

Women's Bar Association
FOUNDATION
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



2019-2020

ANNUAL
REPORT

*Serving the legal
and related needs of
women and girls in the DC
metropolitan community*

Mission

Leveraging the generosity of lawyers and friends to support nonprofits that serve the legal and related needs of women and girls in the DC Metropolitan community.

Message from the President



This was a year of many firsts for the WBA Foundation (Foundation). We intensified the Foundation's work in accordance with the mission of leveraging the generosity of lawyers and friends to support nonprofits that serve the legal and related needs of women and girls in the DC Metropolitan community.

The Foundation continues to operate in compliance with our 2018-2021 Strategic Plan in striving to become even more impactful and expanding our capacity to serve our charitable mission. We are excited about our path forward and grateful for those who have supported us on this journey.

We kicked off our programming year in July with a facilitated joint session with our sister organization, the Women's Bar Association (Association). The action items formulated during this forum steered our activities for the entire program year. In September, we celebrated the 10th Anniversary of our Chefs Dine In event, held in home of WBA past president Paulette Chapman, where for the first

time, we more than tripled our average collections. We enjoyed Australian wines as we partied with a purpose during our 17th Annual Wine Tasting and Silent Auction, entitled "Wines from Down Under" in October. The Wine Tasting is not only one of our signature events, but also our primary fundraiser for the Founders Fellowship. The fellowship rotates annually among the six DC-based law schools and provides a stipend to a law student to work at a local nonprofit organization dedicated to furthering the Foundation's mission. Our 2019 Founders Fellow, Alix Bruce, was a student at American University College of Law. During the Wine Tasting, Alix impressed everyone with a presentation on their internship experience at Amara Legal Center. Alix's meaningful internship assignments are chronicled in a report on the Foundation website. We also exceeded our annual Giving Tuesday online fundraising goal in November.

During this program year, the Foundation continued the expansion of our grants program, and for the first time, awarded a total \$95,000 in grants to 12 deserving nonprofits. Together, these organizations provide an array of legal and related services to many of the most vulnerable members of our community, including children, working parents, homeless individuals, and elderly persons. Our grantees provide representation, counsel, and assistance to victims of domestic violence; seniors who benefit from DC Schedule H Tax Credit pro bono clinics; immigrants needing legal education and other services; victims of crime; pregnant women and parents who need to assert their workplace rights; and sex-trafficking victims. We are extremely proud to be able to support this work, and salute our 2020 grantees: **African Communities Together, Amara Legal Center, Ayuda, Bread for the City, DC KinCare Alliance, DC Volunteer Lawyers Project, First Shift**

Justice Project, Legal Aid Society of the District of Columbia, Legal Counsel for the Elderly, Network for Victim Recovery, Safe Sisters Circle, and Washington Legal Clinic for the Homeless. We encourage you to read more about these organizations, and the valuable work they do in our community, on page 7 of this report.

The Foundation recognized these organizations and their commitment to improving the lives and furthering the rights of women and girls at our Annual Grant Awards Ceremony in March, shortly before the COVID-19 pandemic shutdown. As we discouraged handshaking and hugs, and supplied hand sanitizer, we honored our grantee representatives, and learned more about the outstanding work that each organization is doing in the community. For the first time, the Foundation awarded two named grants – the **Suzanne Richards Memorial Grant** was presented by Foundation founder Marjorie O’Connell to the Legal Counsel for the Elderly, and the **Jennifer Porter Memorial Grant** was presented by the late Patricia Gurne, a past president of the Association and Foundation, to First Shift Justice Project. Our keynote speaker for the evening, **Sharyn Tejani**, the Director of the TIME’S UP Legal Defense Fund, has a history of fighting for civil rights for persons whose voices are often silenced or ignored. She eloquently spoke about the importance of the work of legal services providers and the Foundation.

In April, we hosted our Second Annual Donor Appreciation Reception (which we had to adapt to a virtual setting). During the event, we presented the Suzanne Richards Scholarship to Liz Davis, an intern for Foundation grantee Legal Aid Society.

We exceeded our Do More 24 fundraising goal during our May “Cocktails for Cause” virtual event. During the program, we heard from four Foundation grantees – Amara Legal Center, DC Volunteer Lawyers Project, Legal Counsel for the Elderly, and Safe Sisters Circle – as they gave updates on providing their services in the COVID-19 era.

