

Texas Bar Foundation Grants Awarded 2013-2014

Since 1965, the Texas Bar Foundation has relied on the generosity of its Fellows to improve the lives of Texans. Beginning with a \$5,000 grant, the combined efforts of the Fellows over the years has resulted in the distribution of more than 1000 grants throughout Texas totaling over \$15 million. The Foundation currently has five program areas:

- Legal Services for the Underserved
- Education of the Third Branch of Government
- Ethics and Professionalism in the Legal Profession
- Administration of Justice
- Victim Services

During the 2013-2014 grant cycle, the Texas Bar Foundation approved 68 grants for organizations totaling \$827,090.

Amarillo Area Bar Foundation \$5,000 “Trial Academy 2013”

To conduct a Trial Academy for young, mostly solo-practitioners focusing on the presentation of evidence.

Big Brothers Big Sisters Lone Star \$15,000 “Civic Mentoring: Volunteers Employed in Government or Legal Professions Mentoring At-Risk Youth”

To support the Civic Mentoring initiative, in which community servants, such as government employees, military servicemen and women, and legal professionals mentor at-risk youth.

Santa Fe Adolescent Services DBA Santa Fe Youth Services \$17,000 “Participating and Succeeding in School (PASS)”

To improve school attendance and graduation rates of truant students in Fort Worth ISD.

Bexar County Partners for Youth \$5,000 “CHAPS - Children and Horses Always Produce Success”

To fund structural improvements for the CHAPS program at the Krier Juvenile Correctional & Treatment Center.

YMCA of Metropolitan Dallas \$5,500 “YMCA Texas Youth and Government - Paperless and Connection”

To provide financial assistance for middle and high school students to attend the annual YMCA Texas Youth and Government State Conference in Austin and to begin to integrate mobile technology into a 67-year-old conference and program.

YMCA of the Coastal Bend	\$5,000
“Youth and Government Program”	
To expand the local Youth and Government Program to two new middle schools, and to provide scholarships to help pay for the district competition in November and the middle school state competition in March.	
Texas Access to Justice Commission	\$20,000
“Access to Justice Summer Internship Program”	
Southern Disability Law Center	\$15,000
“Legal Strategies and Effective Educational Practices for Preventing the Suspension of Students with Disabilities - A Resources Manual for Parents and Professionals”	
To develop a user-friendly Resource Manual, for parents of students with disabilities and professionals, to provide legal strategies under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act for preventing the suspension of students with disabilities.	
The Bernardo Kohler Center, Inc.	\$8,000
“BKC Praxis Academy”	
An educational program designed to meet the needs of the immigrant youth population in the Special Immigrant Juvenile Status Casitas program and those detained at the Karnes Detention Facility.	
Texas Young Lawyers Association	\$44,500
“B.S.A.F.E: Battling Substance Abuse for Everyone”	
A multi-media public service and education project intended to provide a free resource to schools and organizations to educate youth about the dangers and real life consequences of substance abuse.	
Corpus Christi Crime Stoppers	\$13,000
“Promoting Campus Crime Stoppers Programs in Corpus Christi and Nueces County”	
To support and promote Campus Crime Stoppers programs in 41 Nueces County middle and high schools.	
Habitat for Humanity Texas, Inc.	\$8,000
“Mortgage Servicing Program”	
To pay for the initial legal review of mortgages to ensure compliance with federal rules before Habitat Texas, in partnership with Dallas Habitat, takes over the servicing of mortgages.	
American Bar Association Fund for Justice and Education	\$50,000
“ProBAR”	
ProBAR	
Capital of Texas Public Telecommunications Council	\$7,500
“Admissions on Trial: Seven Decades of Race and Higher Education”	
To update the current film to the Supreme Court's recent decision and create an educational website to allow public access to research study on the topic.	

Alzheimer's Association - South Central Texas Chapter **\$4,000**

“Legal and Financial Planning for Alzheimer's Families”

To help persons with Alzheimer's or a related dementia and their caregivers to better understand and manage the legal and financial issues that may impact them as a result of Alzheimer's disease.

The University of Texas at Arlington **\$10,400**

“Pre-Law Student Outreach”

To educate UT Arlington pre-law undergraduate students through real world exposure to lawyers and the legal practice with a two-semester internship at Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas.

Oficina Legal Del Pueblo Unido, Inc. South Texas Civil Rights Project **\$2,710**

“Domestic Workers' Rights Campaign”

An educational initiative to increase public awareness of the rights of domestic workers.

The Women's Center of Tarrant County **\$5,000**

“Play it Safe! Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Program”

Play It Safe is a specialized, age appropriate sexual assault/sexual abuse prevention and awareness training program available in English and Spanish for children pre-school-12th grade, as well as their parents, teachers, and caregivers.

Center for Child Protection **\$3,500**

“Acceso a la Justicia (Access to Justice)”

To ensure that interpretation services are available to children who have been victims or witnesses to violent crimes and/or abuse.

