



As we reflect on the incredible achievements of 2024, it's clear that none of this would have been possible without the unwavering support of our volunteers and donors. Once again, you've helped us surpass expectations and make a lasting impact. We proudly concluded our Leadership Circle campaign with remarkable success with new commitments and new firms! Never has our work to promote justice for all been more important. Because of YOU, we continue to evolve, grow, and expand the breadth of our pro bono efforts, educational initiatives, and public services. Thank you for your steadfast dedication. Together, we're making an extraordinary difference.

– Daniel Sinclair, President, ACBF

The Law Firm Leadership Circle



Thanks to our dedicated Leadership Circle law firms, we are making a meaningful impact on both our community and profession. This year's Leadership Circle campaign has been our most successful yet, welcoming six new firms and reaffirming commitments from our long-standing members, some of whom have been with us since 2012. These firms have made a three-year financial pledge to the Foundation, enabling us to continue providing invaluable services without interruption. This milestone marks a pivotal moment in our journey, further strengthening our ability to advocate for justice in ways that matter now more than ever.

Fellows GIVE Pitch Event



The annual Fellows GIVE Pitch Event took place on October 23, 2024, at Olive or Twist. The ACBF's Grants Committee received applications from 18 different legal aid organizations, they evaluated their applications, and narrowed down the field to ten organizations – who were then invited to the Pitch Event to make their case for support. Of those ten pitching organizations, the below six were selected by the voting Fellows GIVE members present at the event to each receive one \$10,000 grant in support of their legal aid program and services in Allegheny County. The Foundation is able to offer these grants because of the support of Fellows GIVE members. If you are already a member we thank you for your ongoing commitment to public service and the community! For more information about joining the Fellows GIVE program so that you can make your voice heard, contact Lorrie Albert at lalbert@acba.org.



Thank You to Our Law 2024-2027 Firm Leadership Circle Members

Babst Calland
Bernstein-Burkley, P.C.
Blank Rome
Buchanan Ingersoll &
Rooney PC
Burns White, LLC
Campbell Durrant Beatty
& Palombo, P.C.
Clark Hill PLC
Dentons Cohen & Grigsby
Dickie, McCamey &
Chilcote, P.C.

Duane Morris LLP
Eckert Seamans Cherin &
Mellot, LLC
Edgar Snyder & Associates
Fox Rothschild LLP
Frank, Gale, Bails &
Pocrass, P.C.
Friday & Cox, LLC
Goehring Rutter & Boehm
James A. Traficante &
Associates
John P. Gismondi, Esq.

Jones Day
K&L Gates LLP
Kontos Mengine Killion &
Hassen
Marshall Dennehy, P.C.
McGuireWoods LLP
Medure Bonner
Bellissimo, LLC
Meyer Darragh Buckler
Bebenek & Eck, PLLC
Meyer Unkovic & Scott LLP
Pollock Begg

Quatrini Law Group
Raphael, Ramsden & Behers
Reed Smith LLP
Saul Ewing LLP
Sherrard, German & Kelly, PC
Strassburger McKenna
Gutnick & Gefsky
Thomas, Thomas & Hafer LLP
Troutman Pepper Locke LLP
Tucker Arensberg, P.C.
Vuono & Gray, LLC
Woomer & Talarico
Zimmer Kunz, PLLC



ALLEGHENY COUNTY
BAR FOUNDATION
Pro Bono Center

April is National Volunteer Month

Everyone deserves to have stable and safe housing, employment and educational opportunities, protection from domestic violence, and a family life that is as free of conflict as possible. The Pro Bono Center is grateful for the many volunteer attorneys, law students, paralegals, notaries, and other helpers whose work is essential to narrowing the justice gap in our communities. Now more than ever, those who are most vulnerable are facing uncertainty over their basic needs. The legal community is uniquely positioned to address these needs for families with low incomes, and we appreciate those who answer the call. Give yourselves a hand!



Volunteers from Carnegie Community Legal Clinic

PRO BONO ROCKS RETURNS THIS FALL!

City Winery, October 11, 2025

Save the date for the highly anticipated return of Pro Bono Rocks! Our planning committee will soon start accepting audition submissions from bands with at least one member from the Pittsburgh legal community. Get tuned up and ready to go!

Intersections of Law Impacting Individuals with Low Incomes CLE

Individuals with very low incomes who are struggling to meet their basic needs sometimes face several legal issues concurrently. This live webinar presented by the Access to Justice Committee will alert practitioners to intersections between criminal, family, housing, and immigration law and raise potential impacts that attorneys should explore further when representing clients.

