

**2006-2007  
ANNUAL REPORT**



HENNEPIN COUNTY  
BAR FOUNDATION

...EVOLVING TO MEET NEW CHALLENGES

*Portraits of Giving*

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear members of the bench and bar:

This has been a very busy and successful year for the Hennepin County Bar Foundation. It has been my pleasure as the president to lead a very seasoned board of directors in conjunction with enthusiastic supporters and staff in raising and giving over \$103,000 in grants for 2006-2007. This record level of fundraising and grant-making for the foundation would not have been possible without your financial and other support.

Our year started with the traditional annual charity golf benefit at Burl Oaks Golf Club in Minnetonka where we raised nearly \$18,000. What was most exciting for me to see was the continued strong financial support from numerous Hennepin County law firms who sponsor the golf benefit. It is much appreciated.

In September, the fourth annual Attractive Nuisance Tour (ANT) was held at the Fine Line in downtown Minneapolis. As usual, the music, the bands, and the guests rocked. A special thank you goes to Craig Sandock, Greg Wiley, and the ANT Committee for all their hard work. It paid off, with the foundation and Minnesota Justice Foundation splitting the net proceeds of over \$55,000. The ANT is

now the foundation's second-largest funding source for its annual giving. Only the Annual Bar Benefit generates more proceeds for the HCBF. (Other funding avenues include the golf outing—noted above—and the "dues check off" from HCBA members when they pay their membership dues. Thanks for your dues check off!)

Beginning in December I had the privilege of representing the foundation on the Call for Justice task force charged by the Hennepin and Ramsey County bar associations to examine the

feasibility of a one-call intake and brief advice hotline. The task force comprised lead representatives from over ten of the major providers of legal services to low-income and disadvantaged clients (including Legal Aid, Volunteer Lawyers Network, SMRLS, and Centro Legal), as well as representatives from the Ramsey County Bar Association, the Hennepin County Bar Association and the Foundation.

The Call for Justice task force has completed its initial work and provides the bar associations with its report and recommendation during June 2007. There are some exciting prospects for teaming up with other resources already at work in the marketplace to one day make one call for justice a reality.

At the 27th Annual Bar Benefit, the foundation raised \$97,000 and VLN raised \$20,000, together once again surpassing the \$100,000 mark. It was the most successful bar benefit to date. A big thank you goes to the law firms and individuals who supported the event, as well as to the staff—Joy Hamilton for coordinating the entire event from start to finish, Joseph Satter for designing promotional materials, and Liz Kelley for helping with administrative functions—without whom this event would not have been possible. The new Hennepin County attorney, Mike Freeman, served as the honorary chair and hosted the event. At the Bar Benefit the foundation and VLN honored and acknowledged the recipients of annual Pro Bono Publico Awards and the 2006 participants in HCBA's Pro Bono Challenge.



## OFFICERS, 2006-2007

PRESIDENT, **PAUL FLOYD**

VICE PRESIDENT, **COURTNEY WARD-REICHARD**

SECRETARY, **CHRISTINA SZITTA**

TREASURER, **RICHARD PINS**

## OFFICERS, 2007-2008

PRESIDENT, **COURTNEY WARD-REICHARD**

VICE PRESIDENT, **CHRISTINA SZITTA**

SECRETARY, **RICHARD PINS**

TREASURER, **MARSHALL LICHTY**

**THE MISSION OF THE HENNEPIN COUNTY BAR FOUNDATION IS TO ACHIEVE EQUAL JUSTICE FOR ALL CITIZENS OF HENNEPIN COUNTY BY:**

**IMPROVING THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE**

**INCREASING PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING OF THE LAW**

**FACILITATING THE DELIVERY OF LEGAL SERVICES**

## INTRODUCING YOUR 2007-2008 HCBF LEADERSHIP

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### HCBF APPOINTEES TO THE ADVISORY BOARD (AFFILIATION AGREEMENT)

Hon. Thomas Johnson  
Andrew Mohring  
Courtney Ward-Reichard

This year the foundation continued investigating the possibility of an endowment campaign. We interviewed various fundraising consultants about the process, the administrative and other costs, and the likely success of such a campaign. We also set aside funds to be added to the more than \$200,000 currently earmarked as starter funds for an endowment. However, after meeting with the consultants, we know that the focus and timing of an endowment campaign are crucial to its success. The foundation board will continue to evaluate the likely success of an endowment campaign, and if feasible and prudent, will retain a consulting firm to help direct our efforts.

In April and May the foundation approved over 25 grants, totaling more than \$103,000. (As recently as 2003, the grant amount was just over \$50,000.) I want to especially thank each of the board members who took the time out of their busy schedules to do a site visit. These visits are crucial for the foundation to have a good idea of how its grants are being used by the recipients. This year's grant recipients span a number of specialty need areas and projects that are focused in part on Hennepin County and its residents. Each of these grant recipients fulfills one or more of the goals of the foundation's three-pronged mission:

- Facilitating the delivery of legal services;
- Improving the administration of justice; and
- Increasing the public's understanding of the law and the judicial system.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve and lead the foundation. Because the board and staff of the foundation are committed to its mission, I am convinced that the best years of the foundation are yet to come. Thank you for your support this year; we look forward to your continued support as the foundation moves forward.

Sincerely,

Paul M. Floyd

## 2006-2007 HCBF GRANT RECIPIENTS

### BATTERED WOMEN'S LEGAL ADVOCACY PROJECT (BWLAP)

(\$3,000): To provide technical assistance and consultation services related to domestic violence and to offer training in Hennepin County to advocates, attorneys, and other interested parties. These workshops focus on the legal changes that occurred during the recent legislative session as well as new state and federal case law around issues related to domestic violence.

