

THE LOUISVILLE BAR FOUNDATION



Gretchen C. Avery

LBF Elects Officers for 2023

Gretchen C. Avery is the incoming President of the Louisville Bar Foundation for 2023. Avery graduated from the University of Louisville with a bachelor's degree in history. She earned her law degree from the University of Louisville Louis D. Brandeis School of Law. Avery began her legal career at the Legal Aid Society in Louisville, providing civil legal services to low-income clients otherwise unable to access the justice system. Her practice focused on housing issues, and she worked in the Children-at-Risk program, helping families threatened with evictions or foreclosure find housing stability. Avery left Legal Aid Society in 2004 to start her own private practice, which focuses on the broad range of domestic relations issues. Avery serves as a Guardian Ad Litem in Jefferson County Family Court, representing children who have been neglected and/or abused. Her practice also includes legal representation and advice on landlord and tenant issues, and she serves as counsel to the Louisville Metro Housing Authority on housing-related issues. In addition to her legal practice, Avery is engaged in numerous civic and charitable causes and serves as a member of the Board of Directors of the non-profit organization MothersEsquire. She has served on the LBF board since 2017.

Other LBF Officers for 2023 include: Charles Hall Stopher, President-Elect; Sara V. Judd, Vice President and Treasurer; Gregory T. Dutton, Secretary; Philip C. Eschels, Past President.

23 Attorneys Join Distinguished Ranks of LBF Fellows in 2022 – Help Secure \$10,000 Challenge Gift

The LBF is proud to recognize the following 23 attorneys as new Fellows of the LBF in 2022. These attorneys stepped forward to help the LBF secure a generous \$10,000 challenge gift by LBF President Philip C. Eschels. As a result, more than \$40,000 was contributed to the endowment for grantmaking activities. The LBF Fellows Program is vital to creating and sustaining a strong foundation. The LBF Fellows Program recognizes individuals who have achieved success in the legal profession and whose generous personal gifts have supported the law-related mission of the Louisville Bar Foundation. Fellows contribute or pledge a minimum of \$1,000 to the Louisville Bar Foundation. Pledges may be made in equal installments over a four-year period. Contributions to the Fellows Program are applied to the Foundation's endowment, thereby increasing the amount of grant funds available in future years. To make your gift to the endowment, call (502) 292-6734 or donate online at www.loubar.org/foundation/contribution.

2022 Fellows

(As of 12/1/2022)

Leslie W. Abramson	Dean Melanie B. Jacobs
Jeffrey W. Adamson	Ronald E. Johnson Jr. (Barrister Fellow)
Hon. Josephine L. Buckner	Paul J. Kelley
Philip W. Collier	Hon. Lisa L. Langford
Frederic J. Cowan (Patron Fellow)	Ethan J. Manning
Hon. Tracy E. Davis	Robert D. Mattingly
R. Sean Deskins	Hon. Irvin G. Maze (Ret.)
John David Dyche	William J. Myers
Jason L. Ellis	Jamie K. Neal
Ebert H. Haegele	Hon. Mary M. Shaw (Ret.)
Chauncey R. Hiestand	Michael B. Vincenti
Amy DeRenzo Hulbert	J. Tanner Watkins

Foundation's Grant Awards in 2022 Reach All Corners of the Community

The Louisville Bar Foundation awarded seven additional grants in the final quarter of 2022, bringing the total amount of funds awarded this year to more than \$163,000. The Louisville Bar Foundation is the charitable giving arm of the Louisville Bar Association and it makes grants to local not-for profit organizations for the delivery of legal services to the poor, improvement of the judiciary and law-related public education. Since its founding in 1982, the Foundation has distributed more than \$3.3 million in grant funds. The Foundation is supported by charitable contributions from individual attorneys and law firms.

ACCESS JUSTICE

Expungement Clinics – \$15,000

Since 2014, Access Justice has provided free legal services through weekly or monthly clinics to low-income individuals and families throughout metro Louisville. With a network of more than forty volunteer attorneys and with an office in the Portland neighborhood, Access Justice's legal clinics educate participants on how to resolve a broad range of legal problems. LBF's grant will provide funds to allow Access Justice to reach and serve individuals in need of expungements.