ChildSafe **\$10,000**

“Expansion of Services for Child Victims of Abuse and Neglect”

To provide comprehensive in-court support, advocacy, accompaniment, information, and referral services to child survivors of abuse and neglect.

Houston Area Women's Center **\$5,000**

“Children's Court Services”

To reduce the trauma of child victims and witnesses by empowering them as they participate in the criminal justice system.

Centers for Children and Families, Inc. **\$10,400**

“Kids First Select Scholarships”

To provide financial assistance to low-income noncustodial parents who are court ordered to participate in supervised visitations with their children.

SafeHaven of Tarrant County	\$13,900
“Removing Court Barriers for Domestic Violence Victims”	
To assist victims of domestic violence with funds for all the court-ordered and strategic fees incurred in pursuing justice and separation from abusers.	
Conference on Crimes Against Women, Inc.	\$10,000
“9th Annual Crimes Against Women Conference”	
To provide scholarship support for Texas prosecutors to attend the conference.	
Family Place	\$7,700
“Legal Services for Victims of Domestic Violence”	
To support victims of abuse by ensuring they are aware of their legal rights and take advantage of all protections available to victims under the law.	
Children at Risk, Inc.	\$30,000
“Special Immigrant Juvenile Status Summer Institute”	
To create a resource handbook for the judicial and legal community on Special Immigrant Juvenile Status cases and host policy lunches and CLE programs in Houston, Dallas, and Austin.	
Las Americas Immigrant Advocacy Center	\$12,500
“Family Immigration Program”	
To provide legal services such as adjustment of status, naturalization, work permits and other services to keep families together or to reunite families.	
Tarrant County Bar Foundation	\$15,000
“Tarrant County Volunteer Attorney Services (TVAS) Pro Bono Adoption Project”	
To expand volunteer attorney services to assist foster families in adopting children who have been placed in their home by the Department of Family and Protective Services.	
Smith County Bar Foundation	\$5,000
“Volunteer Attorney Mentoring and Training”	
To provide education and resources to increase the number of volunteer lawyers willing and able to take complex pro bono divorce and family law cases in Smith County.	
Texas Advocacy Project, Inc.	\$30,000
“Assisted Pro Bono Program”	
To provide a statewide Assisted Pro Bono hotline that would provide professional advice and assistance to practitioners about how to handle a family law case.	

Baytown Sheltering Arms	\$5,000
“Operation Safe Clearance”	
To screen all incoming homeless shelter clients, and adult transitional housing residents and make needed referrals to pro bono attorneys for needed legal services in order to eliminate barriers to employment, housing, and self-sufficiency.	
Child Advocates CASA of Archer, Clay, Montague and Wichita Counties	\$10,000
“CASA Volunteer Recruitment Project”	
To recruit new Court Appointed Special Advocate volunteers.	
CASA of Tarrant County	\$13,000
“CASA Volunteer Recruitment”	
To increase the number of volunteer advocates able to provide a voice for abused and neglected children in court.	
Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Collin County, Inc.	\$7,500
“Partial Salary for Diligent Recruitment”	
To increase the Permanency Specialist Staff position from half-time to full-time in order to better serve the children who are under permanent managing conservatorship of the State.	
Court Appointed Special Advocates of Parker County	\$4,000
“Recruitment Technology”	
To redesign website and recruitment brochure and create a recruitment video.	
State Bar of Texas Committee on Law Focused Education	\$20,000
“Justiceville, USA”	
To create a fun, educational, and highly engaging web-based project to help students understand required, specific elementary and secondary history, government, citizenship, and geography skills and knowledge.	
Texas Center for Legal Ethics	\$15,000
“Ethics To Go - Enhancing Access to Ethics-based Continuing Legal Education - Local Bar Outreach”	
To expand and produce an additional set of short DVD programs on various ethics topics that will be made available to local bar associations at no charge.	
Texas Center for the Judiciary, Inc.	\$30,000
“Annual Judicial Education Conference - Texas Bar Foundation Day”	
Texas Bar Foundation Day during the 12 hour CJE Annual Judicial Education Conference.	

Office of Court Administration	\$50,000
“Texas Judicial Civics and Education Center Design Initiative”	
To acquire a professional design plan for the planned Texas Judicial Civics and Education Center.	
Texas Access to Justice Commission	\$20,000
“Law Student Leaders Access to Justice Summit”	
To educate student leaders at each of the Texas law schools about issues that low-income Texans face in accessing legal services.	
Corpus Christi Bar Foundation	\$1,000
“Region 2 High School Mock Trial Scholarships”	
Scholarships to the college of the winning students from Corpus Christi who participate in the Region 2 High School Mock Trial competition, paid shortly before their freshman year of college.	
Coalition of Texans with Disabilities, Inc.	\$7,000
“The Rights of Shelter Residents with Disabilities”	
To create a DVD that informs temporary and transitional housing providers about the rights of applicants and residents with disabilities.	
Unlocking Doors, Inc.	\$25,000
“2014 Dallas Reentry Symposium”	
To bring together professionals from the legal field, law enforcement, justice system, local governments, and public and private service providers to help promote collaborative partnerships and comprehensive solutions that address the needs of individuals reentering the community after incarceration.	
The University of Texas-Pan American Foundation	\$16,000
“UTPA Law School Preparation Institute”	
To provide books, LSAT preparation, and stipends for UTPA students in a five-week summer Law School Preparation Institute.	
Lubbock County Drug Court Foundation	\$10,000
“Support”	
To give drug court participants an opportunity to get back into society.	
The Arlington Chamber of Commerce Foundation, Inc.	\$15,000
“America Invests Act Pro Bono Patent Assistance Program”	
To provide access to screening, referral, and case management functions to facilitate opportunity for economically disadvantaged inventors to bring their invention into the marketplace.	
Community Justice Foundation	\$2,500
“Community Justice Program”	
To fund the purchase of new scanners to be used at family law clinics.	

