

The Chicago Bar Foundation--2004

The CBF and its Mission

Under the leadership of CBF Board President Jeffrey D. Colman, The Chicago Bar Foundation (CBF) had another very successful year in FY 2004, awarding record grants of more than \$650,000 and helping launch several innovative new projects.

- Working in partnership with the CBA and our thousands of individual and organizational supporters, the CBF continues to grow and had another successful year
 - Over the past four years, the CBF has steadily increased its grants, which are now over \$650,000, more than double than just four years ago
 - The CBF has been a leader in a number of other access to justice initiatives during this time, and continues to increase its capacity to be even more effective in the future
- The CBF's slogan continues to be "The Community's Foundation for Access to Justice", as those few words encompass the CBF's comprehensive mission.
 - The CBF is a dynamic partnership with the CBA and thousands of Chicago lawyers, law firms, corporations and other dedicated individuals who share a deep commitment to improving access to justice for the most vulnerable members of our community
 - "The whole is greater than the sum of its parts"
 - The CBF's comprehensive efforts serve as the foundation for a number of critical initiatives that bring our community closer to the ideal of equal access to justice for everyone
 - The CBF is recognized as a trustworthy and integral resource for access to justice in the legal community, the legal aid and public interest law community, and the funding community
- Our mission of improving access to justice for the most vulnerable members of our community recognizes the special obligation of attorneys to be leaders in the effort to ensure equal access to our justice system

Highlights of FY 2004

- **Continued Financial Growth and Health**
 - Record Special Events revenue, netting approximately \$250,000
 - CBF's net assets stand at approximately \$7 million at end of fiscal year
 - CBF's investment portfolio grew by over \$850,000 this year, allowing us to sustain our recent growth while increasing grants and staff capacity
- **Record Grants of \$658,000**
 - Thanks to the generous donations of thousands of dedicated individuals, law firms and corporations from throughout the Chicago area, the CBF awarded \$658,000 in grants for more than 40 legal aid and public interest law organizations, and

related initiatives, in Fiscal Year 2004. These grants provide critical general operating support for these organizations and support a number of special projects, awards and initiatives that improve access to justice for people in our community who are working to overcome poverty, abuse and discrimination. A complete list of the CBF's FY 2004 Grants is attached to this report.

- Highlighted by \$75,000 grant to the Illinois Technology Center for Law and the Public Interest (the last installment of a three-year, \$350,000 grant commitment), which manages three innovative websites that have become an integral part of the overall pro bono and legal aid delivery system: www.illinoislegalaid.org, www.illinoisprobono.org and www.illinoislegaladvocate.org.
 - The CBF's grants helped leverage nearly \$1 million in additional support from other funding sources over the past three years
- **Increased Capacity**
 - This past year, the CBF completed its move into its permanent office space on the 3rd floor, which was purchased from the CBA and has given us the space and flexibility to continue our growth
 - We also restructured our staff and added three great people this year: a part-time Development Director, Christine Quinn, who is focusing on increasing the CBF's individual giving programs and added a new Development Coordinator, Deborah Landis and a new Program Coordinator, Gerrard Mamaril
 - **Many successful initiatives to improve access to justice, fueled by a number of productive partnerships, in four major areas**
 1. **Supporting Legal Aid Organizations**
 - **Grants to more than 40 legal aid and public interest law organizations**
 - See attached list of CBF supported organizations and full list of grants
 - **Assisting Legal Aid Organizations with Common Problems/Issues**
 - Continued leadership in Illinois Coalition for Equal Justice and CBA's Legal Aid Committee
 - Organized and Hosted a Strategic Communications Training for legal aid organizations and other advocates providing services to immigrants in Chicago area
 - **Addressing Systemic and Emerging Issues**
 - Flexibility with grants, and staff support for outreach and public education on legislative initiatives in partnership with CBA and ABA
 - Recent examples include our leadership in the Illinois Task Force on Unaccompanied Immigrant Children and in a local/national working group working with the new Department of Homeland Security on access to justice issues for immigrants

