



# THE ALLEGHENY COUNTY BAR FOUNDATION'S 2014-2015 ANNUAL REPORT

## ACBF Year in Review

by Lorrie K. Albert

It's our 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and this year, we decided to include our annual report in this *Lawyers Journal* insert. As you can see, our fiscal year for 2014-2015, which runs from July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015, was very busy. Thanks to you, our dedicated volunteers and generous donors, the bar foundation continues to make a real impact in our profession and our community. Our donors enabled the ACBF to provide over \$320,000 in funding to legal service organizations, hunger agencies, law students and others last year. Here are just a few ways your time and gifts have helped:

### Supporting our Profession:

- In its second year, the Gismondi Certified Law Student Summer Fellowship Program provided four second-year law students from Pitt Law an opportunity to work at Neighborhood Legal Services Association.
- The Lawyers Fund Law Student Fellowship Program provided 10 additional students from Pitt and Duquesne Law Schools an opportunity to work at 10 local public service organizations that provide legal services to those that otherwise would go unrepresented.
- The Lawyers Fund provided \$26,000 in assistance in the form of loans or grants to attorneys in need.
- The Loans & Scholarships Committee awarded \$50,500 to deserving law students from our Named Funds.
- The Fellows Class of 2014 was celebrated at LeMont on Sept. 16, 2014 with guest speaker Detective Deirdri Fishel.
- A VIP Event was held at Bricolage on June 2, 2015 to thank our Sustaining and Patron level donors, as well as our Leadership Circle Firms and long-term sponsors.
- The Zittrain Forum was held on Nov. 6, 2014 to discuss "The NSA Surveillance Program - A Necessary Evil or Government Gone Too Far?" The CLE and debate featured attorneys Alex Abdo and Stewart Baker with Professor Jonathan Zittrain and moderator John P. Gismondi.



Lorrie K. Albert, ACBF Associate Executive Director

### Supporting our Community through Pro Bono, Grants & Public Service:

- Pro Bono Services were provided to 7,020 individuals by 924 volunteer attorneys and five new pro bono opportunities were launched, raising the number of Pro Bono Center programs and organizations to 36.
- We celebrated Pro Bono Week in October 2014, which included:
  - Pro Bono Awards and Volunteer Recognition Lunch held at the Rivers Club on Oct. 21, 2014.
  - Pro Bono Rocks - Karaoke Edition Fundraiser held at Olive or Twist on Oct. 23, 2014.
  - "Jeans for Justice" where law firms held casual Fridays in exchange for a donation to the foundation.
- The Fellows Grants Committee awarded \$40,000 to six Public Service Organizations to assist in the expansion of pro bono legal services programs and \$19,360 from the Military Veterans & Elderly Fund to support veterans and the elderly.
- The Public Service Committee assembled and donated 1,500 backpacks to local elementary school students.

### Other Important Fundraisers:

- ACBA Golf Tournament held at Longue Vue Country Club on July 18, 2014 raised \$33,980 for the foundation and Neighborhood Legal Services Association.

• Attorneys Against Hunger Campaign raised over \$107,000 and held four outreach events at local hunger agencies. The Young Lawyers Division held the inaugural Strike Out Hunger fundraiser at Latitude 360 which was not only a success, but lots of fun for the whole family.

• ACBA Environment & Energy Law Section held its annual fundraiser on May 21, 2015, at the new Energy Innovation Center to benefit the ACBF's Environment & Energy Law Section Scholarship Fund.

I would be remiss not to thank our Dues Check-off, Annual Campaign and Law Firm Leadership Circle donors, who generously support our ability to administer all of these great programs. Without you, none of this is possible.

As the heart of Pittsburgh's legal community, the ACBF strives to support our profession and promote justice for all in Allegheny County. Thank you for making a positive impact in our community. As part of our ACBF family, you make these amazing programs and fundraisers a success. ■

Sincerely,

Lorrie K. Albert  
Associate Executive Director

## The Heart of What We Do

### BALANCING JUSTICE

- Pro Bono Center
- Divorce Law Project
- Juvenile Court Project

### SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

- Attorneys Against Hunger
- Backpack Project
- Legal-Aid Grants
- Military Veterans & Elderly Grants

### SUPPORTING THE PROFESSION

- Fellows Program
- Lawyers Fund
- Loans & Scholarships
- Law Student Summer Fellowship Programs
- Zittrain Forums



Pro Bono Achievement Award recipients gather at the Fellows Dinner on September 16, 2014.