### CENTER FOR HOMICIDE RESEARCH (CHR)

(\$1,500): For continued research and analysis of GLBT homicides in Minnesota to complete the data on these homicide cases and continue our analysis and distribution of findings and strategies for improvement of both criminal justice and community responses to homicide.

### CENTRO LEGAL, INC.

(\$1,500): To provide to the Latino community through Proyecto Ayuda: legal relief, community education, and professional training to victims of domestic violence and crime.

### CHILDREN'S LAW CENTER OF MINNESOTA (CLC)

(\$4,000): For The Forgotten Children Project, a program that provides representation to Hennepin County state wards before they appear in detention or delinquency cases.

### CHRYSALIS

(\$2,500): To fund the Legal Assistance for Women program, enabling women to make informed legal and economic choices when facing separation, divorce, domestic violence, or other major life changes.

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# 2006-2007 HCBF GRANT RECIPIENTS

- Continued -

## **CIVIL SOCIETY**

(\$2,500): To support legal services to trafficking victims in Hennepin County through the Minnesota Trafficking Victims Services Network.

## **CORNERSTONE**

(\$1,000): To support Cornerstone's Legal Services program in family and criminal court for domestic violence victims as well as a new project to create a stalking protocol in conjunction with the St. Louis Park and Bloomington city attorneys and police departments.

## **COUNCIL ON CRIME AND JUSTICE**

(\$3,000): To support the GAUGE initiative. This initiative will seek adoption of the council's Fair Hiring Practices model by private employers.

## **DIVISION OF INDIAN WORK**

(\$3,000): To support The Family Violence Program at the Division of Indian Work providing a comprehensive continuum of care services to American Indian victims of domestic abuse, as well as anger management counseling to men and women.

## **FAMILY & CHILDREN'S SERVICE**

(\$2,000): To educate low-income residents of deteriorating rental properties about laws on rental property and landlord-tenant relationships, roles, and responsibilities, and to teach people about effective ways and legal processes to improve conditions in their apartment communities.

## **HCBA (LANGUAGE LINE)**

(\$1,000): To bring an interpreter into a Lawyer Referral conversation when there is a need, to facilitate access to justice for non-English speakers.

## **HCBA (LEGAL STUFF PROJECT)**

(\$3,500): To fund printing and distribution of 10,000 copies of Legal Stuff to schools, police community programs, youth services, and churches. *Legal Stuff* is a 60-plus page booklet providing teens with essential legal information in an age-appropriate, user-friendly format.

## **HCBA (LINC)**

(\$5,000): To assist the Leaders Impacting the Nonprofit Community (LINC) program, equipping participants with skills and knowledge to serve as leaders in the nonprofit community.

## **INNOCENCE PROJECT**

(\$3,000): To support and continue work on the project's education, review, and research into wrongfully convicted and imprisoned individuals.

## **IMMIGRANT LAW CENTER OF MINNESOTA**

(\$3,000): To fund the New Beginnings project that provides legal representation before the BCIS and in immigration court to women and children who are eligible for special immigration benefits, along with education about rights and responsibilities.

## **LAWYERS CONCERNED FOR LAWYERS (LCL)**

(\$4,860): To fund marketing and Web site development to help clients in Hennepin County easily access information regarding LCL programs and services.

## **LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF MINNEAPOLIS**

(\$1,000): To help fund a law student in a work study grant to directly assist in work with equity-stripping mortgage foreclosures, which are rapidly on the rise in Hennepin County.

## **LEGAL RIGHTS CENTER**

(\$4,000): To provide personalized, community-based, and prevention-oriented criminal and juvenile legal services to over 1,200 low-income clients.

## **LOAN REPAYMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

(\$2,500): To provide funding for education loan repayment assistance to a recently graduated attorney representing low-income clients in Hennepin County.

## **M.A.O. LEGAL SERVICES**

(\$1,500): To provide legal services to disabled adults age 18 and older and all adults age 55 and older who, based on income and asset level, qualify to receive subsidized rates. To educate Hennepin County residents on elder law topics.

## **MINNEAPOLIS MEDIATION PROGRAM**

(\$3,000): To respond to the growing need to better serve the Spanish-speaking residents in Hennepin County in the recently instituted Spanish-language conciliation court.

## **MINNESOTA ADVOCATES FOR HUMAN RIGHTS**

(\$3,000): To support legal services for Liberians facing termination of Temporary Protected Status under federal law.

## **MINNESOTA JUSTICE FOUNDATION**

(\$5,000): To support the law student volunteer component of the Law School Public Service Program that encourages law students to perform 50 hours of pro bono legal services during their law school career.

## **PAN AFRICAN LEGAL AID (PALA)**

(\$2,000): To develop, implement, and expand PALA's three core projects for African immigrants living in the Cedar/Riverside neighborhood of Hennepin County: Free Legal Service, Legal Forum, and Citizenship Initiative.

## **RESTORATIVE JUSTICE COMMUNITY ACTION**

(\$2,000): To support year three of a three-year plan to close gaps in services across the city by expanding the program to additional neighborhoods with demonstrated need.

## **VOLUNTEER LAWYERS NETWORK (VLN)**

(\$35,000): To support services to the economically disadvantaged and to increase staff capacity to meet demonstrated needs.

**GRANT POLICIES AND APPLICATIONS ARE  
AVAILABLE AT: [WWW.HCBA.ORG](http://WWW.HCBA.ORG)**