- **Helping ensure a new generation of outstanding legal aid and public interest lawyers**
 - Anderson Fellowship
 - Assists young attorneys pursuing legal aid and public interest law career with loan repayment
 - Made possible by major gift by Kimball and Karen Gatsis Anderson
 - 1st one awarded this past year to Elizabeth Berrones of Cabrini Green Legal Aid Clinic
 - New Marovitz Scholarship
 - Will provide significant assistance to needy law students who want to pursue legal aid or public interest law career
 - 1st one awarded this year to Dennericka Brooks, who will be attending Loyola's
 - CBF now sponsoring two Equal Justice Works Fellowships, which are two-year public interest law fellowships at local legal aid and public interest law organizations

2. Promoting pro bono work

- CBA/CBF Pro Bono Luncheon in July, 2003 was a record success, with 660 attendees and marked the presentation of the inaugural Exelon Corporate Counsel Award, which goes to an attorney in a corporation who has made outstanding pro bono and community service contributions
 - Exelon has generously endowed the new Award so that the recipient can designate a special grant to the law school clinic or legal aid/public interest law organization of his or her choice.
- This year, we launched the Lifelong Lawyers Project, a joint project of the CBF's Fellows Board and the CBA Senior Lawyers Section to promote pro bono among senior lawyers
- CBF Volunteer Support Program continues to help attorneys, firms and corporations get involved in pro bono, working in partnership with PILI's Pro Bono Initiative

3. Building Broader Community Support For Access to Justice

- Equal Justice Illinois Campaign
 - Goal to substantially increase State funding for legal aid and access to justice initiatives
- Using CBF's place in Foundation Community to increase awareness of both the need and benefits of funding for legal aid
 - Successful partnerships with other funders like Polk Bros. Foundation and Boeing

4. Increasing Access to the Court System for the Public

- Continued support of www.illinoislegalaid.org
- Promotion of pro se assistance desks in courts, including working with Chicago Legal Clinic, Circuit Court and other stakeholders to establish a pro se advice desk in Chancery Court for foreclosures and other issues that opened in early 2004
- Work with the CBA Young Lawyers Section to update several pro se/public information brochures, including foreclosure and adoptions

Looking to the Future

- As we look to the future, while we should be very proud of our growth and accomplishments over the past few years, we cannot rest on our laurels.
 - We have achieved meaningful success improving access to justice, but with thousands of vulnerable people in our community still unable to obtain critical legal assistance, there is much more to be done.
 - In our significantly underfunded legal aid delivery system, the unmet legal needs that the CBF strives to address far exceed the CBF's current resources, making increased support imperative to the continued advancement of our mission.
- We expect that several broad issues will continue to demand the CBF's increased attention and support in the coming year. These issues include:
 - The legal needs and challenges in our integral but vulnerable immigrant communities;
 - The many legal needs relating to housing, particularly the surge of mortgage foreclosures; and
 - The financial challenges facing young attorneys pursuing a career in legal aid and public interest law.

CBF Supported Legal Aid and Public Interest Law Organizations

Thanks to the generous donations of thousands of dedicated individuals, law firms and corporations from throughout the Chicago area, The Chicago Bar Foundation awarded \$658,000 in grants for more than 40 legal aid and public interest law organizations, and related initiatives, in Fiscal Year 2004. These grants provide critical general operating support for these organizations and support a number of special projects, awards, fellowships and initiatives that improve access to justice for people in our community who are working to overcome poverty, abuse and discrimination. These organizations include:

Access Living
AIDS Legal Council
Cabrini Green Legal Aid Clinic
CARPLS (Coordinated Advice and Referral Program for Legal Services)
CBA Young Lawyers Section Pro Bono and Public Service Projects
Center For Conflict Resolution
Center For Disability And Elder Law
Centro Romero
Chicago Coalition For Homeless
Chicago Lawyers Committee For Civil Rights
Chicago Legal Aid to Incarcerated Mothers (C.L.A.I.M.)
Chicago Legal Clinic
Chicago Volunteer Legal Services (CVLS)
Community Economic Development Law Project
Constitutional Rights Foundation
Corporation for Supportive Housing
Donors Forum of Chicago
Equal Justice Works
Equip For Equality
Evanston Community Defender
Farmworker Advocacy Project
First Defense Legal Aid
Health and Disability Advocates
Illinois Coalition for Equal Justice
Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights
Illinois Equal Justice Foundation
Illinois Technology Center For Law and the Public Interest
Jane Addams Juvenile Court Foundation
John Howard Association
Lawyers Committee For Better Housing
Lawyers For the Creative Arts
Leadership Council For Metropolitan Open Communities
Legal Aid Bureau
Legal Assistance Foundation of Metropolitan Chicago
LifeSpan
Midwest Center on Law and the Deaf
Midwest Immigrant and Human Rights Center (MIHRC)
Pro Bono Advocates
Public Interest Law Initiative (PILI)
Roger Baldwin Foundation
Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law
Uptown Peoples Law Center
World Relief