# BALANCING JUSTICE



## PRO BONO CENTER

Allegheny County Bar Foundation

The Pro Bono Center assists its 36 member programs and organizations with recruiting, training, supporting, and recognizing volunteer attorneys. Services provided to clients include extended representation, limited representation, brief advice and referrals. For calendar year 2014, these member programs and organizations reported:

- 7,020 individuals assisted by volunteer attorneys;

- 1,075 volunteer attorneys, law students, paralegals, and others;
- 433 volunteers attended 15 CLE and informational programs;

Pro Bono Center staff attorneys receive hundreds of inquiries annually from low-income individuals seeking help with a legal problem. In 2014, staff directly assisted 935 individuals who turned to the center for assistance. ■



PITTSBURGH  
PRO BONO  
PARTNERSHIP

The Pittsburgh Pro Bono Partnership is a collaboration of legal departments, law firms, the Allegheny County Bar Foundation, and the Neighborhood Legal Services Association. The purpose is to increase attorney and paralegal pro bono legal services to the greater Pittsburgh community. The partnership especially encourages new and more creative efforts to provide legal services to persons of limited means and to those organizations, including charities, which work on their behalf. During the 2014-2015 fiscal year, the partnership welcomed new members Robert Peirce & Associates, the Western Pennsylvania Trial Lawyers Association, Edgar Snyder & Associates, Norton Rose Fulbright, Stoll Keenon Ogden PLLC, and PNC Bank. New projects this year included the Long Term Care Clinic, Real Estate Project, and

the Neighborhood Table Legal Clinic in Sharpsburg.

“The Pittsburgh Pro Bono Partnership would not be what it is today – over 40 members with almost 20 projects with national and statewide recognition – without the insight, collaborations and contributions of the Allegheny County Bar Foundation. The resources provided by the ACBF include malpractice insurance for volunteer attorneys, free online legal research, assistance with outreach and communications to attorneys and the general public as well as help with coordinating CLE programs. These resources enable the partnership’s volunteers to help the hundreds of families and clients the partnership projects see each year,” said Kathryn M. Kenyon, chairperson of the Pittsburgh Pro Bono Partnership. ■

## Upcoming Events

Nov. 21, 2015 –

A Thanksgiving Distribution hosted by Urban League of Pittsburgh - David L. Lawrence Convention Center – 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Join Attorneys Against Hunger at the Urban League’s annual Thanksgiving Distribution where 900 local families will receive nutritious ingredients for a holiday meal.

March 12, 2016 –

ACBF 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Red Tie Gala: Celebrating the Heart of Pittsburgh’s Legal Community – Circuit Center & Ballroom

Don’t miss this very special event, celebrating 35 years of giving!

July 25, 2016 –

24<sup>th</sup> Annual ACBA Golf Tournament – Allegheny Country Club

Be a part of this annual gathering, and help raise funds for the ACBF and Neighborhood Legal Services Association.

## Pro Bono Rocks – Karaoke edition!



Guests sing the night away at Pro Bono Rocks Karaoke Edition on October 23, 2014.

Since the inaugural Pro Bono Rocks in 2007, the Pro Bono Center has held the event every other year. The first two featured bands at the Hard Rock Café in Station Square: “Get Back,” a local Beatles cover band in 2007, and “Who’s Bad,” a sensational national band that featured Michael Jackson look-a-likes playing his greatest hits. Then, in 2011 the center switched to a “Battle of the Attorney Bands” format. Local bands with attorney musicians auditioned for a chance to compete for the title of Best Band. After a successful repeat of the

Battle of the Bands in 2013, the center was planning to take a year off. But instead, we brought Pro Bono Rocks back in 2014 with a new karaoke format.

Fourteen Pittsburgh firms and corporations helped support Pro Bono Rocks and celebrate national Pro Bono Week 2014 by participating in Jeans for Justice. Attorneys and staff members made a donation to the bar foundation in return for the right to dress in casual clothing for the day. These participants helped raised \$3,734 to support the work of the Pro Bono Center. ■

## New pro bono programs

The Pro Bono Center has the unique ability to leverage the over 6,200 members of the Allegheny County Bar Association and frequently engages member attorneys, judges and law students in developing and supporting the delivery of legal services, resulting in collaborative projects that benefit clients, improve the function of the courts, and provide attorneys and paralegals with volunteer opportunities. New programs launched in the past year include:

- Long-Term Care Clinic
- Neighborhood Table Legal Clinic  
(projects of the Pittsburgh Pro Bono Partnership)
- Name Change Project



ACBF and ACBA staff joined local law firms for “Jeans for Justice” Day during Pro Bono Week on October 27, 2014.