CASA OF THE RIVER REGION

Advocacy Academy – \$10,000

CASA provides advocacy services to children with active cases in Family Court. To increase the number of volunteer advocates, CASA must continually train and provide education. The LBF grant will support CASA's Advocacy Academy program and increase its number of trainings to boost volunteers' advocacy skillset and the understanding of interrelated child welfare, justice and medical systems.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF LOUISVILLE

Fee Waiver Program – \$15,000

Catholic Charities Immigration Legal Services helps low-income refugees and immigrants living in Kentucky obtain legal assistance. The LBF grant will allow refugees and immi-

grants solve immigration and/or employment status issues so to achieve or maintain financial stability and economic independence.

CHILDREN'S LAW CENTER

Holistic Education Law Program – \$5,000

CLC provides advocacy services on behalf of students in the educational setting. CLC staff and legal volunteers identify sources of education-related problems, work with the children and guardians, and engage school officials to address students' needs and monitor outcomes. LBF funds will support advocacy and problem-solving efforts from CLC to ensure that special-needs children get appropriate educational services, allowing them to make academic progress toward graduation and meaningful employment.

FAMILY & CHILDREN'S PLACE

Child Advocacy Center – \$12,000

The Child Advocacy Center at the Family and Children's Place is the only facility of its kind in Kentucky providing services to child victims up to age 17 with compassionate, coordinated intervention and investigation of child sex abuse. The LBF grant will be used to pay expenses for a highly trained forensic interviewer to record a child's testimony and for lab kits used to gather and preserve evidence for later use at trial in prosecuting child sexual offenses.

THE HEALING PLACE

Peer Mentor Program – \$5,000

Many of the clients who come to The Healing Place for addiction recovery are involved in Jefferson County's court system. The Peer Mentor Program at The Healing Place enlists men and women who have completed the program to serve as role models and mentors for those newer participants. These peer mentors provide one-on-one counseling and support. In particular, peer mentors help participants comply with court dates, court orders and other issues related to the justice system. LBF funds will support the Peer Mentor Program as it increases the chances of a participant's successful recovery and the efficient resolution of court issues.

KENTUCKY REFUGEE MINISTRIES

Immigration Legal Services – \$11,500

Kentucky Refugee Ministries provides legal services to immigrants who have resettled in the Louisville area. Many of these immigrants need to file applications with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services for permanent residence status or to petition for asylum. The LBF grant will provide partial fee subsidies for immigrants who cannot afford to pay the entire cost of preparing and filing these documents.

KENTUCKY RESOURCES COUNCIL

Removing Economic Barriers for Environmental Justice – \$3,000

The Kentucky Resources Council (KRC) advocates for environmental issues that adversely affect the health or quality of life of low-income communities. KRC provides legal advocacy without charge to non-profit community groups who would not otherwise be able to afford representation on these issues. LBF funds will support a series of educational workshops that equip volunteer law students and attorneys to assist groups in Metro Louisville on issues such as zoning proposals or violations, noise, odor or dust issues, and permitting decisions.

LEGAL AID SOCIETY

Greenwald Family Legal Aid Internship Program – \$2,000

The Greenwald Family Legal Aid Internship Fund at the LBF is a memorial fund to honor Murray J. Greenwald, Peggy Hirsch Greenwald and Brooke Greenwald Cohen. Each year, the Fund provides a stipend for a University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law student to work at

the Legal Aid Society and to be educated on the practical aspects of the law. The goal of the internship is not only to provide needed support for the program but is a meaningful way that the Greenwald family can pass on their passion for public service to the next generation of lawyers.

LEGAL AID SOCIETY

Veterans Legal Assistance Program – \$30,000

Legal Aid Society has a long tradition of serving the civil legal needs of low-income individuals and families in Metro Louisville. It has targeted its services in recent years to assist veterans with civil legal needs relating to their service or impacting their ability to lead healthy and stable civilian lives. LBF funds will support a medical-legal partnership with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Robley Rex VA Medical Center (Louisville VAMC) and the University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law. This strategic partnership brings attorneys and law students together with Louisville VAMC medical professionals, integrating legal assistance into healthcare services to address socio-economic determinants that are negatively impacting the health and wellbeing of low-income veterans.

LEGAL AID SOCIETY

Technology for West Louisville Office – \$12,800

In 2022, Legal Aid Society will expand its presence and services in West Louisville by establishing a neighborhood office at the Goodwill Opportunity Campus. The neighborhood office will bring poverty-law expertise and community-development together by providing individual legal representation to West Louisville residents and connecting with grassroots, aspiring nonprofit organizations who are working in the area to assist these organizations in community development and identify the legal avenues and solutions available to them to promote long-term change. The LBF grant will fund the purchase of technology to equip the West Louisville office.