Legal Assistance Foundation of Metropolitan Chicago (LAFMC) \$17,500

LAFMC is the largest organization in Chicago and suburban Cook County providing free civil legal services to over 30,000 individuals and families unable to afford legal counsel. LAF provides services through five neighborhood offices as well as through a number of special projects.

Center for Conflict Resolution (CCR) \$15,000

CCR works with individuals, communities, courts and other institutions to manage and resolve conflicts. Every year CCR provides free mediation services in over 2,000 cases, trains hundreds of new mediators, and works with dozens of businesses, government agencies and organizations to create custom-designed dispute resolution systems and training programs.

Legal Aid Bureau of Metropolitan Family Services (LAB) \$15,000

Founded in 1886, the Legal Aid Bureau is the second oldest legal aid program in the nation and continues to provide legal assistance to families who cannot afford a private attorney. Thousands of clients each year receive critical family law services at the Legal Aid Bureau, ranging from brief service and advice to full litigation.

Cabrini Green Legal Aid Clinic (CGLA) \$10,000

CGLA provides free legal services in the areas of housing, family and criminal law to low-income people in the City of Chicago, with preference given to the Cabrini Green community. CGLA recently also has expanded services to individuals applying for expungements and executive clemency.

Chicago Legal Advocacy for Incarcerated Mothers (CLAIM) \$10,000

CLAIM provides legal and educational services to help imprisoned mothers preserve their families. Through public advocacy, CLAIM also promotes policies and programs that benefit families of imprisoned mothers.

Community Economic Development Law Project (CEDLP) \$10,000

CEDLP is dedicated to assisting Chicago's low-income communities in generating businesses, jobs, housing and other necessities. CEDLP staff and volunteer attorneys provide pro bono legal services to community-based organizations working in the areas of housing and economic development, and to individuals pursuing small business development to achieve economic self-sufficiency.

Life Span \$10,000

Life Span provides comprehensive services to victims of domestic violence and their children. The core of Life Span's legal services includes legal advice, information, and representation in all family law matters, such as divorce, custody, child support, visitation, removal, and orders of protection.

Center for Disability & Elder Law (CDEL) \$7,500

CDEL provides free legal services to the elderly and persons with disabilities through a vast network of volunteer attorneys, paralegals, law students, and social work students located throughout the Chicago area.

Evanston Community Defender	\$7,500
<p>The Evanston Community Defender is a public/private partnership providing law and social work advocacy to low-income youth in the community. Their legal practice involves juvenile and adult court matters as well as administrative advocacy in special education and school discipline matters.</p>	
First Defense Legal Aid	\$7,500
<p>First Defense offers free, immediate, 24-hour legal representation to anyone arrested by Chicago police officers. The program fills the void that exists because public defenders are unable to represent individuals until after their first court appearance.</p>	
Lawyers Committee for Better Housing (LCBH)	\$7,500
<p>LCBH provides free legal services to poor tenants with a goal of impacting the affordable housing crisis to the greatest extent possible. Today, LCBH serves nearly 3,000 tenants from all over Chicago each year on the various legal issues relating to their housing.</p>	
Midwest Immigrant & Human Rights Center (MIHRC)	\$7,500
<p>MIHRC serves thousands of low and moderate-income immigrants in the Midwest, without regard to legal status. Through a network of staff and volunteer attorneys, MIHRC provides comprehensive immigration legal services, including immigrant visas, deportation defense and political asylum representation.</p>	
Uptown Peoples Law Center	\$7,500
<p>The Center focuses its work in the areas of social security/welfare defense and education; housing and tenant rights; domestic violence; and prisoner rights. The Center combines grassroots advocacy with legal representation of poor and working people in Uptown and the surrounding communities.</p>	
AIDS Legal Council	\$5,000
<p>The AIDS Legal Council of Chicago exists to preserve, promote and protect the legal rights of men, women and children in the metropolitan Chicago area living with HIV/AIDS. The Council provides direct legal services to people in need, educates the public about HIV-related legal issues and advocates for policies that ensure fair treatment for all people with HIV/AIDS.</p>	
Centro Romero	\$5,000
<p>Centro Romero is a community-based organization on Chicago's North Side that serves Spanish-speaking immigrants and refugees. Legal services are a critical part of their interrelated supportive service programs that also include adult education, women's empowerment projects and youth learning and leadership.</p>	
Chicago Coalition for the Homeless	\$5,000
<p>The Coalition organizes and advocates to prevent and end homelessness based on their expressed belief that housing is a human right in a just society. The Law Project provides civil legal services in select cases that advance the legal rights and remedies of persons who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.</p>	