# Joseph Balestrino contributes greatly to Allegheny County pro bono community



Joseph V. Balestrino

by Elizabeth Parker Gaetani

Joseph Balestrino has contributed greatly to the pro bono community in Allegheny County. Balestrino volunteers for a number of Pro Bono Center programs, including Neighborhood Legal Services Association and the Pro Bono Custody Conciliation Project, a signature project of the Pittsburgh Pro Bono Partnership.

“Joe is always willing to help when needed. He has mentored several new volunteers, allowing them to shadow

him at conciliations,” said Antoinette Oliver, project manager of the Custody Conciliation Project and Chair-Elect of the Pittsburgh Pro Bono Partnership. “Joe has served as a speaker at CLE trainings, providing new volunteers helpful tips and best practices. His contributions as both a volunteer and mentor have been integral to the success of pro bono projects, such as the Custody Conciliation Project.”

As a corporate in-house attorney, Balestrino makes use of the foundation’s malpractice coverage available for volunteers in Pro Bono Center matters.

“The Pro Bono Center makes pro bono work possible because it takes on the administrative, marketing and fundraising burdens of operating and coordinating the various pro bono projects that attorneys of this county participate in,” said Balestrino. “Without this support, it would be much more difficult for me and my fellow volunteer attorneys to take on pro bono cases and projects.”

Balestrino is a labor and employment attorney for U.S. Steel Corp. He received his undergraduate degree Summa Cum Laude from the University of Pittsburgh, and graduated Cum Laude from the Duquesne University School of Law. Upon graduating from

law school, he was awarded the Hon. Joseph H. Ridge Memorial Scholarship from the Allegheny County Bar Foundation.

“I volunteer because I have been blessed with a wonderful, stable family that has supported all of my academic and professional endeavors,” said Balestrino. “I do not take this for granted and I am well aware that there are countless others who are not as fortunate as I am.”

Balestrino is an active member of the Allegheny County Bar Association’s

Public Service Committee and the Foundation’s Attorneys Against Hunger Committee. He co-chairs the Backpack Project and the Young Lawyers Division Public Service Committee, and is a YLD Council member.

“Political activist Shirley Chisolm once said that ‘service is the rent we pay for the privilege of living on this earth,’” he said. “Volunteering for pro bono causes is one significant way that we as attorneys can give back and pay our rent for profiting from the community.” ■



*The Public Service Committee celebrated volunteer attorneys with awards, door prizes, and inspiring words from Bankruptcy Court Chief Judge Jeffery Deller on October 21, 2014.*

# Divorce Law Project provides free representation to low income individuals

by Elizabeth Parker Gaetani

Breaking the marriage bond involves a complicated legal process that is difficult for any person to navigate on his or her own. A person wishing to pursue a divorce can be trapped by the inability to afford legal representation. Particularly in an abusive marriage, even after the immediate threat of physical violence is gone, the legal hold of a marriage can prevent a person from being truly free of his or her abuser.

The Divorce Law Project of the Allegheny County Bar Foundation, an in-house legal services project of the Pro Bono Center, is the only program providing free representation to low-income individuals seeking simple divorces in Allegheny County. The Divorce Law Project obtained 124 final divorce decrees in FY 14-15 using staff attorneys, volunteer attorneys and law students. In total, 267 clients were assisted with representation, advice, brief services, pro se assistance and referrals. The DLP receives an average of seven applications for assistance each week.

The Divorce Law Project offers training, mentoring and supervision to pro bono attorneys and students. In March 2015, the DLP presented a free CLE program to attorneys who agreed to take on one or more divorce cases. The training increased volunteer numbers and equipped over 20 new volunteers with information and forms

“I married a [...] physically and verbally abusive man. Being married to him was the worst time of my life. I knew I couldn’t continue the relationship but I could never imagine being able to afford an attorney on my budget. [The Divorce Law Project] is a beautiful service and I am very thankful for their help and allowing me to be free from the abuser and move on with my life.”

– Cheryl H.

“The project has helped me move on to bigger and better things.”

– Angela J.

“We were separated for eight years. [...] I delayed getting a divorce because of the cost so the Project helped with my future to finally divorce without worry financially.”

– A.C.

## *What clients are saying about the Divorce Law Project.*

necessary to complete the divorce process. The CLE gave confidence to new and experienced attorneys alike to take cases outside of their typical practice areas.

