



# TRANSCRIPT

Spring 2020

## **“CARING CONNECTIVITY” THROUGH COVID-19** MARK M. KITRICK | PRESIDENT, BOARD OF TRUSTEES



As we realize we’re part of the whole while we navigate through the COVID-19 pandemic and face fear, uncertainty, and stress, I can attest to the clarity and flexible devotion that the OSBF has tirelessly exhibited. It is the paragon of “caring connectivity.”

The Foundation’s responses to various challenges have been flexible, inspiring, and unwavering. While meetings no longer take place in person, we’ve welcomed virtual meeting platforms to allow us to interact face to face. We’ve set up offices in our respective homes, and we continue our work to move the Foundation’s mission forward.

We will soon welcome a brand-new class of Fellows. While past orientations have always happened in person, we are taking this unique opportunity to host this year’s virtually. We will still promote connecting and networking as we always have, and we expect an excellent year from our incoming Fellows Class.

Because of COVID-19, our 2020 plans had to change. The first-ever Fellows Week of Service, hosted and planned by the 2019 Fellows Class, has been postponed. The 2020 Induction is currently on hold along with other events, and we will find creative ways to activate and engage.

We hope this worldwide pandemic is but a brief disturbance. But we are not naïve. This is an indelible time, and life will never be as before. We’re resolved to fulfill our mission through caring connectivity, which is further defined by resilience, enterprise, and high spirit. We will move forward in a healthy way.

Please stay well, be safe, and shelter creatively,

In fellowship with gratitude,

Mark Kitrick, President



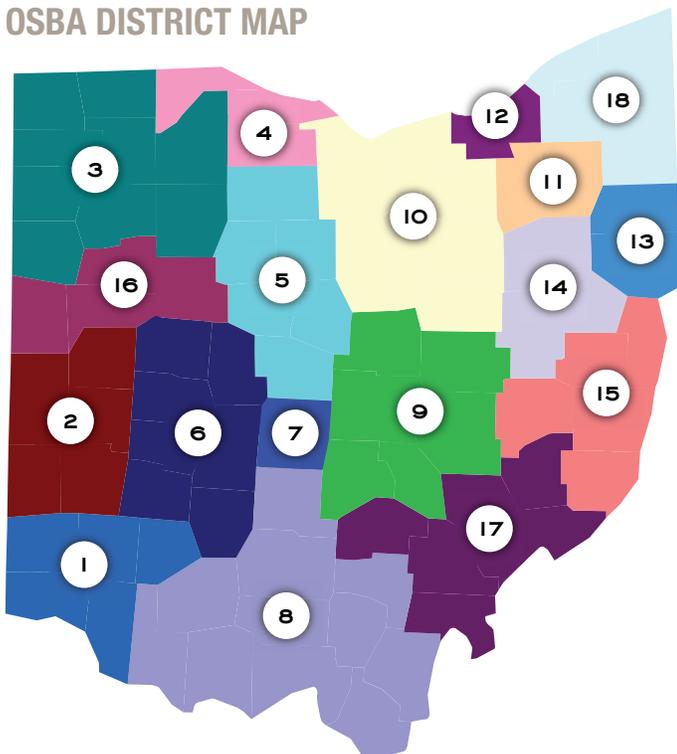
# OHIO STATE BAR FOUNDATION

In 2019, the Ohio State Bar Foundation granted \$860,694 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).

 **\$860,694**

OSBA DISTRICT MAP



## STRATEGIC GRANT Issue Media Group

SPRING 2019 - \$306,050

- Ohio Center for Law-Related Education (OCLRE)
- Ohio State Legal Services Association
- Ohio Domestic Violence Network
- Ohio Federation of Health Equity and Social Justice
- Akron Municipal Court
- Legal Aid Society of Cleveland
- Ohio Voice
- Ohio State Legal Services Association
- CASA Board Volunteer Association
- Battered Women's Shelter of Summit and Medina Counties
- Wayne County Probate and Juvenile Court

FALL 2019 - \$454,648

- Ohio Legal Help
- Law and Leadership Institute
- Immigrant and Refugee Law Center
- Ohio Justice and Policy Center
- Ohio State Bar Association
- Ohio Alliance of YMCAs Foundation
- Equality Ohio Education Fund
- Ohio State Legal Services Association
- Legal Aid Society of Columbus
- Athens CASA/GAL Program
- University of Cincinnati, Clermont
- Dominican Sisters of Peace
- Akron Municipal Court

Keep reading inside for detailed information about each grantee, the amount awarded, and associated benefiting districts.

Learn more about OSBF's grantmaking at [OSBF.org](http://OSBF.org).