Chicago Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law \$5,000

The Chicago Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law is a non-profit law and advocacy organization whose mission is to promote and protect the civil rights of poor, minority, and disadvantaged people in order to facilitate their participation in the social, economic, and political systems of our community and nation. They engage in both litigation and community advocacy in four areas: 1) the Children's Health and Education Project; 2) the Employment Opportunity Project; 3) the Fair Housing Project; and 4) the Project to Combat Bias Violence.

Farmworker Advocacy Project \$5,000

The Farmworker Advocacy Project provides outreach, education and legal assistance to migrant agricultural and horticultural workers laboring in Cook County, IL and other nearby counties.

Lawyers for the Creative Arts (LCA) \$5,000

LCA provides pro bono legal services to individuals and organizations in the arts. LCA advises artists and arts organizations in the full array of legal areas they encounter such as copyright and trademark issues; contracts of all kinds for their products and services; landlord/tenant and other personal issues such as collection of money due to them; immigration issues; and dispute resolution.

Midwest Center for the Law & the Deaf (MCLD) \$5,000

MCLD helps deaf and hard of hearing people find attorneys willing to provide accessible legal services and advocates for the rights of deaf persons in the justice system. MCLD assists attorneys in providing sign language interpreters, real-time captioning, and any other modes of communication necessary for them to communicate with deaf and hard-of-hearing clients. In addition, MCLD provides information to the general public on the rights of deaf and hard-of-hearing people.

World Relief-Chicago \$5,000

World Relief-Chicago provides legal services to low-income immigrant families on a variety of immigration issues, including family reunification and work authorization.

Access Living \$2,500

Access Living uses the legal system to further its mission of independent living. They provide free legal representation to people who have been discriminated against on the basis of disability in housing, public accommodations, government programs, health care, and other services and programs.

Equip for Equality \$2,500

Equip for Equality strives to advance the human and civil rights of people with disabilities in Illinois. It is the only comprehensive statewide advocacy organization providing self-advocacy assistance, legal services, education, and public policy initiatives.

Health & Disability Advocates (HDA) \$2,500

HDA provides direct legal services to children with disabilities and their families in selected cases and provides training and materials for families.

HDA has three main program areas: Children, Youth & Families with Disabilities; Workforce Development for People with Disabilities; and Access to Health Care for People with Special Health Care Needs.

Illinois Coalition for Immigrant & Refugee Rights (ICIRR) \$2,500

ICIRR is a membership organization composed of more than 110 agencies. ICIRR educates and organizes immigrant and refugee communities to assert their rights and understand their responsibilities; promotes citizenship and civic participation; monitors and analyzes immigrant-related issues, and informs the general public about the immigration issues.

Leadership Council for Metropolitan Open Communities \$2,500

The Legal Action program of Dr. Martin Luther King's Leadership Council for Metropolitan Open Communities provides free investigations and legal services to those who may have experienced discrimination in their search for housing (rentals or home purchases), home loans, or other real estate-related services. In addition, the Council regularly monitors area real estate and lending practices.