The DLP has also committed itself to educating and training law students through externships, pro bono certified legal internships and paid fellowships. Students are given the tools necessary to serve clients from beginning to end,

working with intake procedures, phone advice and referrals, conflict checks, drafting pleadings and letters, and client interaction.

Summer fellow and certified legal intern, Elizabeth Tuttle, reflects on her time with the Divorce Law Project. “I really enjoyed my time. I was able to gain skills, such as drafting pleadings and time management,” she said. “I learned how to file

a complaint in divorce and how to effectively conduct a client intake interview. I gained marketable skills and made excellent connections.”

The DLP continues to serve the most vulnerable in our communities, while providing education to our clients, attorneys and students. We look to the future with optimism as we continue our efforts in serving clients in need of a new start. ■

# SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

## Attorneys Against Hunger has awarded over \$1.4 million in grants to local hunger organizations since 1993



Thanks to our amazing donors, Attorneys Against Hunger has awarded over \$1.4 million in grants to local hunger organizations since 1993. The organizations we support range from small, volunteer-driven agencies like Intersection in McKeesport to large-scale operations like the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank. Though they vary in size, one thing these organizations share is an unwavering commitment to battling poverty in Allegheny County. When you make a gift to Attorneys Against Hunger, you help these organizations feed thousands of families every year.

The testimonials to the right show just how much these organizations make a difference in their clients' lives. ■

### AAH Supported Agencies

Downtown Ministerium  
Walk-in Ministry

First Lutheran Church,  
First Presbyterian Church,  
Smithfield United Church,  
St. Mary of Mercy Parish, and  
Trinity Episcopal Cathedral

East End Cooperative Ministry

Focus on Renewal

Greater Pittsburgh Community  
Food Bank

The Intersection

Jubilee Kitchen

Just Harvest

North Hills Community Outreach

Pittsburgh AIDS Task Force

Rainbow Kitchen

South Hills Interfaith Ministries

Squirrel Hill Community  
Food Pantry

Urban League of Pittsburgh  
Hunger Services

“Since I’ve been introduced to this center [Focus on Renewal], I have grown as a person. They have helped my family through very difficult times of struggles. FOR is a very important structured program that is the backbone of the McKee’s Rocks community. If it were to fail, many people and their families would be devastated.”

– Client, Focus on Renewal

“One long-time guest, a Vietnam veteran who lost his arm, comes to us regularly. He lives homeless and outdoors. In addition to food, we often provide him hygienic items and clothes. Just a few days ago, he expressed how grateful he is for this pillar of stability that allows him to cope.”

– Employee, Jubilee Kitchen

“When I lost my job of ten years and struggled to find another one, I hit a low point in my life; probably the lowest point I have ever been. I was forced for the first time to rely on someone else to put food on my table and to help me maintain a stable home for my family. As I sit here writing this, I swell up with tears to think that there was someone that unconditionally stepped up and put their arms around my family and told us it would be OK. That someone was the staff of the Rainbow Kitchen.”

– Client, Rainbow Kitchen



Volunteers from Attorneys Against Hunger serve brunch at Rainbow Kitchen in Homestead on February 7, 2015.

## Thanks to Our Sponsors

Lead Sponsor –

The Law Offices of  
**Steidl & Steinberg** PC

Supporting Sponsors –

**G&A** Gleason & Associates, PC  
Certified Public Accountants & Consultants

& The Honorable Raymond A. Novak

Challenge Grant Sponsors –

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Rita M. McGinley Foundation

McGinley Family members of the bar association



# Public Service Committee distributes 1,500 backpacks to Allegheny County children

by Lacey Ecker,  
Backpack Project co-chair

Throughout the months of July and August, the Public Service Committee conducted the Ninth Annual Backpack Project. ACBA members volunteered their time early on a Saturday morning to pack the backpacks with school supplies that were later distributed. Because of the generous donations of bar association members and local companies, the Public Service Committee was able to distribute 1,500 backpacks filled with school supplies to children in four different communities across Allegheny County. The Backpack Project provides a unique opportunity to ACBA members where they not only get to pack the backpacks “behind the scenes,” but they also get to distribute them directly to children in the community.

The distribution event in Braddock coincided with the community’s annual parade and community festival. At this location, nearly 700 backpacks were distributed in less than four hours as hundreds of students ranging from age 4 to 18 came to pick up their backpacks. Several students commented

on the weight of the backpack and expressed their excitement upon opening up the backpack to see that it was already full of all the supplies they needed to start off the school year. Throughout the day, several members of the community expressed their appreciation for this project to ACBA volunteers and provided personal stories of how these backpacks have helped the community.