## STRATEGIC GRANT

**Issue Media Group**  
Civics Essential Ohio  
All Districts

\$99,996 to Issue Media Group (with Cincinnati Development Fund acting as the fiscal agent) for Phase 2 of OSBF's first strategic grant. In its second year, Civics Essential Ohio will continue to work to improve civics knowledge of adults in Ohio through feature stories published in *Soapbox Cincinnati* and *FreshWater Cleveland*, will continue and expand the Civics Essential Game Hour events around the state, and will host a new podcast.

**Ohio Center for Law-Related Education (OCLRE)**  
Ohio Mock Trial, We the People, and Moot Court  
All Districts

\$118,000 to the Ohio Center for Law-Related Education (OCLRE), headquartered in Columbus, for their statewide programs that provide high-quality civics and law-related content to students and teachers and to support its student-led programs, including Ohio Mock Trial, We the People, and Moot Court. They also engage in professional development programs for teachers, including The Law and Citizenship Conference and Ohio Government in Action, an annual two-day workshop specifically designed to give teachers an insider's view of state government.

**Ohio State Legal Services Association**  
Southeastern Ohio Legal Services' Youth Law Project  
Districts 8, 9, 17

\$65,000 to the Ohio State Legal Services Association for the expansion of the Southeastern Ohio Legal Services' Youth Law Project, which will continue to provide advice, counsel, and representation to young adults and expand training and advocacy for community providers and courts working with those transitioning out of foster care through the statewide Bridges program.

**Ohio Domestic Violence Network**  
Parole Education and Preparation Project  
All Districts

\$32,050 to the Ohio Domestic Violence Network, based in Columbus, for their Parole Education and Preparation Project, which will provide legal education about the parole process to incarcerated survivors of domestic and sexual violence so that they may effectively advocate for themselves in hearings.

**Ohio Federation of Health Equity and Social Justice**  
Grandparents and other Relatives, Kinship Care and their Legal Concerns  
All Districts

\$20,000 to the Ohio Federation for Health Equity and Social Justice to help educate grandparents and other relatives statewide on the custody type and status available to their families, as well as government services and private resources that are available.

**Akron Municipal Court**  
Electronic Information Kiosk  
District 11

\$17,000 to the Akron Municipal Court for their Electronic Information Kiosk, which will provide low-income, pro se community members with legal information and resources. The addition of this kiosk will help the court monitor information related to self-represented litigants, improve access to justice for this group, and improve case flow and quality of information presented.

**Legal Aid Society of Cleveland**  
Access to Justice: Leveraging Technology to Lower Barriers to Justice  
District 12

\$15,000 to the Legal Aid Society of Cleveland for their new project Access to Justice: Leveraging Technology to Lower Barriers to Justice. The goal of this project is to expand individuals' access to the services of Cleveland Legal Aid by adding technology and an online intake module to their case management system.

**Ohio Voice**  
Ohio Fair Courts Speakers Bureau  
District 7

\$15,000 to Ohio Voice, based in Columbus, for the Ohio Fair Courts Speakers Bureau. This bureau would be created with three goals in mind: to explain in everyday language how the Ohio court system works, to provide a forum for members of the legal and non-legal community to exchange views about common concerns about our justice system, and to motivate citizens to take action to strengthen the independence of our courts.

**Ohio State Legal Services Association**  
Advocacy Skills Training for Legal Aid Attorneys  
All Districts

\$9,000 to the Ohio State Legal Services Association for advocacy skills training through the Ohio Poverty Law Center for 25 legal aid attorneys, representing each legal aid office in Ohio, that will help them better understand the legislative process and increase their level of engagement in statewide policy.

**CASA Board Volunteer Association**  
CASA Changemaker Academy for the Summit County CASA Program  
District 11

\$8,600 to the CASA Board Volunteer Association for their CASA Changemaker Academy for the Summit County CASA Program. This academy will provide three new live and three new online trainings for local CASA volunteers on developments in child advocacy practices, including issues surrounding immigration, domestic violence, and human trafficking. Grant support was also received from the American Bar Endowment for this project, which will allow the Summit County CASA Program to expand the number hours for each training.

**Battered Women's Shelter of Summit and Medina Counties**  
Understanding the Justice System Video  
District 11

\$4,100 to the Battered Women's Shelter of Summit and Medina Counties to produce a video that will provide key information regarding protection orders and the process of obtaining them, with an emphasis on using terminology that will be easy for the general public to understand.

**Wayne County Probate and Juvenile Court**  
Help Desk  
District 10

\$2,300 to the Wayne County Probate and Juvenile Court to support increased programming for their Help Desk by incorporating educational presentations and brochures. The Help Desk currently provides no-cost legal advice to low-income, unrepresented litigants, and potential litigants by connecting them with local attorneys. These attorneys provide effective recommendations and guidance in the areas of probate and juvenile law.

