



The Connecticut Bar Foundation
Annual Report



2018

2018 Connecticut Bar Foundation Board of Directors and Staff



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Annual Report of President Andrea Barton Reeves and Executive Director Don Philips

We are pleased to present the 2018 Annual Report of the Connecticut Bar Foundation (CBF), a year in which the CBF completed a successful outreach program with Connecticut financial institutions that led to an increase in Leadership Banks, numerous voluntary rate increases, and a substantial increase in IOLTA revenue. We also produced a record number of programs and events and selected the first class of Singer Connecticut Public Service Fellows.

Between April 20, 2018 and October 26, 2018, the CBF James W. Cooper Fellows sponsored or co-sponsored four symposia: two each at Quinnipiac School of Law (QSL) and UConn Law School (UConn). Also during 2018, the Fellows held eight Roundtable discussions throughout the state, including at QSL and UConn, at restaurants in Hartford, Southport and

Vernon, and at the Tapping Reeve House and Museum in Litchfield. On June 7, 2018, the Fellows held a Reception and Exhibit at the Legislative Office Building attended by over 200 people to celebrate the History of Connecticut Women in the Legal Profession Project and the Photographic Portrait Exhibit of Women in the Judiciary: "Women in Black, 2nd Edition". On November 9, 2018, over 200 attendees participated in the Opioid Summit "Building Bridges and Finding Answers: the Opioid Crisis in Connecticut", co-sponsored by the Fellows, Quinnipiac University, and the Connecticut Bar Association (CBA) at QSL.

The Singer Selection Committee, comprising six Fellows, reviewed 14 applications for Singer Fellowships, interviewed five candidates, and extended Fellowship offers to two QSL third-year students and one

UConn third-year student. They began employment in September 2018, pursuing individual fellowship projects with Connecticut Legal Services, Greater Hartford Legal Aid, and New Haven Legal Assistance Association.

In Spring 2018, CBF staff contacted approximately 40 Connecticut banks to verify compliance with the IOLTA rate parity rule and to educate bank representatives about the important role IOLTA interest rates play in providing legal assistance to members of the community within their service areas. The effort successfully concluded with 18 banks voluntarily agreeing to raise their IOLTA rates, including four who agreed to offer the highest rates and qualifying them as CBF Leadership Banks. Because of the changes, the CBF realized IOLTA income of over \$3.4 million, more than \$1.4 million or 72% over 2017 revenue.

The 17th Annual Quintin Johnstone Essay Contest continued to break new ground with the first home school student winner among the 64 students submitting essays which were judged by 141 Fellows serving as volunteer judges.

We thank Peter Arakas, Livia Barddollar, Sandy Broadus, and Hon. Ingrid Moll for their respective service on the board and welcome new board members Hon. Barry Armata, Chuck Howard, and Isabella Squicciarini. We recognize with great appreciation Quinnipiac School of Law, UConn School of Law, Yale Law School, and the CBA for their continuing support of the CBF and its mission. We also wish to thank the wonderful staff - Liz Drummond, Anne Goico, Kati Carling, Gina Casella, and Jodi Albert - for their continuing commitment, dedication and work on behalf of the CBF.

2018 Grants Interest on Lawyers' Trust Accounts/Interest on Trust Accounts (IOLTA/IOTA), Court Fees Grants-in-Aid (CFGIA), Judicial Branch Grants-in-Aid (JBGIA), Bank of America Settlement Fund Grants (BOA), Singer Fellowship Awards (Singer)

| Legal Services Providers | IOLTA/IOTA | CFGIA | JBGIA | BOA | Singer | TOTAL GRANTS PAID |
|---|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Center for Children's Advocacy provides legal representation and systemic advocacy for children and youth at risk statewide. | \$ 63,427 | \$ 357,056 | \$ 38,829 | \$ 51,043 | | \$ 510,355 |
| Children's Law Center of Connecticut provides representation, as Guardians ad litem or Attorneys for the Minor Child, to children of indigent families who are embroiled in bitter custody disputes in Family Courts statewide. | \$ 28,276 | \$ 159,177 | \$ 17,310 | | | \$ 204,763 |
| Connecticut Fair Housing Center represents those who have been victims of housing discrimination. | \$ 17,442 | \$ 98,189 | \$ 10,678 | \$ 196,875 | | \$ 323,184 |
| Connecticut Legal Rights Project represents low-income people with mental health conditions to protect their legal rights in the community and in state-operated hospitals. | \$ 83,539 | \$ 470,272 | \$ 51,141 | | | \$ 604,952 |
| Connecticut Legal Services provides general legal assistance in all areas of the state except Hartford and New Haven Counties. | \$ 1,155,454 | \$ 6,504,524 | \$ 707,359 | \$ 91,757 | \$ 37,500 | \$ 8,496,594 |
| Connecticut Veterans Legal Center works to lower the legal barriers to housing, healthcare, and income for veterans recovering from mental illness and homelessness. | \$ 10,478 | \$ 58,989 | \$ 6,416 | | | \$ 75,883 |
| Greater Hartford Legal Aid provides general legal assistance in greater Hartford. | \$ 460,628 | \$ 2,593,069 | \$ 281,994 | | \$ 37,500 | \$ 3,373,191 |
| Lawyers for Children America provides representation to poor and at-risk children in Bridgeport, Hartford, Middletown, New Haven, Rockville, Torrington, and Waterbury Juvenile Courts. | \$ 7,030 | \$ 39,576 | \$ 4,304 | | | \$ 50,910 |
| New Haven Legal Assistance provides general legal assistance in the Greater New Haven and Lower Naugatuck Valley communities. | \$ 361,363 | \$ 2,034,252 | \$ 221,223 | \$ 311,639 | \$ 37,500 | \$ 2,965,977 |
| Statewide Legal Services of Connecticut provides legal services to low income people, including advice, brief services, self-help, referrals to legal aid providers, pro bono referral, and community education. | \$ 37,086 | \$ 208,773 | \$ 22,703 | | | \$ 268,562 |
| Technology Grant for CTLawHelp Website | \$ 109,350 | | | | | \$ 109,350 |
| Legal Services Funding Total | \$ 2,334,073 | \$ 12,523,877 | \$ 1,361,957 | \$ 651,314 | \$ 112,500 | \$16,983,721 |

CBF Law School Scholarships

The law school scholarship program, which is based on financial need, began in 1989 when the Connecticut General Assembly passed Public Act 89-196 that authorized the administrator of the IOLTA program, the Connecticut Bar Foundation, to provide funding for these scholarships. The CBF developed plans to implement the program and started funding scholarships in 1990. From 1990 to 2018, the CBF has made equal, annual grants totaling \$4,325,939 to Quinnipiac School of Law (formerly the University of Bridgeport School of Law), UConn School of Law, and Yale Law School. Each law school received \$10,000 in 2018. The CBF is proud of its role of providing financial assistance to hundreds of law school students and helping them to achieve a legal education and become attorneys.

The Connecticut Bar Foundation supports both the core work of legal service providers for people who are poor as well as innovative strategies to address the reasons why people remain poor. The Connecticut Fair Housing Center is proud to be among the organizations chosen for funding.

Erin Kemple, Executive Director
The Connecticut Fair Housing Center