One community member provided the following personal story showing the positive impact the Backpack Project has had in her community: “My family lives in Braddock, one of the communities that received the backpacks this year, and every day I hear the students as they get off of the bus stop in front of my house – full of energy and excitement as they walk, skip and run down the street toward their homes. Many of them are wearing the red and black backpacks they received as a part of the Backpack Project. It is such a joy to be able to see how the kindness of so many people helped to put these smiles (and backpacks) on some great kids who come from such difficult lives.” ■



Backpack Project volunteers pack 1,500 backpacks at the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank in July.

## ACBF provides grants to numerous community organizations

by Erin Rhodes

The ACBF is proud to provide grants to organizations that serve some of the most vulnerable members of our community, from the elderly to immigrants and military veterans.

### Legal Aid Grants

Through the generosity of Fellows Program donors, the ACBF provides annual grants to organizations that provide pro bono legal services to low-income clients. In 2014, the ACBF awarded \$40,000 in grants to six legal service programs.

### 2014-2015 Legal-Aid Grant Recipients

**Christian Legal Aid of Pittsburgh**  
To provide more people in need with access to legal help, acquire and implement technology to improve efficiency and recruit additional volunteers.

**Education Law Center**  
To recruit, train, support and work collaboratively with an expanding pool of volunteer pro bono attorneys willing to help meet an increasing need to provide legal assistance and consultation to students and parents on issues of public education.

**Focus on Renewal**  
To continue assisting low-income individuals and families with legal documents, such as wills, power of attorney and health care directives.

**Jewish Family & Children’s Service of Pittsburgh**  
To provide legal services to unaccompanied minors seeking Special Immigrant Juvenile status and train pro bono attorneys to provide these services.

**Neighborhood Legal Services Association**  
To provide pro se bankruptcy assistance by staff, pro bono attorneys, and law students to 120 people.

**Women’s Center & Shelter of Greater Pittsburgh**  
To provide Civil Legal Representation to victims of intimate partner violence that will help victims obtain safety, autonomy and restoration from the Justice System.

### Military Veterans & Elderly Grants

Grants awarded from the Military Veterans & Elderly Fund are especially vital right now as the number of military veterans returning from active duty increases and the baby boomers enter retirement. In 2014, the ACBF awarded over \$19,000 to programs that support veterans and the elderly.

### 2014-2015 Military Veterans & Elderly Grant Recipients

**Pittsburgh AIDS Task Force**  
To provide special programming that is relevant and appropriate to the growing number of elderly individuals with HIV/AIDS-related concerns.

“I am so grateful that the Pittsburgh AIDS Task Force has a program to help people like me, that is, people who don’t have the financial means to go to an attorney. And, they provided me with attorneys from one of the best law firms in the country, Reed Smith, how wonderful is that? I am so blessed. I was so anxious and afraid of what would happen to me if I ended up in the hospital that I couldn’t sleep at night. Now, I have peace of mind that

is worth more than you will ever know. The Pittsburgh AIDS Task Force and Matt Ometz, in particular, were so amazing through the whole process even when my anxiety had me unable to function and get them the information they needed. Without this help, which I understand was, in part, funded by the Allegheny County Bar Foundation, I would have died without a power of attorney, living will, and Last Will. You

might think I am being dramatic, but it’s true. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!” said Susan, Pittsburgh AIDS Task Force Client.

**Veterans Leadership Program**  
To increase Veterans Justice Outreach services available to veterans who are involved in Allegheny County’s criminal justice system. ■

Join the Conversation

- facebook.com/alleghenycountybarfoundation
- @acbarfoundation
- www.acbf.org



A “Wills Project” volunteer assists a client.



# SUPPORTING THE PROFESSION

## Fellowship programs provide law students with summer employment opportunities



In the spring of 2014, the ACBF established two pilot fellowship programs to provide law students with summer employment opportunities. Since then, the Gismondi Certified Law Student Summer Fellowship Program and the Lawyers Fund Law Student Summer Fellowship Program have awarded fellowships to 30 students from the University of Pittsburgh and Duquesne University. 2015 Gismondi Certified Law Student Summer Fellows and Lawyers Fund Law Student Summer Fellows, from left, top photo, Liz Tuttle (Pro Bono Center), Ana Lisa Petrella (Disability Rights Network), Marguerite Goglia (Education Law Center), Shea Matthew Kraft (Christian Legal Aid), Emily Kinkead (NLSA), Morgan Bonekovic (Juvenile Court Project), Nicole Geyer (NLSA), Jesse Exilus (NLSA), Shane Crevar (District Attorney's Office), and Rebecca Laniewski (NLSA).