Pro Bono Advocates \$2,500

Pro Bono Advocates provides free legal services and referrals to low-income Cook County residents who have been subjected to domestic violence to help them achieve safety from abusive relationships.

The Roger Baldwin Foundation of the ACLU \$2,500

The Roger Baldwin Foundation is the litigation arm of the American Civil Liberties Union of Illinois. Their cases raise issues of freedom of religion, police practices, education, and discrimination. The CBF's funding supports their Children's Initiative.

Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law \$2,500

The Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law provides free legal representation to low-income persons and groups in Illinois on public policy issues involving welfare and subsidized housing. The Center represents clients in class actions, in individual cases with broader policy implications, and before legislative bodies and administrative agencies.

TOTAL: \$287,500

Project/Emerging Issues Grants

Through its *Project/Emerging Issue Grants*, the CBF provides significant financial support for projects and initiatives that (1) address systemic barriers to access to justice, by improving the overall system of justice or enhancing the overall legal aid delivery structure; and/or (2) tackle emerging issues in the realm of access to justice (e.g., addressing gaps in the legal aid delivery system, fostering innovative approaches to increasing access to justice). In FY 2004, the CBF made the following project/emerging issue grants:

Illinois Technology Center for Law & the Public Interest <i>(for support of groundbreaking web-based technology project to improve access to justice)</i>	\$75,000
Chicago Volunteer Legal Services <i>(for support of Pro Se Guardianship Assistance Desk project)</i>	\$40,000
DePaul College of Law <i>(for support of project to provide legal information and assistance to Chicago area immigration agencies)</i>	\$15,000
National Immigration Forum <i>(for support of strategic communications training for legal aid organizations and other advocates serving immigrants in the Chicago area)</i>	\$15,000
Coordinated Advice & Referral Program for Legal Services (CARPLS) <i>(to support pro se assistance desk project for litigants in Domestic Relations Division of Circuit Court of Cook County)</i>	\$10,000
Corporation for Supportive Housing <i>(for collaborative project with legal aid organizations and housing advocates to develop legal resources and training on issues affecting homeless clients as part of the Chicago Continuum of Care, the City's plan to end homelessness within 10 years)</i>	\$10,000
Health & Disability Advocates <i>(to support the Medical-Legal Collaboration Project, a proactive approach to addressing the legal needs of low-income patients in medical crisis)</i>	\$10,000
Lawyers Trust Fund of Illinois <i>(for support of the Illinois Legal Needs Study II, a comprehensive assessment of the legal needs of low-income residents in Illinois)</i>	\$10,000*
Legal Assistance Foundation of Metropolitan Chicago <i>(for support of juvenile court pro se guardianship project)</i>	\$10,000
Equal Justice Illinois Campaign <i>(for support of campaign to raise awareness for increased state funding of legal aid)</i>	\$5,000
Illinois Equal Justice Foundation <i>(for staff support for entity that distributes state funds for legal aid and access to justice initiatives)</i>	\$5,000

Public Interest Law Initiative	\$2,500
<i>(to support the Pro Bono Initiative, a collaborative project of area law firms and corporations to increase pro bono in the Chicago legal community)</i>	
	TOTAL: \$207,500
* 1 st year of two-year, \$20,000 grant	

Other Special Grants

In addition to its Projects/Emerging Issues Grants, the CBF occasionally makes other special grants during the year for various purposes. Most of these grants (for Public Interest Law Fellowships, Internships and Scholarships; Pro Bono Awards; and Young Professionals Board) are noted in the sections below. Other special CBF grants in FY 2004 include:

Legal Aid Bureau of Metropolitan Family Services	\$10,000
<i>(special Robertson fund grant)</i>	
Lewis Grant	\$2,500
<i>(for Chicago Bar Association Wolf Fund)</i>	
Donors Forum of Chicago	\$1,500
<i>(for support of community philanthropic initiatives)</i>	
Center for Sustainable Solutions	\$1,500
<i>(for support of program of the Chicago School of Professional Psychology that provides human resources technical assistance to CBF grantee organizations)</i>	
Giving Greater Chicago	\$1,500
<i>(for support of initiative to increase individual charitable giving)</i>	
Loyola University Medical Center	\$1,500
<i>(for support of the Maybrook Courthouse Children's Waiting Room)</i>	
Court Appointed Special Advocates of Cook County	\$1,000
<i>(special grant in memory of Emmett Burke)</i>	
	TOTAL: \$18,500