As another first, the Coronavirus pandemic precluded the WBA/WBA Foundation Annual Dinner, but the Foundation relished in joining in the Association’s Virtual Anniversary Celebration in May.

We proudly report that because of your support, we exceeded our 2019-2020 fundraising goal, and we encourage each of you to join our efforts to improve the lives of women and girls in DC. Please consider the WBA Foundation as your vehicle to achieve your philanthropic goals in the greater Washington, DC region. The Foundation shares and reflects your values and interests in addressing the unique legal needs of underserved women and girls in our community. We thank you for your support throughout the 2019-2020 Foundation year and look forward to your continued support.



Bridget Bailey Lipscomb
2019-2020 President

“My work at the clinic is not what I do, it’s who I am. It’s a great opportunity to work in a place with clients who never cease to amaze and inspire all of us.”

Patty Mullahy Fugere, Executive Director, Washington Legal Clinic for the Homeless



Over 100 people gathered to honor and learn about the 2020 grantees

Grantmaking Program & Grantee Awards Ceremony

Each summer, the WBA Foundation begins its grant cycle in the summer, with the release of a call for Letters of Inquiry (LOI). In 2019, 25 nonprofit organizations submitted LOIs for consideration. In total, the organizations requested \$224,596 in support. The Grants Committee reviewed the information provide and invited 18 organizations to submit a full grant application.

The Grants Committee reviewed and researched the full proposals received. After careful consideration, the committee made a final recommendation to the full Board of Directors, which approved a total of \$95,000 in grants to 12 organizations (information about the projects funded can be found of pages 7-10).

The grants included two named grants: the **Suzanne Richards Memorial Grant** and the **Jennifer Porter Memorial Grant**. Ms. Richards was a past president of the Women's Bar Association and a founder of the WBA Foundation. She made a generous bequest to the Foundation upon her passing in 2013. WBA Foundation past president Marjorie O'Connell spoke about the efforts of the Foundation's founders and Ms. Richard's role, and presented the Suzanne Richards Memorial Grant to the Legal Counsel for the Elderly. First Shift Justice Project received the Jennifer Porter Memorial Grant, in honor of Women's Bar Association and WBA Foundation past president Jennifer Porter, who passed away in 2019. In her remarks, Ms. Porter's wife, Patricia Gurne (also a past president of the Women's Bar Association and WBA Foundation), shared Ms. Porter's passion for connecting with and advocating for women in the profession.

The Foundation requires grantees to submit a final report of activities conducted under each grant.

In March, the Foundation hosted its 11th annual Grant Awards Ceremony. Upon arrival, event attendees were asked to fist bump and avoid handshakes and hugs. The event was the last in-person event hosted by either the WBA or WBA Foundation before COVID-19 restrictions prohibited us from meeting in person. The event is an opportunity for Foundation supporters to meet our grantees; they each set up a display table and have staff on hand to discuss volunteer and other opportunities for engagement.

"I'm so grateful that the Foundation is giving us this grant so [we] can continue doing this work. It's great for our clients and the survivors of domestic violence."

Yoliara Ramos, Staff Attorney, Legal Aid Society

Sharyn Tejani, the Director of the TIME'S UP Legal Defense Fund, gave keynote remarks during the program. Of our grantees, she said, "It really is inspiring to hear what they are doing and how they are helping all these people in our community."



Representatives from Foundation grantee Ayuda



Sharyn Tejani



Foundation Board member Chan Branham presented the Safe Sisters Circle grant to executive director Alana Brown



Foundation Board member Gail Westover, past president Marjorie O'Connell & Rhonda Cunningham Holmes, executive director, for The Legal Counsel for the Elderly



WBA/WBA Foundation past president Pat Gurne (center) with (l-r) Lilia Aberon, Ilene Price, Mellie Nelson, and Marjorie O'Connell

"We do this work because we want to give back to the community. I personally want to make sure that elder individuals in the District are well taken care of."