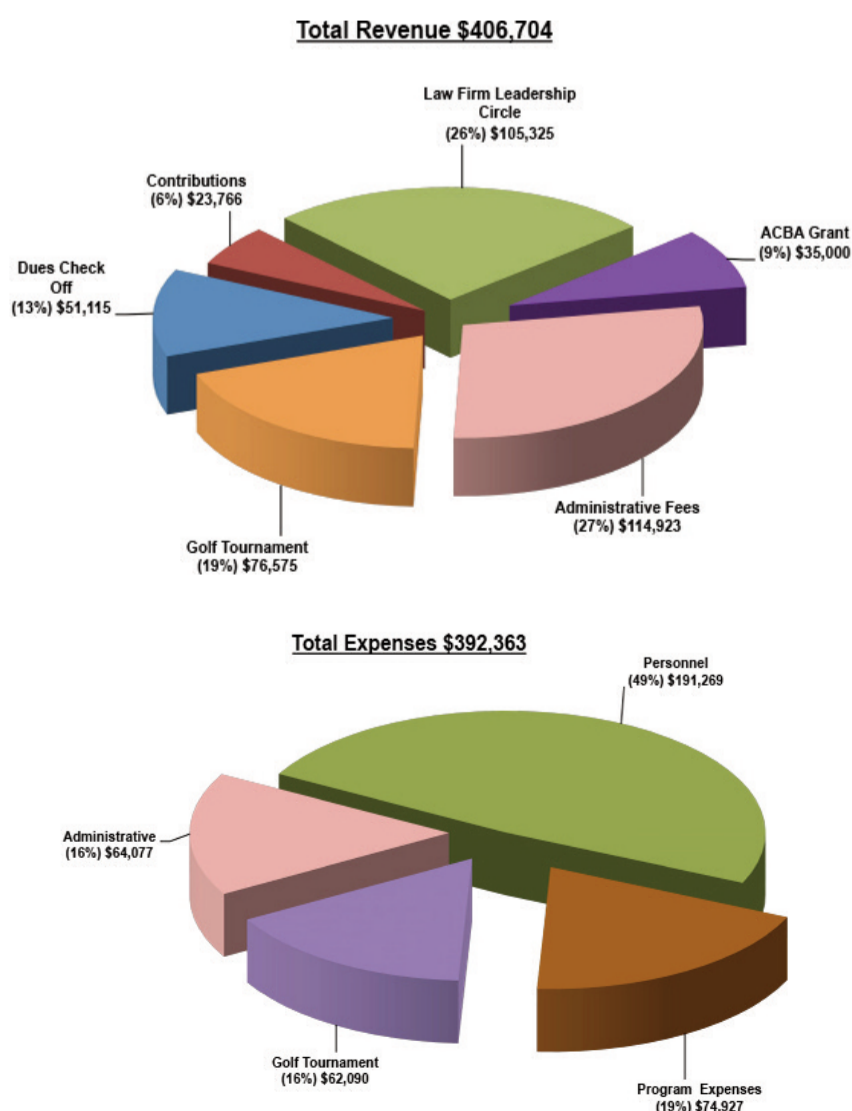
Learn more about these two Fellowship Programs at [www.acbf.org/Gismondi-Fund](http://www.acbf.org/Gismondi-Fund) and [www.acbf.org/Lawyers-Fund-Law-Student-Summer-Fellowship-Program](http://www.acbf.org/Lawyers-Fund-Law-Student-Summer-Fellowship-Program)