Mission Waco-Mission World	\$15,000
“First Monday Legal Advice Clinic”	
To increase access to competent legal advice and representation for low to lower-moderate income individuals and families in the greater Waco community.	
Opening Doors International Services, Inc.	\$10,000
“Counsel Who Care”	
To train and increase staff of BIA accredited personnel and create and execute a targeted outreach marketing program for local legal assistance.	
American Gateways	\$10,000
“Rural DACA Project”	
To provide high quality legal services to underserved immigrants living in rural Texas who are eligible for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals and other more permanent forms of relief.	
Mosaic Family Services, Inc.	\$15,000
“Multicultural Legal Services Program”	
To provide free immigration and family law services for immigrant victims of human rights abuses, primarily domestic violence and human trafficking.	
Texas RioGrande Legal Aid, Inc.	\$9,220
“Empowering Migrant Farmers through Education and Outreach”	
An outreach project to empower and educate farmworkers on their employee rights as they follow the migrant farm work trail this summer and in subsequent months.	
Texas Tech Law School Foundation	\$1,000
To further legal education, legal research, and the progress of the law through student scholarships, professorships and staff scholarships.	
Texas Southern University Thurgood Marshall School of Law	\$1,000
To further legal education, legal research, financial assistance to deserving law students.	
Women's Protective Services of Lubbock, Inc.	\$5,000
“Regional Outreach/Community Education Project”	
To increase the current availability of legal advocacy, community education, information and referral, and accompaniment to court for victims of domestic violence in the 12-county service area.	
Legal Aid Society of Lubbock	\$12,000
“LAS Rural Outreach Project”	
To increase outreach and education efforts in the rural western counties of Legal Aid Society's 12-county service area.	

Freedom House	\$5,000
“Sexual Assault Services for Survivors”	
To provide assistance to victims of sexual violence so they can be restored as healthy productive community members.	
Family Abuse Center	\$10,900
“Legal Advocacy in Rural Communities”	
To empower survivors of domestic violence from our rural communities through client advocacy and community education.	
Legal Charitable Foundation of El Paso	\$15,000
“Project Future”	
To assist young adults in the foster care system who reach 18 years of age and are not adopted or returned to their parents, by providing meaningful work experiences and assisting them in developing a goal-oriented future.	
Communities in Schools Houston, Inc.	\$7,000
“Summer Legal Internship Program”	
To partner with Houston-area law firms, legal non-profit entities, and corporate legal institutions to prepare low income, at-risk risk for the professional arena.	
GENaustin	\$10,000
“The 180 Program”	
To expand the program into Williamson and Hays counties, targeting middle and high school girls involved in or at high risk of becoming involved in the juvenile justice system.	
St. Mary’s University School of Law	\$1,000
To provide the platform from which various law school projects and programs draw annual operational support.	
Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas	\$5,000
To provide equal access to justice for people living in poverty.	
Shelby County Children's Advocacy Center	\$15,360
“Victim Advocate/Educator”	
To educate incoming victims and their non-offending caregivers through phone calls and in-person meetings regarding victims' rights in the State of Texas, the investigative and legal procedures, and court preparation.	
CASA of Travis County	\$20,000
“Trauma-Informed Care in the Foster Care System”	
To partner with the judiciary in a new initiative, the Travis County Collaborative for Children, to bring system-wide change to the way foster children in Travis County are cared for during and after their time in state custody.	

CASA of Central Texas, Inc.

\$5,000

“Education and records confidentiality support for Court Appointed Special Advocate staff and volunteers who are helping abused and neglected children involved in the Child Protection Court.”

To pay for one-time expenses for education and records confidentiality support for CASA volunteers and staff.

Court Appointed Special Advocates of Denton County, Inc.

\$5,000

“Court Advocacy Program”

To recruit, train, and supervise community volunteers to provide court advocacy services for children who have been removed from their homes by Child Protective Services.

Child Advocates San Antonio (CASA)

\$5,000

“Enhancing Services to Strengthen the Community - Crossover Youth Practice Model Expansion”

To enhance the Crossover Youth Practice Model through improved coordination, oversight, and project expansion.