

2021

# GRANTS



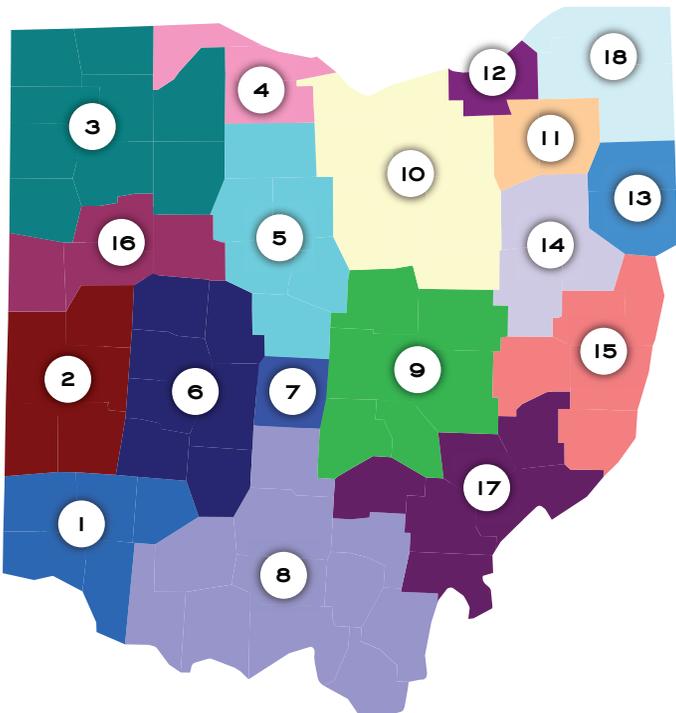
# \$1,202,527

Granted in 2021

In 2021, the Ohio State Bar Foundation granted \$1,202,527 to programs that are impacting communities across the state. These nonprofits go above and beyond to make a difference in the lives of Ohioans and to move the OSBF's mission forward.

To learn more about OSBF's grantmaking efforts, visit [OSBF.org](http://OSBF.org).

## OSBA DISTRICT MAP



### SPRING GRANTS CYCLE - \$447,247

**Disability Rights Ohio**  
Special Education Fellowship - Parent Town Halls  
\$9,500 | District 7

**Dominican Sisters of Peace**  
Forging Avenues of Access to Justice and Opportunity through Legal Education for Latino Families  
\$14,700 | District 7

**LegalWorks**  
Support for service expansion and marketing plan  
\$15,000 | District 12

**National Center for State Courts**  
Access & Fairness in the Virtual Delivery of Court Services  
\$76,489 | District 12

**Ohio Center for Law Related Education**  
OCLRE Civic Education Programs & Outreach  
\$116,000 | All Districts

**Ohio Domestic Violence Network**  
Understanding Barriers to Safety for Marginalized Survivors of Domestic Violence  
\$34,300 | All Districts

**Ohio Legal Help**  
Ohio Legal Help Continuous Improvement and Spanish Translation  
\$100,000 | All Districts

**Ohio State University**  
Aligning Algorithmic Risk Assessments with Criminal Justice Values  
\$49,258 | All Districts

**Pro Seniors**  
Safe Ohio Seniors  
\$20,000 | All Districts

**Women Helping Women**  
Justice System Advocacy & Victim Rights Education for Survivors of DV/IPV  
\$12,000 | District 1

**Benjamin Rose Institute on Aging**  
Developing an Online Training on Adult Abuse for Ohio's Mandated Reporters  
\$40,400 | All Districts

**Children's Advocacy Center of Portage County**  
Expansion of Services Project  
\$9,700 | District 11

**Council on American Islamic Relations**  
Second Chances Clinic  
\$25,000 | Districts 1, 2, 4, 7, 8

**Freedom a la Cart**  
Legal Empowerment Workshops  
\$19,500 | All Districts

**Law and Leadership Institute**  
Diversity in Leadership Fellowship  
\$138,325 | Districts 1, 2, 7, 11, 12

**Legal Aid Society of Columbus**  
Essential Immigration Legal Services  
\$25,000 | Districts 5, 6, 7

**Ohio Alliance of YMCA's Foundation**  
Ohio YMCA Youth and Government  
\$50,000 | All Districts

**Ohio Federation for Health Equity and Social Justice**  
Understanding the Legal Process: A Guide for Communities of Color  
\$20,000 | Districts 7, 12

**Ohio State Legal Services Association**  
Volunteer Connection  
\$25,000 | Districts 5, 7, 8, 9, 17

**United Way of Greater Cleveland**  
Community Education and Awareness Campaign for Expanded Services  
\$50,000.00 | District 12

### Racial Justice Initiative Phase III | Total Amount Granted: \$95,000

**Disability Rights Ohio** | \$20,000 | District 7  
Alternatives to Policing and Law Enforcement: Emergency Response Systems in Ohio

**Ohio Family Care Association** | \$50,000 | All Districts  
Racism in the laws, rules, policies and practices in Ohio Child Welfare System: Family Review

**Westerville for Racial Equity, Inclusion and Social Justice Engagement (WeRISE for Greater Westerville)** | \$25,000 | District 7  
The WeRISE Community Audit

### Racial Justice Initiative Phase IV | Total Amount Granted: \$257,355

**Case Western Reserve University** | \$50,000.00 | District 12  
Criminal Sentencing Project Pilot

**Case Western Reserve University** | \$50,000.00 | Districts 1, 7, 12  
School of Law Racial Justice Fellowships

**Health Policy Institute of Ohio** | \$20,000.00 | All Districts  
Connections between Criminal Justice and Health

**Innovation Ohio Education Fund** | \$50,000.00 | Districts 2, 7, 12  
Justice Agenda for Black Women and Girls in Ohio

**Ohio Access to Justice Foundation** | \$32,392.00 | All Districts  
Improving Access to Justice in Ohio's Civil Legal Arena

**Ohio State University Foundation** | \$54,963.00 | District 7  
Opportunity Mapping for Inclusion

## 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 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 PHASE III

\$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*

## RACIAL JUSTICE INITIATIVE PHASE IV

\$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*