**Ohio Legal Help**  
Content Expansion and Continuous Improvement Project  
All Districts

\$100,000 to Ohio Legal Help for its Content Expansion and Continuous Improvement project, which will expand its website content, including sections on legal information for seniors and veterans, and sections on education, employment, and civil consequences of contact with the criminal justice system.



**Law and Leadership Institute**  
Diversity in Leadership Fellowship Project  
All Districts

\$75,000 to the Law and Leadership Institute for its Diversity in Leadership Fellowship project. Aimed at first-year law students, this will help them explore diversity and inclusion in the legal profession and expand understanding of the issues impacting the recruitment and retention of diverse attorneys. These students will have the opportunity to work with public officials, nonprofit board members, firms, and government offices on the issues of diversity and inclusion and will also be instructors for LLI high school students.

**Immigrant and Refugee Law Center**  
Volunteer Attorney Program  
District 1

\$50,000 to the Immigrant and Refugee Law Center for its Volunteer Attorney Program. Through this program, the organization will provide hands-on immigration law education to law students and lawyers, while increasing capacity to serve the legal needs of refugee and immigrant clients.

**Ohio Justice and Policy Center**  
Digital Resources Center  
All Districts

\$50,000 to the Ohio Justice and Policy Center for development of its Digital Resources Center. With this grant, the organization will create an online resource center to provide information on legal issues for incarcerated people, rights of prisoners, criminal justice-related activities, and changing laws for criminal-records mitigation. The Digital Resources Center will aim to serve those directly impacted by the criminal legal system and family members, social services, community organizations, government agencies, and legal professionals.

**Ohio State Bar Association**  
Rural Practice Clerkship Program  
All Districts

\$41,200 to the Ohio State Bar Association for its Rural Practice Clerkship Program. Through this program, the association aims to attract new lawyers to rural practice by connecting them with experienced practitioners. Training and mentoring are provided for lawyers transitioning from an academic environment to a legal practice in small, rural communities.

**Ohio Alliance of YMCAs Foundation**  
YMCA Youth & Government Program  
All Districts

\$37,975 to the Ohio Alliance of YMCAs Foundation to expand its YMCA Youth & Government Program. Through this program, Ohio middle school and high school students are provided leadership training, civic engagement opportunities, and insights into national- and state-level government.

**Equality Ohio Education Fund**  
Phase II Equality Ohio's Legal Clinic  
All Districts

\$22,200 to the Equality Ohio Education Fund for Phase II of Equality Ohio's Legal Clinic. Through this, they provide legal and quasi-legal services to LGBTQ Ohioans through Know Your Rights clinics, printed resources, expansion of attorney referral networks, and attorney training CLE conferences.

**Ohio State Legal Services Association**  
Carroll County Consumer Education and Outreach Project  
District 14

\$21,773 to Ohio State Legal Services Association for the Carroll County Consumer Education and Outreach Project, which will provide legal help and education to people in Carroll County on the need and how to of responding to lawsuits by creditors in the secondary market. This project will involve targeted outreach, accessible pro se educational materials, and individualized assistance to identify and address barriers for consumers facing consumer lawsuits.

**Legal Aid Society of Columbus**  
Legal Help for Successful Community Reentry Project  
District 7

\$20,500 to Legal Aid Society of Columbus for its Legal Help for Successful Community Reentry project. This project will help remove barriers to reentry and employment for soon-to-be-released inmates, including providing education about the CQE and CAE process, resolving driver's license issues, and connecting to resources for housing, food, and medical care.

**Athens CASA/GAL Program**  
Every Word Heard  
District 17

\$15,000 to Athens County CASA/GAL Program for its project Every Word Heard. This project will support staff and volunteer training to improve services to older youth and teens in foster care and those recently emancipated, including specialized events, projects, and age appropriate resources to help them understand their rights.

**University of Cincinnati, Clermont**  
Justice in Jeans Legal Clinic  
District 1

\$11,000 to the University of Cincinnati, Clermont, for the Justice in Jeans Legal Clinic. This clinic will provide attorney-led informational sessions for students and community members in an accessible, non-intimidating environment. Sessions will cover relevant topics, such as domestic issues, expungement, and estate planning. Intake interviews and resource information will be provided to participants by paralegal students.

**Dominican Sisters of Peace**  
Martin de Porres Center's Legal Education for Latino Families  
District 7

\$9,000 to Dominican Sisters of Peace for the Martin de Porres Center's Legal Education for Latino Families program, which will provide legal education for Latino families and youth on citizenship, immigration laws, employment, and completing legal forms through a series of workshops and educational sessions.

**Akron Municipal Court**  
Written Resources for the Akron Municipal OVI Court and the Peace of Mind Probation Program  
District 11

\$1,000 to the Akron Municipal Court for the Written Resources for the Akron Municipal OVI Court and the Peace of Mind Probation Program. This program will provide written workbooks to OVI Court defendants working through treatment programs and Peace of Mind Program participants to address mental health aspects related to previous criminal behavior.

