ONE CLEVELAND.  
ONE MISSION.  
ONE BAR.

One CLE. Together we stand united — the legal, business and civic communities of Cleveland — to lift up those in need and the next generation.

The Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Foundation (CMBF), the fundraising arm of the 5,400-member Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association (CMBA), drives life-changing programs throughout northeast Ohio. Your support enables us to leverage the talents of Lawyers Giving Back in collaboration with business professionals and community partners. From free legal clinics in homeless shelters, local courts and Cleveland schools, to pipeline programs that are inspiring students from high school, to college and beyond, we are building a stronger community, one person at a time.

16,174 hours of service
4,843 people served
1,082 volunteers
$2,426,100 estimated value of donated time

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ONE MAGIC FORMULA
Mitch Blair, 2017–18 President

Foundation dollars + volunteer hours + legal skills = the magic of Lawyers Giving Back.

We asked you to give time, talent, or treasure, and you stepped up in a big way this year yielding impressive results. This magic formula is helping thousands of students in our urban high schools aspire and achieve and is improving the lives of individuals and families needing legal assistance. We are the national envy of our peer Bar Associations and Foundations because of the collective generosity and dedication of Greater Cleveland Lawyers Giving Back. If you are considering becoming involved, we welcome you!

ONE POWERFUL COLLABORATION
Stephanie Dutchess Trudeau, 2018–19 President

One person can make a difference. Even better is the difference one person can make in collaboration with others. The Foundation is a means to collaborate for good. More than lawyers support the Foundation including generous leaders from all sectors of our community who fund impactful programs that are changing lives, one person at a time. That change also goes in more than one direction. Participating donors have expressed how they have been changed by interacting with individuals aided by the Foundation. Such reciprocal exchanges keep the Foundation relevant by alerting it to unmet needs. One person can make a difference. Be one of the people who makes a difference.
Michael, Xavier and Janaya represent just three of 10 Louis Stokes Scholars program alumni who are currently enrolled in law school. They aspire to join their two Stokes alumni peers, Brandon Brown and Jzinae Jackson, who have graduated from law school and are embarking on their legal careers here in Cleveland. Their paths to law school started with CMBF supported pipeline programs.

Michael connected through high school mock trial. Xavier connected through the Stephanie Tubbs Jones Summer Legal Academy. Janaya connected through The 3Rs in her high school. All three were selected and excelled in the Louis Stokes Scholars program. Their internships inspired their law school dreams which became a reality in 2018.
Our commitment to our students: We care about you and your future, we will help you grow in knowledge and experience, and we want you to succeed.

THE 3RS • HIGH SCHOOL MOCK TRIAL • STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES SUMMER LEGAL ACADEMY • LOUIS STOKES SCHOLARS PROGRAM

These law-related programs for high school and college students in our community provide resources and support to inspire and guide them towards realizing their full potential. Among the many benefits provided are:

* Exposure to Professionals
* Access to Connections
* More Opportunities to Learn
* Mentoring
* Encouragement and Inspiration
* First Hand “Learning While Doing” Experiences
* Field Trips and Group Activities
* Educational Enrichment
* Practical Career and College Counseling
* Ongoing Support

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THE 3RS

- **2,800** Number of students served
- **425** Volunteers met with every 11th grade government class
- **17%** increase in passage rate on end of government course exam

HIGH SCHOOL MOCK TRIAL

- **900** Northeast Ohio students participated
- Our district competition has grown to be the largest in Ohio
- **Strongsville H.S. and Orange H.S.** advanced to the state semi and quarter-finals

LOUIS STOKES SCHOLARS PROGRAM

- **96%** First generation college students among our 70 alumni scholars
- Scholars represent **17 Cleveland public high schools and East Cleveland’s Shaw High School**
- **94%** Scholars who have graduated or are on track to graduate, in five years or less, from 17 colleges and universities
ACCESS TO JUSTICE

Your support allows us to open doors for more individuals in need in our community.

CLEVELAND HOMELESS LEGAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CHLAP)

Last year in Cuyahoga County alone, there were 23,000 homeless people and family homelessness increased by 30%. Our devoted CHLAP volunteers provided free legal assistance to homeless individuals in shelters and social service agencies — settings where they can be effectively served and where they can return for follow up service as needed.

NEW! PROBATE COURT BRIEF ADVICE CLINICS

These new clinics were designed to fill a justice gap by providing free brief advice and counsel for self-represented individuals without the income to hire an attorney. Last year, 20 attorney volunteers staffed the inaugural clinics.
As lawyers, we are in a unique position to help people overcome legal obstacles negatively affecting their lives. Our clients at the clinics are always grateful to us for providing the legal assistance they need.”
– Sarah Nemestil, CHLAP volunteer

CLEVELAND HOMELESS LEGAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

29 DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS, 200 INDIVIDUALS SERVED

5 SERVICE SITES
Bishop Cosgrove Center, West Side Catholic Center, Salvation Army PASS, Lakewood Community Center & Norma Herr Women’s Shelter

LEGAL SERVICES PROVIDED
Consumer debt, expungement, divorce, child custody, visitation, child support, employment law, driver’s license reinstatement, identification documents, landlord-tenant, social security, veterans and other public benefits

PRO BONO PROGRAM COMMUNITY PARTNERS
The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland
Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless
Cleveland Law Library
Probate Court
Domestic Relations Court
Cleveland Metropolitan School District
Cleveland Lawyers Guild
Metanoia Project
When a community comes together in support of the arts, nonprofit service, and sharing information, everyone benefits.