Rhonda Cunningham Holmes, Executive Director, Legal Counsel for the Elderly

Founders Fellowship



HOWARD
UNIVERSITY
School of Law

The WBA Foundation Founders Fellowship was established in 2006 and is awarded annually to one of the six law schools located in Washington, DC. The fellowship is used by the school to support a student who is pursuing a public interest summer internship to advance the legal interests of women and children. Proceeds from the Foundation's Wine Tasting & Silent Auction event are used to fund the fellowship.

Through this opportunity, I witnessed the unique circumstances that surround prosecuting juvenile defendants for sexual crimes.

The 2020 WBA Foundation Founders Fellowship, in the amount of \$7,500, was awarded to the Howard University School of Law, which selected **Chidiuto Cobb** as the recipient. Chidiuto was a summer associate in the Domestic Violence and Special Victims Section (DVSVS) of the Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia (OAG), which is embedded between the Juvenile and Criminal sections of the OAG. Her tasks included conducting legal research and assisting attorneys in trials of sex crimes cases involving juvenile defendants accused of sexual assaults against young women and girls. She researched and wrote legal briefs on juvenile defendant constitutional rights and witness subpoena rights in the context of COVID-19 virtual trials. She also attended and participated in HOPE Court hearings, a special court for juveniles who have been found to be at risk of being trafficked.

I am grateful that I had the opportunity to work on such cutting-edge legal research on the viability of virtual court proceedings as it pertains to defendants' rights.

In her personal essay about the experience, Chidiuto described the opportunities afforded by the internship, which was done virtually.

My first project was a sexual assault case. I got hands-on experience working with a victim and witness' testimony in preparation for trial. At first it was difficult to read through the gruesome details of the alleged attack. However, the commitment to seeking justice for the young survivor made the work worth every moment spent on it. This experience gave me an accurate picture of what it would be like in my future career. I worked on similar projects throughout my time at the OAG, and I am more confident than ever in my choice to advocate for survivors of sexual and domestic assault.

Chidiuto's full essay is posted on our website.

"There is a need that is unmet in terms of helping working mothers stay employed. They are more vulnerable to losing their jobs: they can be fired for pregnancy; ... they are denied accommodations that they need; and [they] have other caregiver responsibility that interferes sometimes with their ability to be a "generic worker" that can go to work at the same time every day and leave at the same time every day without any changes."

Laura Brown, Executive Director, First Shift Justice Project

"Especially in the current climate ... Life is already hard enough to adjust. The biggest thing you can do is make sure you have used all your options. Properly."

Hiwot Berihun, Legal Director, African Communities Together

Suzanne Richards Scholarship

This year, the Foundation announced the Suzanne Richards Scholarship, a \$5,000, one-time scholarship for a law student who had worked or was currently working for one of our grantees between January 1, 2019 and January 31, 2020.

Each grantee was invited to recommend one law student to receive this award. Applicants were required to submit a resume, certificate of good standing and transcript from their law school, a personal statement, and a letter of support from the grantee organization.

The scholarship was awarded to **Elizabeth “Liz” Davis**, a student at American University College of Law. She was nominated by **Legal Aid Society of the District of Columbia**, where she interned for the Family Law/Domestic Violence Unit in spring 2019.

Elizabeth’s nomination described her stellar work: “During her time at Legal Aid, Liz approached each assignment with the professionalism and care that our clients deserve. On her first day, I asked her to evaluate three cases for merit. She responded within a few hours with written evaluations, correctly stating the law, the relevant facts, and thoughtfully assessing possible strengths and weaknesses in each case. Her insight and writing were easily equivalent to a second-year attorney’s work.”

Her nomination further detailed that “Liz has used her abilities and talents to advocate for better living conditions for the poor, improve safety for survivors of abuse, and obtain appropriate educational opportunities for disabled students. Her work has truly had an impact on our clients – who are often women and children – who have been affected by domestic violence.”



“We don’t just represent people in civil protection order cases, so we are able to take the client through family law needs they may have.”