## FELLOW FEATURE MEET RACHEL SABO FRIEDMANN

Rachel joined the OSBF Fellows Program as a member of the 2019 Fellows Class. She is a founding partner of The Friedmann Firm LLC, a plaintiff's employment litigation law firm, and she is the current President of Women Lawyers of Franklin County.

As an active member of her Class, Rachel has been instrumental in planning the first-ever Fellows Week of Service. During this week, the 2019 Class will be highlighting the risks foster youth often face at falling victim to human trafficking.

Previously scheduled for the end of April, the week has been postponed due to the Coronavirus pandemic. Stay connected to the OSBF to find out when the week will be rescheduled.

Now, learn more about Rachel and why she became involved with the OSBF:

### Why did you want to become an OSBF Fellow?

I think that we, as lawyers, have a duty to give back. We have a very specialized set of skills that we can put to great use to help others. I wanted to do something that I felt good about, while meeting new people and building a close relationship with those at the OSBF. I have been involved in several things at the OSBA, like the Leadership Academy, and have loved everything I was involved in. I figured that I would love being involved in the OSBF just as much.

### What does it mean to you to be an OSBF Fellow? Why would you encourage others to get involved?

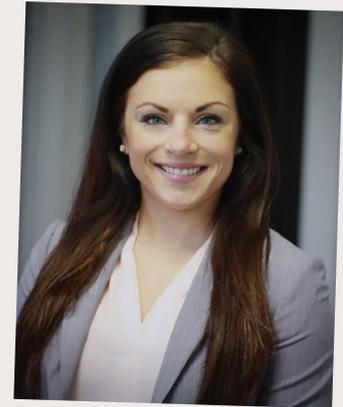
Being an OSBF Fellow is wonderful because it allows us to use our skills as lawyers to give back to the community. Our focus this year, the intersection between human trafficking and foster care, is such an important cause and one that we all need to be aware of. I feel really good about what we are doing, and I know that it will make a difference.

### What do you like about the OSBF Fellows Program?

I like that we've been able to come together to really do something good for others. We are raising awareness for the human trafficking and foster care issue, even becoming much more aware of it ourselves. It is through that type of awareness that we can educate others and try to remedy any part of this issue that we can. I know we can't solve it, but we can make a small difference and that counts.

### What's the Fellows Week of Service? Why are you passionate about it?

The Fellows Week of Service allows us to pick a cause that we care about and design the week around raising awareness, giving back, etc. It can be whatever we, as a Class, want it to be. We have a lot of leeway to include things that we really think will be helpful, like a legal clinic for those who have survived trafficking and need assistance with legal issues. If we are able to create it, we obviously feel passionate about what we are doing because we've handpicked the events we are having and the cause we are supporting.



"I AM SO HAPPY TO BE INVOLVED IN IT BECAUSE WE ARE DOING GREAT THINGS FOR THE LEGAL COMMUNITY AND THE COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE."

"I'D ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO GET INVOLVED BECAUSE YOU CAN MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE IN YOUR COMMUNITY. YOU HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET OTHER LAWYERS FROM ALL OVER THE STATE, COMING TOGETHER UNDER A UNIFIED CAUSE."



## GRANTEE FEATURE



Thanks to a grant from the OSBF, the Ohio State Bar Association's (OSBA) Rural Practice Clerkship Pilot Program connected second-year law students with experienced host practitioners working and living in rural communities of Ohio. By participating in the program, hosts educated students about the benefits of rural practice and the need for access to justice in communities where the number of local attorneys is declining, mostly due to an aging population.

During its first 10-week summer program, eight students experienced various areas of practice, including estate planning, probate, real estate transactions, adoption, practice dissolution and restart, and free legal clinics.

Hannah Richmond from Ohio Northern University partnered with host practitioner Bill Owens in Coshocton. Here's an inside look at her experience:

I was able to sit in on an adoption of a 17-year-old girl, which was really touching to me. I remember being in on the initial meeting with the couple who wanted to adopt her. They told us the girl had been in and out of foster homes for most of her life and didn't want to be adopted until she met their family. The day of the adoption, you could tell she was excited and nervous. There was a large group of family and friends there for support. After the adoption hearing - seeing the family taking pictures and the happy tears - it occurred to me that we helped change this young woman's life for the better. It made me want to be a better lawyer, so that I could help other families like we had helped this one.

I was also able to lend a helping hand with the local community theater production of Mama Mia! Coshocton has a large theater following. I love musicals and this production needed help backstage, so this seemed like a win-win for everyone. Through this community involvement, I was able to meet and get to know a lot of people from Coshocton and learn more ABBA songs than I ever knew were out there. It was such a fun way to give back to the community.



Lori Keating with program participants Maggie Kimmel and Hannah Richmond

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