LOUISVILLE BAR ASSOCIATION

Gender Equity Committee (Lactation Room) – \$5,000

The LBA's Gender Equity Committee has developed plans and is overseeing the renovations of existing LBA space at the Jefferson County Judicial Center to provide a lactation suite for nursing mother attorneys and court staff. This area will offer nursing mothers a clean and private space to facilitate nursing needs. While most of the renovation costs are being donated, LBF funds will cover needed supplies and furnishings to complete the suite.

LOUISVILLE BAR ASSOCIATION

Judicial Poll – \$2,000

The LBA's Judicial Integrity & Independence Committee conducts polls of Jefferson County attorneys to provide feedback on candidates in non-partisan judicial races. This information can assist voters in making informed choices in judicial elections. The LBF grant will support the LBA's use of an academic polling lab to create the judicial poll and to accurately and fairly tabulate the results which will be shared with the public in advance of the primary and general elections in 2022.

LOUISVILLE BAR ASSOCIATION

Summer Law Institute – \$4,000

The Summer Law Institute is a partnership of the LBA, the University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law and Bellarmine University. The program provides high school students with an opportunity to interact with prominent local attorneys, judges and professors. It is designed to attract talented, ambitious students who are interested in a career in the legal profession. LBF grant monies will cover a portion of the direct costs of the program, thereby keeping the tuition affordable.

LOUISVILLE BAR ASSOCIATION/LEGAL AID SOCIETY

Volunteer Corps – \$7,500

In partnership with the Legal Aid Society, the LBA seeks to simplify the pro bono process for both volunteers and those seeking legal assistance. The partners will establish a single "Volunteer Corps" which will be a one-stop-shop for both volunteers to access pro bono opportunities, and for potential clients and community groups to learn about and request pro bono assistance. The partners will create a pro bono website which will be the advertised place where attorneys can go to offer their services and where members of our community can seek pro bono assistance. LBF grant monies will help in the design and maintenance of this one-stop website.

MOTHERSESQUIRE

Printing/Marketing of "My Mom, the Lawyer" – \$11,515

MothersEsquire is a local non-profit with a national network of more than 7,500 members advocating for policies that promote gender equity in the legal profession and practices that encourage retention of attorney talent during caregiving years. LBF funds will support the printing and marketing of "My Mom, the Lawyer" — a book written for and designed to help children understand the legal profession and the varied roles that mothers play within the profession.

UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE SCHOOL OF LAW

Ackerson Law Clinic Mediation Program – \$5,000

The Ackerson Law Clinic at the University of Louisville's Brandeis School of Law offers students who have completed initial course requirements the opportunity for practical experience by representing clients under the supervision of clinical instructors. The Mediation Program allows students to apply their mediation skills to assist low-income clients on issues which traditionally complicate and delay judicial resolution of Family Court disputes — custody, visitation, child support. LBF funds support this program designed to help the underserved population, to improve the efficiency of Family Courts, and to enhance the practical skills of law students.

YMCA SAFE PLACE

LMPD Field Release Program – \$2,500

The YMCA Safe Place program works in close collaboration with the Louisville Metro Police Department to offer an alternative to a youth detention facility. When a youth is arrested and LMPD is unable to locate a parent, rather than leaving the youth at the detention facility where the youth could be exposed to more serious criminal elements, LMPD may release the youth to Safe Place staff who will contact the parent and provide targeted case management and family support. LBF funds will support the intervention and case management by Safe Place staff which significantly decreases the chances that at-risk and low-level offenders will enter the juvenile justice system.

YOUTHBUILD

Legal Assistance Case Management Services – \$5,000

YouthBuild helps young adults (18-24 years old), often with prior involvement with the court system, obtain GEDs, secure employment and enroll in college or vocational programs. As a result of YouthBuild's intensive interventions and programming, only 11 percent of its participants re-offend, compared to national recidivism rates trends where over 50 percent generally re-offend. YouthBuild's case managers provide individualized support to participants to accomplish this success. LBF funds will assist case managers in identifying legal issues for participants and linking participants with legal resources to avoid and resolve issues that could lead to court involvement.