Allison Miles-Lee, Management Attorney, Bread for the City

2020 Grantees



**AFRICAN
COMMUNITIES
TOGETHER**

AFRICAN COMMUNITIES TOGETHER (ACT) is a mutual aid, organizing, and civil rights organization for African immigrants. ACT was founded in 2012 by a first-generation Ethiopian immigrant organizer and social entrepreneur in response to the lack of African immigrant organizations in the immigrant rights field. The organization connects African immigrants to critical services, helps Africans develop as leaders, and organizes communities on the issues that matter. ACT launched its Washington, DC chapter in 2016, and its DC Immigration Legal Program in 2017. WBAF's grant helped ACT expand its outreach to provide immigration legal education to DC residents by conducting Immigration 101/ Know Your Rights presentations and legal clinics at African immigrant churches, mosques, associations, workplaces, and community events.



AMARA LEGAL CENTER provides free legal services to individuals whose rights have been violated while involved in commercial sex, whether involvement was by coercion, necessity, choice, or otherwise, in the DC metropolitan area. The WBAF grant supported the Legal Representation Project which provides survivors of sex trafficking with civil legal services, such as civil protection orders, child custody, divorce, sealing and vacating criminal records, and victim-witness advocacy.



AYUDA advocates for low-income immigrants through direct legal, social, and language services, training, and outreach in the Washington, DC metropolitan area. Since 1973, Ayuda has served more than 100,000 immigrants. Ayuda is the only nonprofit organization in the DC metro area that offers a full range of integrated immigration and family law assistance, social services, and language access support for low-income immigrants from any county. The WBAF will supported Ayuda's Client Support and Empowerment Fund, a new initiative that provides direct support to victims of crime and individuals suffering from family separation, who are seeking immigration relief and assistance in meeting their basic needs.



BREAD FOR THE CITY operates two facilities in Northwest and Southeast DC, providing food, clothing, medical care, legal advice, legal representation, social services, and advocacy initiatives to nearly 32,000 District residents annually. BFC's mission is to deliver these comprehensive services, without cost and with dignity and respect, to DC's low-income residents. The WBAF grant assisted the operation of the Domestic Violence Community Legal Services Project, part of a family law clinic devoted to serving women living with low incomes in their fight to obtain protection from domestic violence. The program provides advice and representation to upwards of 200 DC residents, aiding them in obtaining civil protection orders, income supports, child custody, and divorce proceedings in order to ensure their safety.

"I'm a domestic violence survivor myself and it's very rewarding to help other people with the tools that I have."

Mariana Berumen, Immigration Paralegal, Ayuda



DC KINCARE ALLIANCE supports the legal, financial, and related service needs of relative caregivers who step up to raise children in their extended families in times of crisis when the children's parents are not able to care for them due to substance use disorders, incarceration, death, abuse and neglect, or deportation. DC KinCare Alliance is the only organization in DC focused solely on serving relative caregivers raising DC's at-risk children. WBAF's grant supported the KinCare Legal Defense Project, which provides legal representation, legal advice, and legal information to low-income relative caregivers raising at-risk DC children in their extended families (half of whom are girls).



DC VOLUNTEER LAWYERS PROJECT addresses the critical shortage of legal assistance for low-income people in Washington, DC, especially in cases involving domestic violence. The organization recruits, trains, and supports a network of volunteer lawyers to provide high-quality, pro bono legal services to low-income domestic violence victims and at-risk children in Washington, DC. DCVLP has 2,300 registered lawyers and supports 260 volunteers annually, 70% of which are women. The WBAF grant supported the new court-based Domestic Violence Protection Order Clinic, which provides immediate legal assistance to DC residents at their court hearings to obtain protection orders. Unrepresented victims are directly referred to the clinic, located adjacent to the courtroom, by judges, courtroom clerks, and SAFE courtroom advocates.



FIRST SHIFT JUSTICE PROJECT empowers low-income pregnant women and parents to safeguard the economic security and health of their families by asserting their workplace rights. By receiving advice and representation, working parents are able to assert their rights before they lose their positions or before their workplace stress becomes untenable, First Shift helps them safely maintain their employment, their health and their family commitments. The WBAF grant supported the organization's efforts to provide employment-related direct legal services to low-income women in the Washington Metro Area.

The 2020 grant to First Shift Justice Project was designated as the Jennifer Porter Memorial Grant. Ms. Porter, who passed away last year, was a past president of both the Women's Bar Association and the WBA Foundation. To honor her service, we presented this named grant in 2020.



LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA is the oldest and largest general civil legal services program in the District. The majority of their work is in direct client representation in five primary practice areas: housing law, public benefits, consumer law, domestic violence/family law, and immigrant's rights. They provide legal assistance and representation in these areas, as well as engage in appellate and systemic advocacy that will protect the rights of many more of DC's most vulnerable residents. The WBAF grant supported the Domestic Violence Underserved Communities Holistic Representation Project, which addresses the needs of domestic violence survivors living in underserved areas where poverty rates (and incidences of domestic violence) are high and the long-term consequences for low-income survivors and their children are severe. Legal Aid attorneys provide advice, counsel, and/or brief assistance to clients in civil protection order, custody, child support, and divorce matters, and also conduct outreach/training sessions.



LEGAL COUNSEL FOR THE ELDERLY champions the dignity and rights of vulnerable DC seniors age 60 and older by providing free legal help and social work services. They perform community outreach and regularly deliver educational programs on issues of concern to elders and their families, including Medicare, nursing home quality, and end-of-life planning. With thousands of hours

of volunteer time contributed by 800+ volunteers, LCE provides a wide range of services: legal, psychosocial, financial, and educational. The WBAF grant will support efforts to assist older low-income residents obtain hundreds of dollars in benefits from DC's Schedule H Tax Credit via pro bono clinics at area law firms. Schedule H provides eligible District residents with a sizable tax credit to help to mitigate the extremely high housing costs in D.C. For individuals who do not owe income taxes (such as those with only a modest Social Security income), DC writes a check for the Schedule H credit. Low income clients can receive up to \$1,200 via cash payments, funds that they can then use to avoid eviction, pay their property taxes, purchase food and medicine, pay off debts, and more.

The 2020 grant to Legal Counsel for the Elderly was designated as the Suzanne Richards Memorial Grant. Ms. Richards was a past president of the Women's Bar Association and a founder of the WBA Foundation. She made a generous bequest to the Foundation and to honor her service, we presented this named grant in 2020.



THE NETWORK FOR VICTIM RECOVERY empowers victims of crime to achieve survivor defined justice through a collaborative continuum of advocacy, case management, and legal services. Since its founding in 2012, NVRDC has served over 3,500 crime victims in the District, providing holistic case management and legal services for crime victims needing assistance regarding civil protection order representation, crime victims' rights enforcement, and Title IX/Clery representation for campus crime victims. WBAF's grant helped fund efforts to lessen the impact of violence and system re-victimization by: increasing access to legal services for all victims of crime, regardless of income; increasing community-based partners' and the legal community's knowledge of crime victims' rights; and increasing the community's understanding of rights and resources for survivors of sexual assault and other crimes.



SAFE SISTERS CIRCLE provides free culturally-specific, trauma-informed, and holistic services to Black women survivors of domestic violence and/or sexual abuse. Rooted in Safe Sisters Circle is the belief that there is value in having an organization established for Black women and where the majority of service providers and leadership within the organization are also Black women. The organization utilizes a racial and gender equity lens when approaching the unique needs of the survivors requesting services. WBAF's grant supported the East of the River Women's Legal Services Project, which provides free legal services to Black women survivors of domestic and sexual violence living in Wards 7 and 8, specifically civil protection order hearings, family law cases, and victim advocacy cases. Safe Sisters Circle provided educational workshops and held listening sessions for survivors and advocates living or working in Wards 7 and 8.



WASHINGTON LEGAL CLINIC FOR THE HOMELESS uses the law to make justice a reality for those who struggle with homelessness and poverty. Combining community lawyering and advocacy to achieve their clients' goals, the organization's staff and network of volunteer attorneys provide low barrier, comprehensive legal services at intake sites throughout DC, helping clients to access housing, shelter, and life-saving services. The WBAF grant supported the clinic's representation of families participating in DC's Rapid Rehousing Program, helping them to achieve long-term housing stability. More than 90% of these families have been headed by women.

"I find it very empowering to be able to help women who are in vulnerable situations, who feel they do not have a way out of a bad situation with their partners. It feels great to see their strength and see them evolve into their full potential."

