assets	<u>\$49,516,927</u>	<u>\$47,271,274</u>
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$49,771,927	\$47,481,576

2020 REVENUE SOURCES

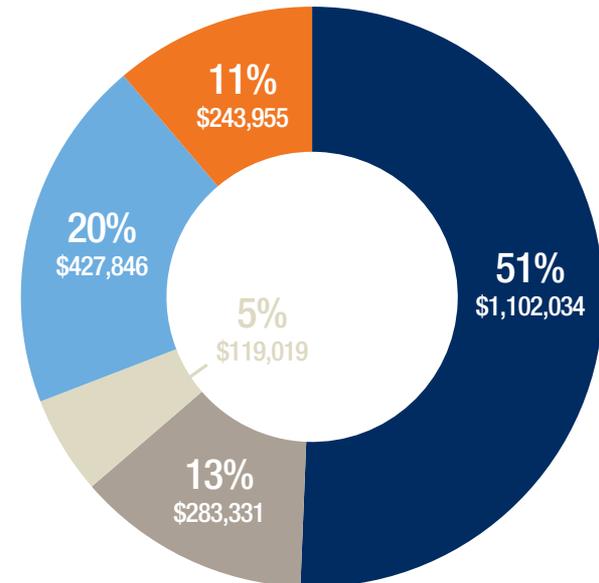


- Fellow Contributions, Net of Discount
- Income on Securities, Net of Fees
- Contributions
- Other Revenue & Support

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES

For Years Ended Dec. 31	2020	2019
Operating Revenue, Gains & Other Support	\$1,285,072	\$983,109
Expenses	\$2,176,185	\$1,894,249
Other Changes Net realized & unrealized gains (losses) on marketable securities	\$3,136,509	\$9,866,870
Change in Net Assets	\$2,245,396	\$8,955,730
Net Assets Beginning of Year	\$47,271,274	\$38,315,544
Net Assets End of Year	\$49,516,670	\$47,271,274

2020 USE OF FUNDS



- Grants Awards, Net
- Programs, Publications & Awards
- Grantmaking Administration
- Management & Administration
- Marketing & Development

OSBF STAFF



FOUNDATION STAFF

Lori L. Keating, Executive Director

Michele Mitchell, Executive Liaison

Sheila Buckley, Development Director

Lisa Ray, Fellows Relationship and Events Manager

Laura Spires, Database Manager

Philip Kim, Marketing & Communications Manager

Bev Graves, Fellows Outreach Coordinator

2022 LEADERSHIP

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