

# **ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE REPORT**

Prepared for the Board of Directors of the North Carolina Bar Foundation

Thursday, January 19, 2023

To: Board of Directors

From: Edward Griggs, Endowment Committee Chair

Kim Bart Mullikin, Senior Director

The NCBF Endowment Committee appreciates the opportunity to share updates regarding the Foundation's Endowment since our last Board meeting.

#### Endowment Grant Application Portal: Now Open

The new NCBF Endowment grant application portal opened November 1, 2022, and applications are currently being accepted for the 2023-24 grant cycle. Applications are due by February 1, 2023. Announcements about the grant cycle have gone out via email and E-bar.

Endowment Committee members will begin endowment grant application reviews in mid-February and come together on March 22, 2023, for the committee's annual grantmaking meeting. In their application reviews, committee members will be applying the scoring matrix included in Attachment A.

The committee will share its grant recommendations with the Board of Directors at the April 14, 2023, board meeting.

#### **Grantee Site Visits for 2021-22**

Endowment Committee members have been conducting grantee site visits again this year. This will be the fifth consecutive year of visiting with grantees for the purpose of collecting meaningful stories, anecdotes, pictures, and impact data that highlights the value of the Foundation's grantee partnerships.

This year committee members are conducting grantee site visits with:

- o Council for Children's Rights Rob Harrington
- o Financial Protection Law Center Stuart Dorsett
- Legal Aid of NC Jean Carter
- o Pro Bono Resource Center, Driver's License Restoration Peter Pappas
- NCBA Minorities in the Profession Committee Matt McGuire
- Pisgah Legal Services Jasmine McGhee
- o NCBA Pro Bono Committee Rebecca Smitherman
- NC Center for Actual Innocence Jonathan Bogues

### Jane B. Weathers Lawyers Helping Lawyers Fund

The Lawyers Helping Lawyers Fund had \$6,462 available for grantmaking this bar year. The Endowment Committee reviewed one application to the Fund in September 2022 and made a grant award for \$417; the Endowment Committee reviewed one application to the Fund in December 2022 and made an award for \$3,000. The Endowment Committee will review any new applications to the Fund following the March 15, 2022 and June 15, 2022 application deadlines.

# 2023-24 Endowment Grant Application Review Criteria

Internal (Staff) Review Criteria	SCORE
1. Applicant program is led or facilitated by	□ YES (15)
volunteer lawyers.	,
2. Applicant's organization has a lawyer	☐ YES (15)
serving on its Board.	
3. Applicant is a former or current grantee	□ YES (10)
that has had a history of partnership and	
accountability and has been willing to	
comply with requests involving client	
impact stories, impact reports, and other	
information in a timely manner.	
Inter	rnal (Staff) Review Questions - Max points: 40
Committee Review Criteria	Score
1. Applicant program serves under-served	Very much (5)
or less well-resourced geographic areas of	Somewhat (3)
the state.	Not at all (0)
2. Applicant program has long-term,	Very much (5)
demonstrated success at achieving its	Somewhat (3)
defined program goals and impacts.	Not at all (0)
3. Applicant organization has history of a	Very much (5)
collaborative partnership with NCBF in	Somewhat (3)
ways not related to grantor/grantee	Not at all (0)
relationship.	
4. Applicant program has clearly defined	Very much (5)
outcomes or expected results	Somewhat (3)
	Not at all (0)
5. Expected results of applicant program	Very much (5)
are reasonable, measurable and specific	Somewhat (3)
	Not at all (0)
	Program Impact Questions - Max points: 25
6. Applicant program has an increased	Very much (20)
probability of moving forward if awarded	Somewhat (10)
funds or NCBF Endowment funding will	Not at all (0)
push project development "over the goal	
line".	Van vastale /E\
7. Does NCBF Endowment support increase	Very much (5)
likelihood that applicant program will	Somewhat (3)

secure matching funds from another	Not at all (0)
source?	

## Financial and Budget Questions - Max points: 25

Applicant programs are expected to provide support for one or more of the following:

- The provision of direct legal services by legal services attorneys to indigent communities in an effort to ensure access to justice for everyone, regardless of their ability to pay,
- Pro bono programs and activities that engage volunteer attorneys to provide free legal assistance to persons of limited means, in order to increase access to justice and demonstrate the value of our profession to society,
- Community service projects that create opportunities for lawyers, paralegals, law students and other members of the profession to strengthen and improve communities throughout the state, in measurable ways,
- Civic education programs that place an emphasis on the law, the justice system, and the legal profession in order to educate the public and to build confidence in the rule of law and our justice system, or
- Professionalism: Programs or activities that cultivate a culture of service, invest in training of lawyer leaders, and use innovative approaches to bring North Carolina lawyers together to work alongside one another for the common good.

8. Applicant program furthers a stated	Very much (5)
value of the NCBF.	Somewhat (3)
	Not at all (0)
9. Applicant program strongly supports	Very much (5)
NCBF organizational goals and reflects a	Somewhat (3)
level of quality that is consistent with NCBF	Not at all (0)
standards	
	NCBF Alignment and Values - Max points: 10