Reach Out for Nonprofits, the Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts (VLA), and the Speakers Bureau play a vital role in our city’s growth by connecting nonprofits, artists, and the general public with the legal help and education they need to help our community rise as one.

“Reach Out speakers are knowledgeable and responsive, and the information and guidance are quite helpful to us.”
– Diana Cyganovich, Cogswell Hall

“It was such a good feeling to have access to top-notch resources and someone I could trust.”
– Patrick Fenner, Shape Cleveland

“I talked to many people active in the arts, and they all told me to reach out to VLA.”
– Shannon Morris, Artful Cleveland

ONE ENRICHED COMMUNITY
Among those served by Reach Out: neighborhood organizations, a design studio teaching nonprofits and young adults, an Alzheimer’s search for a cure group, workforce development organizations for at-risk youth, a home for children and families struggling with abuse and mental health issues

VLA issues helped pro bono: establish a nonprofit, set up a trust for artwork, use of online images in original art, business formation, trademarks & copyrights, contract review, licensing, and nonprofit bylaws

“Thank you for providing a highly qualified and caring individual who took time out of his busy schedule to share his expertise with the congregation.”

– Michael Lauer, Director of the Unforgiving Light Society: Ministry of Transformation

OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS
Association of Corporate Counsel, Northeast Ohio; Federal Bar Association, Northern District of Ohio Chapter; Foundation Center; Arts Cleveland; Cuyahoga Arts & Culture
MAKING FRIENDS & RAISING FUNDS

71ST ANNUAL FRANKLIN A. POLK PUBLIC SERVANTS MERIT AWARD AWARD LUNCHEON

Following decades of tradition, several hundred family members, colleagues and friends gathered to celebrate the outstanding accomplishments of 11 individuals who have dedicated their professional lives to public service. The honorees’ names are permanently inscribed on the Public Servants Memorial Wall inside the Cuyahoga County Courthouse. Sponsored by 19 generous firms, organizations and individuals.

16TH ANNUAL HALLOWEEN RUN FOR JUSTICE

The rain and chill didn’t dampen the spirits of the hundreds of runners, walkers, friends, and family who participated (many in costume) in this annual fall fundraising event, cheered on at the finish line by the Cavalier Girls and the Scream Team. Sponsored by BakerHostetler (Signature), 47 firms, and 41 individuals.
500+ attendees arrived in their best “party gras” attire to celebrate another successful year by raising critical funds to continue the CMBF’s legacy of service to Cleveland.

A night of music, dancing, food, and signature “rocktails” channeled New Orleans’ iconic Mardi Gras spirit. Frank Sullivan, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of RPM International, Inc. was bestowed the Richard W. Pogue Award for Excellence in Community Leadership and Engagement. “Laissez les bon temps rouler!”

55 community sponsors including: Huntington National Bank (Signature); Calfee, Halter & Griswold LLP, RPM International, Inc. & Frank & Barb Sullivan (Platinum); BakerHostetler LLP & Ulmer & Berne LLP (Gold Sponsors.)

$294,424
THREE SPECIAL EVENTS — ONE TERRIFIC RESULT
THANK YOU!
13 Programs
One Mission

“I contribute to the Foundation because it has been my good fortune to witness first hand not only the amazing programs which are funded by the Foundation, but the dramatic real-world impact those programs have on the lives of a vast spectrum of people throughout Northeast Ohio.”

– John F. Kostelnik, Frantz Ward LLP, Fellow

Programs Supported

3Rs & 3Rs+
Ohio Mock Trial Competition
Louis Stokes Scholars
The Legal Clinics at CMSD
Cleveland Homeless Legal Assistance Program
Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts

Stephanie Tubbs Jones Summer Legal Academy
Cleveland Mock Trial Competition
Reach Out for Nonprofits
Speakers Bureau
Law Day
Pro Se Divorce Clinics
FINANCIAL REPORT

ASSETS
Cash, Cash Equivalent & Investments $2,180,448
Prepaid Expenses & Receivables $859,201
Total Assets $3,039,649

LIABILITIES
Deferred Revenue $15,485
Accrued Expenses & Other Liabilities $3,927
Total Liabilities $19,412

NET ASSETS
Unrestricted $344,786
Temporarily Restricted $203,147
Permanently Restricted $2,472,304
Total Net Assets $3,020,237

REVENUES
Investment Income $125,097
Donations & Contributions $104,942
Event Fundraisers $294,424
Total $524,463

EXPENSES
Management & General $51,002
Fundraising $107,313
Program Services $160,853
Total $319,168

CMBF ENDOWMENT BALANCE

“I give because a commitment without my time, attention or money is nothing more than a passing thought.”
– Christopher P. Thorman, Thorman Petrov Group Co., LPA, Silver Fellow
ENVISIONING OUR FUTURE

Our future lies with the continued growth of the CMBF Endowment, which will provide a steady stream of income in perpetuity for our impactful programs. The Endowment is funded primarily through the generous contributions of our Fellows, currently 591 in number, including individuals and law firms.

Our Fellows are distinguished members of the CMBA who have contributed significantly to the advancement of justice in the greater Cleveland community and who have demonstrated the highest standards of integrity and professionalism. We are honored by their support.

“I give my time and money because it gives me the opportunity to witness the development of our youth into great community assets confirming the importance of the investment.”

– Judge Anita Laster Mays, Fellow

CLEMETROBAR.ORG/FELLOWS
JOIN US.
TAKE ONE STEP TO CHANGE LIVES

DONATE OR VOLUNTEER TODAY

CLEMETROBAR.ORG/FOUNDATION