## Allegheny County Bar Foundation FY 15 financials at a glance

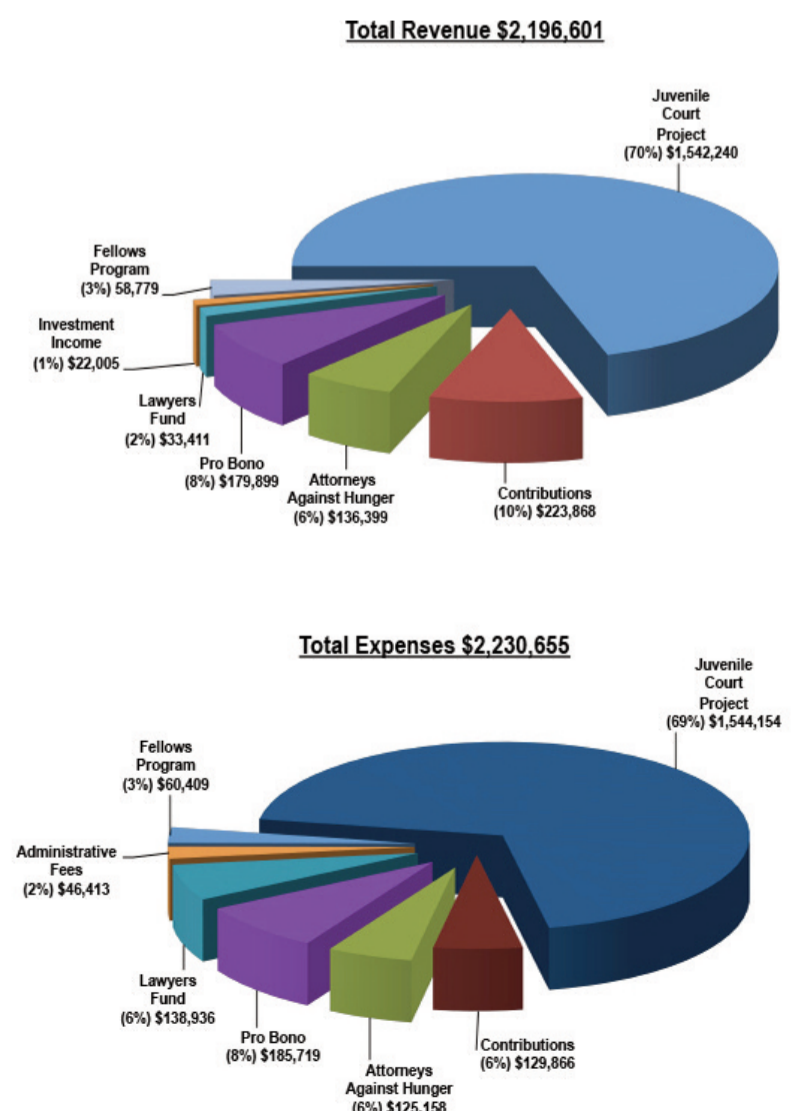
Audited financials for July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015.

Please visit [www.acbf.org](http://www.acbf.org) to view a complete copy of the ACBF audited financial statement.

### Unrestricted - Operating



### Restricted Funds





# What the summer fellows program meant to me



Elizabeth Tuttle

by Elizabeth Tuttle

Liz Tuttle is a 3rd-year law student at Duquesne University and was the

*Pro Bono Center Lawyers Fund Fellow for the summer of 2015.*

I applied for a fellowship at the Pro Bono Center because I was interested in the variety the position would offer. I wanted to provide direct legal services to indigent clients and I was also interested in learning about the pro bono opportunities available to attorneys in Pittsburgh. Additionally, I previously worked with several different non-profit organizations, and wanted to reconnect with that world.

My main responsibility was helping clients with very low incomes obtain simple divorces through the Divorce Law Project. I was also able to represent clients at custody conciliations and PFA hearings. Through my direct interactions with clients, I understood that the service I was providing or the advice I was giving was, at the moment, the most important thing in my client's life. It was both a humbling

and empowering experience to know that a person had trusted me with their safety or their future.

During my placement with the Pro Bono Center, I was able to apply the skills and knowledge I had gained in class at law school. I learned how to file a complaint in divorce, how to provide adequate representation in court proceedings, and how to effectively conduct a client intake interview.

The bar foundation organized a series of luncheons for the fellows throughout the summer. I found the lunch programs to be excellent learning tools. I very much enjoyed the panel discussion focused on different legal careers. It was interesting to hear different perspectives on the same subject, instead of just one point of view.

I also had a lot of fun. Everyone I worked with was very friendly and

helpful, which helped me to enjoy being at work. The best time I had during my time with the Pro Bono Center was participating in a Poverty Simulation near the end of the summer. The simulation was a way to better understand what indigent clients may be dealing with every day while strengthening team-building skills with other attorneys and Fellows.

I entered law school with the idea of dedicating part, if not all, of my practice to public interest. My summer placement only reinforced this belief. Currently, I am working as a law clerk at the Law Office of Joel Sansone, a civil rights litigation firm. I plan to practice in Pittsburgh after graduation and to continue to help low-income clients with pro bono work. ■

Visit us at [www.acbf.org](http://www.acbf.org)

## ACBF awards \$50,500 in loans and scholarships

In 2014, the ACBF awarded \$50,500 in loans and scholarships to law students attending Duquesne University, the University of Pittsburgh and the University of Pennsylvania.

