

THE BARBARA MCDOWELL AND GERALD S. HARTMAN FOUNDATION

CASE FOR SUPPORT

SOCIAL JUSTICE THROUGH LEGAL ACTION

Mission

The Barbara McDowell Foundation aims to improve the economic well-being, social conditions, and civil liberties of disadvantaged persons and groups in the United States.

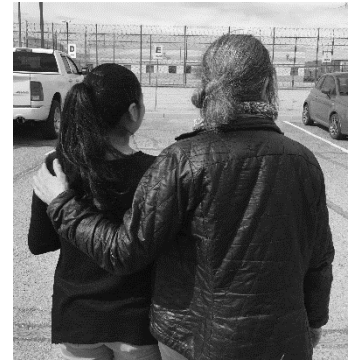
We fulfill our mission 1) by making grants to organizations that undertake systemic, social justice litigation and 2) by coordinating direct, pro-bono litigation through our High Impact Project.

The Need

Nonprofit organizations representing our country's most vulnerable persons, defending their rights, and championing their causes very often lack the necessary funds to pursue even the most egregious cases.

In 2018, low-income Americans received inadequate or no legal help whatsoever for 86% of the civil legal problems they encountered because of a lack of resources (as reported by the Legal Services Corporation in *The Justice Gap: Measuring the Unmet Civil Legal Needs of Low-income Americans*).

This "justice gap" between legal needs and available services exacerbates our country's systemic inequities and disadvantages especially our most at-risk populations.



Foundation grantee *Center for Gender and Refugee Studies'* client and a staff member outside an immigration detention center

PEOPLE OF COLOR, WOMEN, IMMIGRANTS, THE ELDERLY, PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES, AND LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, AND TRANSGENDER PEOPLE LIVE MORE FREQUENTLY IN POVERTY AND MORE OFTEN NEED LEGAL ASSISTANCE

Your gift to the McDowell Foundation helps fill this "justice gap," making vital financial resources available to nonprofit organizations which undertake social justice litigation.

Your financial contribution benefits a diverse array of constituent populations and impacts a wide variety of social justice causes. Cases we have funded include efforts to:

- *Stop discriminatory policing practices*
- *Ensure services to the disabled*
- *End racial discrimination in jury selection*
- *Provide adequate healthcare for female inmates*
- *Ensure fair access to public benefits*
- *Gain equal treatment for immigrants*
- *Improve conditions for children in detention*
- *Protect the voting rights of Native Americans*

OVER FOR MORE INFORMATION >>>

Your Gift Matters

Each year, the Foundation receives many more grant requests than it can fulfill. With today's legal, political and economic climate, a significant and growing need exists for grantmaking to support social justice litigation.

As one of the very few nationwide sources for social justice litigation grants, the Foundation is raising additional funds to allow it to donate more money to more grantees, creating even greater impact.

GIVING LEVELS

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <i>President's Circle:</i> | <i>\$20,000 and above</i> |
| <i>Major Benefactor:</i> | <i>\$10,000 to \$19,999</i> |
| <i>Leadership Circle:</i> | <i>\$5,000 to \$9,999</i> |
| <i>Partner Gift:</i> | <i>\$1,000 to \$4,999</i> |
| <i>Supporting Gift:</i> | <i>\$500 to \$999</i> |
| <i>Donor:</i> | <i>\$100 to \$499</i> |

HOW TO GIVE: You can make your gift through a check, or via PayPal. For more information on giving please see the Foundation's ***Donor Information Guide*** at its website at www.mcdowellfoundation.org/donate.

Your gift to the McDowell Foundation demonstrates your commitment to furthering social justice.

RECENT GRANTEES

2020

Fair Elections Center
National Center for Law
and Economic Justice
National Veterans Legal Services Program
National Women's Law Center
North Carolina Prisoner Legal Services

2019

American Immigration Council
Center for Gender and Refugee Studies
National Center for Law
and Economic Justice
Prisoner's Legal Services of Massachusetts
National Immigration Project of
the National Lawyers Guild

2018

Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law
Children's Advocacy Institute
Children's Rights
Legal Services of Alabama
Public Interest Law Center
Sargent Shriver Center
on Law and Poverty

RECENT HIGH IMPACT CASES

2019

Investigation of a School System's Failure to Integrate Disabled Children into Normal Classrooms and Programs – *In partnership with Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law, Disability Rights New York, Disability Rights Advocates, and Drinker Biddle*

Investigation of Landlords Violating Potential Tenants' Housing Rights for Failure to Accept Section 8 Housing Vouchers from Persons of Color – *In partnership with The Public Interest Law Center and Drinker Biddle*

Challenge to the Seizing Without Due Process By New York City of State Tax Refunds for Transit Violations – *In partnership with The National Center for Law and Economic Justice, New Economy Project, and Drinker Biddle*

2018

Constitutional Challenge Regarding Termination of Parental Rights in Pennsylvania – *In partnership with Drinker Biddle*

2017

Challenge to Segregation and Discrimination of Institutionalized Intellectually Disabled Persons – *In partnership with Disability Rights North Carolina and Drinker Biddle.*

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www.mcdowellfoundation.org

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