Aida Vindell, Managing Attorney, DC Volunteer Lawyers Project

Wine Tasting & Silent Auction



The WBA Foundation hosted its 17th annual Wine Tasting and Silent Auction in October 2019. The theme for the evening was “Wines From Down Under: Wine-D Your Way Through Australia. The event was held at **Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein & Fox P.L.L.C.**; the firm has hosted the event since 2014.

The evening featured Australian wines and complimentary savory and sweet pairings. Guests were treated to a brief wine tasting lesson by **Allison Marriott** of Bon Vivant DC. Auction items included vacation stays, tickets to local theaters, gift certificates to local wineries, dance lessons, original art, and gift baskets donated by Foundation Board members.

A highlight of the program was remarks from our 2019 Founders Fellowship recipient, **Alix Bruce**. A student at American University Washington College of Law, Alix interned at Amara Legal Center.

Our evening concluded with door prize drawings and a very lively live auction that included a session with Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg’s personal trainer.



“Having funding from the Foundation supports our ability to have the capacity [for] special projects. It’s critical to making sure we can do our mission day to day.”

Bridgette Stumpf, Executive Director, Network for Victim Recovery of DC



The Wine Tasting & Silent Auction event is the WBA Foundation’s largest individual fundraising event. In 2019, the event raised over \$24,000. The funds were earmarked to fund the Foundation’s Founders Fellowship and support other grant programs.



Door prize winner Naomi Abraham



Live auction winner Natalia Wilson (center), with Wine Tasting co-chairs Chan Branham (left) and Mary Ellen Kleiman (right)

“WBAF funding makes a major difference to us because we are small. There’s just two of us and we do everything together; we use all our funding efficiently.”

Marla Spindel, Executive Director, DC Kincare Alliance



Alix Bruce



Allison Marriott



Hon. Noel Johnson, Lisa Evans & Sarah Surwit



WBA Foundation president Bridget Bailey



Corrine Parver, Cory Amron, Jill Dash & Liz Medaglia



Artist Sheila Cahill with auction winner Ann Ford

Annual Dinner / WBA Anniversary Event

Each May, the Women's Bar Association and WBA Foundation hold an event to celebrate the anniversary of the Association. In 2020, the Association marked 103 years of empowering and advancing women lawyers. While we typically hold this event at the National Building Museum, the pandemic meant we had to host the event virtually as an anniversary celebration rather than a gala seated dinner.

This annual event is a celebration of the works of the Association and WBA Foundation over the past year. The program included remarks from the presidents of each organization, as well as a tribute to **Patricia Gurne**, who passed away in 2019. Pat was a past president of both the Association and the Foundation. The event was kicked off with remarks from **Senator Kirsten Gillibrand** and **then-Senator Kamala Harris**. The featured speaker for the evening was **Dahlia Lithwick**, Senior Editor and Legal Correspondent, Slate. Attendees were encouraged to don suffragette white in honor of the centennial of the ratification of the 19th Amendment.



WBA Foundation president Bridget Bailey Lipscomb

Do More 24

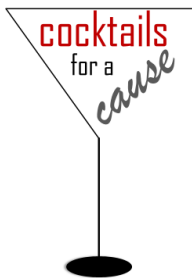
DO MORE
#MobilizingDMV
5.05.2020



WBA 
FOUNDATION

Do More 24 is a 24-hour online fundraiser powered by United Way of the National Capital Area. Donors can contribute to any of the more than 800 participating nonprofits to fund programs and services in the metropolitan Washington, DC community.

In response to the pandemic, and the resulting challenges that nonprofits were facing, Do More 24 partnered with #GivingTuesday for a #MobilizeDMV campaign on May 5, 2020 to make an impact for the most vulnerable in our community.



To create additional excitement for this fundraiser, and to facilitate more connections among Foundation supporters, we hosted Cocktails for a Cause, a virtual program to coincide with Do More 24. We invited representatives from four grantees – Amara Legal Center, DC Volunteer Lawyers Project, Legal Counsel for the Elderly, and Safe Sisters Circle – which were all beginning to adapt to providing vital services during a pandemic shutdown. About 40 people attended, and they were able to talk about their WBA Foundation and why they support the organization.

When the evening ended, through the efforts via email, social media, and the virtual event, the campaign raised almost \$7,900 for the Foundation.