Fellowship and Scholarship Grants

The CBF provides significant funding for a number of Fellowships and Scholarships that help make it financially feasible for young people to pursue careers in legal aid and public interest law. This Year's grants for this purpose include:

Equal Justice Works	\$52,000
<i>(for support of two Equal Justice Works two-year Fellowships: one at the Midwest Immigrant and Human Rights Center to Monitor and advocate for rights of detained immigrants (Claudia Valenzuela), and one at the Legal Assistance Foundation of Metropolitan Chicago to work on day labor & worker's rights issues (Hina Sodha))</i>	
Public Interest Law Initiative	\$20,000
<i>(for support of four public interest internships)</i>	
Moses Fellowship	\$15,000
<i>(to University of Chicago Law School for second year of three-year public interest law student scholarship totaling \$45,000)</i>	
Kimball R. and Karen G. Anderson Public Interest Law Fellowship	\$10,000
<i>(to provide loan repayment assistance to Elizabeth Berrones, a staff attorney at Cabrini Green Legal Aid Legal Aid Clinic)</i>	
Abraham Lincoln Marovitz Public Interest Law Scholarship	\$5,000
<i>(for first year of inaugural three-year public interest law scholarship that will total \$30,000)</i>	
TOTAL:	\$102,000

Pro Bono and Public Service Award Grants

Thomas H. Morsch Award	\$10,000
<i>(to Frances Corwin of Legal Aid Bureau)</i>	
Leonard Jay Schragger Award of Excellence	\$4,000
<i>(\$2,000 each to Bluhm Legal Clinic at Northwestern University College of Law and Loyola University College of Law in honor of Thomas Geraghty and Diane Geraghty)</i>	
The Maurice Weigle Exceptional Young Lawyer Award	\$3,000
<i>(to Midwest Immigrant and Human Rights Center in honor of Andrew Worseck)</i>	
Exelon Outstanding Corporate Counsel Award	\$3,000
<i>(\$1,500 each to Midwest Immigrant and Human Rights Center and Public Interest Law Initiative in honor of Sujata Dayal and Tejal Vakharia of Abbott Laboratories)</i>	

The Edward J. Lewis II Pro Bono Service Award \$1,000
(to ACLU Roger Baldwin Foundation in honor of Roger Pascal)

Legal Aid Bureau *(in honor of Frances Corwin)* \$1,000

Cabrini Green Legal Aid Clinic *(in honor of Elizabeth Berrones-Morales)* \$1,000

TOTAL: \$23,000

Young Professionals Board Grants

Chicago Bar Association Young Lawyers Section \$5,500
(for support of updating and filming video to educate Cook County jurors, in partnership with the Circuit Court of Cook County)

Fat Tuesday Challenge Grants *(Grants made on behalf of winners of various challenge events held in conjunction with the 4th Annual Fat Tuesday Challenge co-hosted by the CBF Young Professionals Board and the Greater Chicago Chapter of the Association of Legal Administrators)* \$5,400

Chicago Coalition for the Homeless	\$1,200
Roger Baldwin Foundation of ACLU	\$1,000
Chicago Legal Clinic	\$ 750
Jane Addams Juvenile Court Foundation	\$ 750
Evanston Community Defender	\$ 600
Farmworker Advocacy Project	\$ 500
CLAIM	\$ 250
Legal Assistance Foundation of Metro Chicago	\$ 250
Illinois Technology Center for Law and Public Interest	\$ 100

Gray Grant *(to CBA Young Lawyers Section for support of Law Explorers Project)* \$3,100

Constitutional Rights Foundation \$2,500
(for support of the Equal Justice Under Law Project)

CBA Young Lawyers Section \$1,000
(for update and reprinting of "Your Guide to the Law")

CBA Young Lawyers Section \$1,000
(for printing of brochure to assist the public in understanding Illinois' adoption laws)

TOTAL: \$18,500

GRAND TOTAL: \$658,000