INTERSECTIONS IN AREAS OF LAW
IMPACTING INDIVIDUALS WITH LOW INCOMES

Tuesday, April 22 | Noon | Live Webinar

Individuals with very low incomes who are struggling to meet their basic needs sometimes face a number of legal issues concurrently. This program will alert practitioners to intersections between criminal, family, housing and immigration law.

For more visit www.acba.org/calendar

SPEAKERS:

Christina L. Powers Jewish Family and Community Services	Adam W. DiBuo Neighborhood Legal Services
Erin E. Work ACBF Juvenile Court Project	Lena Henderson Allegheny County Public Defender

MODERATOR:

Amy L. Berecek
Superior Court of Pennsylvania

1 Subst.
ACBA
CLE

Connecting with Communities

Many people have never had the opportunity to sit down with an attorney to get help with a legal problem. The Pro Bono Center takes staff and volunteer attorneys outside of downtown and into neighborhoods to meet people where they are – at no cost to those with very low incomes. We offer regular legal clinics in Carnegie Borough and have held events in McKeesport and the Homewood, East Liberty, and Larimer neighborhoods of Pittsburgh.



Attorneys Olivia Hilborn and Patricia Jones were welcomed at the Community Empowerment Association's re-entry fair

Foundation Reception

The Fall Foundation Reception on September 24, 2024, held at Hotel Monaco in downtown Pittsburgh, celebrated the Fellows GIVE Class of 2024, Pro Bono Awardees, the special Presidential Merit Awardee, and the annual Edward G. O'Connor Awardee. Meghan Tighe received the Edward G. O'Connor Award for her commitment to justice for all and being a strong advocate for people in need through her work at Neighborhood Legal Services. W. Thomas McGough, Jr. received the special Presidential Merit Award for his many years of dedication and service to the Foundation through establishing the Law Student Summer Fellowship Program and chairing the ACBF's Endowment campaign in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. At the event, Director of the Pro Bono Center, Barbara Griffin, and her client Jerry also shared an important story about the huge impact that even relatively simple pro bono legal services can have in someone's life.



2024 Pro Bono Award Winners



William D. Clifford, Esq.
Kathryn M. Kenyon Leadership Award

Thomas Putinsky, Esq.
Lorraine M. Bittner Public Interest Attorney Award

Michael D. Simon, Esq.
Jane F. Hepting Individual Attorney Award

Linda Hamilton, Esq.
Young Lawyer Pro Bono Award

Mary Ann Troper-Malley
Paralegal Pro Bono Award

K&L Gates LLP
Law Firm Pro Bono Award

Joseph Grugan
Law Student Pro Bono Award

2025 SAVE THE DATES

July 28, 2025 – ACBA 31st Annual Golf & 11th Annual Bocce Tournament at Westmoreland Country Club

September 25, 2025 – Fall Foundation Reception at Hotel Monaco

October 11, 2025 – Pro Bono Rocks at City Winery

October 21, 2025 – Fellows GIVE Pitch Event at the August Wilson African American Cultural Center

Golf Tournament

The 30th Annual ACBA Golf Tournament and 10th Annual Bocce Tournament took place on August 19, 2024, at Longue Vue Club in Verona after a rain delay on the original date of July 22, 2024. Over 80 golfers and 50 bocce players came together on a slightly chilly and rainy day to support the Allegheny County Bar Foundation and Neighborhood Legal Services. Through the support of sponsors and participants, much needed funding was raised for both organizations, allowing them to continue their life-changing work. Join us in 2025 at the Westmoreland Country Club for this year's golf and bocce tournament!



Join the Access to Justice Committee at this year's ACBA Bench-Bar Conference for a CLE on "Understanding Barriers to Equal Access to Justice from the Unrepresented Litigant's Perspective" Friday, June 13, 2025, 3:45 p.m.

Summer Fellowship Program



Last summer, the ACBF welcomed 18 second-year law students for a 10-week internship program with placements at 13 different public service organizations. Through generous funding from the Lawyers' Fund of the ACBA, The John P. Gismondi Fund, the John A. Meehan Citizenship Institute Fund, and an anonymous donor, the ACBF is able to pay competitive salary rates to these law students so that they may spend the summer gaining valuable work experience and helping people in need. Additionally, support of this program allows for educational programming for the students throughout the summer including a career panel event and a lunch with the judges event, allowing students to speak directly with local judges from various courts.

Donate! Gifts of any size are important.

Visit www.acbf.org/Giving-Options for great ideas on how you can support the Foundation.

Questions? Contact Associate Executive Director Lorrie Albert, Esq. at 412-402-6640 or lalbert@acba.org.

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!