Chefs Dine In

For ten years, **Paulette Chapman**, a former WBA Foundation Board member and WBA past president, has invited members of the WBA and WBA Foundation into her home for a fall fundraiser, Chefs Dine In. Each year, guest chefs prepare their favorite dish to share. Instead of the traditional hostess gift, guests are encouraged to make a contribution to the Foundation.

To mark a decade of Chefs Dine In, we kicked it up a notch and set a goal to raise as much in one evening as we had collectively over the prior nine years. Over 60 people attended the event, and \$15,200 was raised to support the Foundation's grant programs.

Donor Appreciation Event

The WBA Foundation held its first Donor Appreciation Event in spring 2019. The purpose of the event is to provide a forum for Foundation donors to get to know one another and be recognized by the Foundation for their support over the past year. Scheduled as a mixer in early April 2020, the event had to be quickly repurposed as a virtual program due to the COVID pandemic shutdown.

A group of about 30 Foundation leaders and supporters gathered. They shared how they become involved with and stay connected to the Foundation. Our Suzanne Richards Scholarship recipient, Elizabeth "Liz" Davis, gave remarks, and shared some of her experiences as an intern at grantee Legal Aid Society.

We invited two speakers to the event to offer beneficial information to our donors, as a thank you for their support. Avery Fontaine of BNY Melon gave an overview of the philanthropic market and funding strategies nonprofits could consider during the pandemic. Gaffar Chowdhury of First Financial Group discussed how and why people support their charities of choice, and different options for giving.

"It's so important to have programs specifically geared for young women and girls because [women understand other women] and if we're not uplifting each other, I don't know who else is going to do that. That's where the WBA Foundation is doing a great job, in continuing to fund organizations that are supporting young women and girls."

Llamilet Gutierrez, Executive Director, Amara Legal Center

Thank You To Our Donors

It is through the support of committed donors that the WBA Foundation can carry on its important work. The WBA Foundation extends its gratitude to the following donors for their generosity. (Note: this list represents direct donations; it does not reflect contributions made via event sponsorship, which are listed on pages 16-17.)

\$2,500+

Sterne Kessler Goldstein & Fox PLLC

\$1,000 - \$2,499

Latasha Boone
Paulette Chapman

Patricia Gurne
Bridget Bailey Lipscomb

Suzanne Reifman
Sarah Surwit

Pamela Whittaker

\$500 - \$999

Chandra Branham
Hon. Diane Brennenman
Amy Conway-Hatcher
Dawn Dalton
Erica Dominitz
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Katie Frost
Clifford Gyamfi
Michele Hagans
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Angela Miller
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Grace Parke Fremlin
Ilene Price
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Gail Westover
Kirsten Wilkerson
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\$100 - \$249

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Pratibha Agarwal
Florence Bailey
Myra Bailey
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Rhoda Barish
Amy Bess
Mary Blatch
Sarah Buescher
Marjorie Burnett
Gaffar Chowdhury
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Jill Dash
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Martha McQuade
Lynne Milne
Sadina Montani

Lisa Packer
Michelle Turner Roberts
Colleen Scott
Rebecca Simon
Marcia Stanford
Bernice Tobin
Elizabeth Varner
Hattie Williams
MJ Wilson-Bilik
Christopher Zampogna

Up to \$99

Michelle Bailey
Marvin Bailey
Harry Baumgarten
Kathleen Blaszk
Vertis Boyce
Ximena Brito
Crystal Brown
Lauren Brown
Sabrina Camboulives
Kerri Castellini
Anne Collier
Marilyn Daniel
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Lauren Shaw
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David Sokolowski
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Lizet Steele
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Brian Thompson
Jacquelyn Thompson
Maria Thompson
Aurora Threatts
Samantha Trenos
Lillian Wardlaw
David Warshay
Michelle Webster
Sherlyn Wiggs
Laura Yaffe

Contributors listed here participated between June 1, 2019 and May 31, 2020. We have made every effort to ensure the accuracy of this listing. If we have made an error, please accept our apology. You may call us at 202-639-8880 so that we can correct our records.

2019 Wine Tasting and Silent Auction Sponsors & Contributors

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Arnall Golden Gregory LLP Kirkland & Ellis LLP

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(US) LLP Vedder Price

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