The financial assistance we provide allows students to worry a little bit less about skyrocketing tuition costs and focus more on preparing themselves to become well-trained attorneys.

### 2014 Loans & Scholarship Recipients

F.C. Grote Fund Scholarship  
Adriana deVries  
(University of Pennsylvania)  
Nellie Dunderdale  
(University of Pittsburgh)  
Sophiko Geguchadze  
(University of Pittsburgh)  
Victoria Joseph  
(University of Pennsylvania)  
Kenneth Ludlum  
(University of Pittsburgh)  
Erin Strang  
(University of Pittsburgh)  
Endia Vereen  
(University of Pittsburgh)

The Honorable Carol Los  
Mansmann Scholarship  
Ashley Wilkinson  
(Duquesne University)

Daniel B. Dixon Scholarship  
Allison Marciniak  
(University of Pittsburgh)

Environment & Energy Law  
Section Scholarship  
James Mazzocco  
(Duquesne University)  
Anthony DaDamo  
(University of Pittsburgh)

Gerald K. Gibson Memorial Award  
Abagale Steidl  
(Duquesne University)  
Amanda Schilling  
(Duquesne University)

Lynette Norton Memorial Award  
Aleksandra Julie Kocelko  
(Duquesne University)  
Autumn L. Pividori  
(Duquesne University)

\* *Louis Little Loan recipients not listed due to confidentiality.* ■

**SAVE THE DATE**  
FOR THE  
**ALLEGHENY COUNTY BAR FOUNDATION'S**  
**35<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

*Red Tie Gala*

CELEBRATING THE *R* OF PITTSBURGH'S LEGAL COMMUNITY

SATURDAY, MARCH 12, 2016  
AT SIX O'CLOCK IN THE EVENING

CIRCUIT CENTER & BALLROOM  
5 HOT METAL STREET, SOUTH SIDE, PITTSBURGH, PA 15203

*Dress to Impress*



Inaugural Strike Out Hunger fundraiser, March 8, 2015.



Zittrain Forums present "The NSA Surveillance Program – A Necessary Evil or Government Gone Too Far?" on November 6, 2014. From left, ACBF Immediate Past President Ken Argentieri, Laurie Zittrain Eisenberg, Jonathan Zittrain, John P. Gismondi, Alex Abdo, Lorrie K. Albert, and Stewart Baker.



## MISSION

The mission of the Allegheny County Bar Foundation is to be a driving force in promoting justice for all and to improve the community through public service law-related programs. To fulfill this mission, the foundation raises, manages, and distributes funds, encourages and assists lawyers to provide pro bono legal services, and develops and supports public information initiatives.

### Board of Trustees 2014 – 2015

**President**

Kenneth M. Argentieri

**Vice-President**

Richard S. Wiedman

**Secretary**

Mary K. Austin

**Treasurer**

Patricia L. Dodge

**Immediate Past President**

Carol A. Behers

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John P. Gismondi  
Hon. Lawrence W. Kaplan (Ret.)  
Carol S. Mills McCarthy  
Melinda Sala  
Richard S. Wiedman

**Two Years**

Kenneth M. Argentieri  
Jessica L. Crown  
Mary Nell Cummings  
Susan M. Seitz  
Keith E. Whitson

**Three Years**

Mary K. Austin  
Patricia L. Dodge  
Paul J. Gitnik  
Efrem M. Grail  
Max W. Laun

**Young Lawyers Division****One Year**

Jill Lipman Beck

**Executive Director**

David A. Blaner

**Assistant Executive Director**

Diane McMillen

**Associate Executive Director**

Lorrie K. Albert

**Director of the Pro Bono Center**

Barbara Griffin



Guests enjoy the annual Golf Tournament at Longue Vue Club on July 18, 2014.



Guests also competed in a bocce tournament at the golf outing.

## What Will Your Legacy Be?

Thanks to your gifts to the ACBF, thousands of people in our community have been able to access legal help that was otherwise out of their reach, hungry people have been fed, and our profession has been strengthened. Those gifts have done so much to help people today. But have you thought about making your impact last beyond today?

Consider joining the ACBF Legacy Society, and your generosity will make a difference in the long term, too.

Join  
the  
Conversation



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www.acbf.org

