



JUSTICE



2020 ANNUAL REPORT
October 1, 2019 - September 30, 2020



OUR MISSION

To fund, support, and improve legal representation of people who are financially disenfranchised, or who are otherwise underserved in the District of Columbia.

An Overview of What We Do

The DC Bar Foundation (DCBF) works hand-in-hand with the civil legal aid community to better understand and address the legal issues facing District residents, identify unmet civil legal needs, and make strategic investments to strengthen and expand legal services for disadvantaged District residents. We are committed to the vision that District residents have equal access to justice, regardless of income. In 2019, we adopted an exciting strategic vision to “transform DC’s civil legal aid network, working closely with all stakeholders, so District residents have a fair and equal legal experience.”

Grants

The DC Bar Foundation assists our grantees with operational support funds through our General Support Grants program, and community project funds through our Civil Legal Counsel Projects Program and Access to Justice program. In 2020, we awarded over \$10.5 million in funding, which kept families in their homes, protected people in the marketplace and workplace, and amplified the voices of those in need.

In June 2020, the Foundation awarded an additional \$100,000 in COVID-19 Response grants to help the District’s civil legal aid community adapt and respond to the emergent needs of DC workers and families who are most vulnerable to the health and economic repercussions of the pandemic. These grants prioritized small nonprofit legal aid organizations that are working with communities of color who have been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic.

Loan Repayment Assistance Program

The DC Bar Foundation’s Loan Repayment Assistance Program (LRAP) makes it more possible for District legal services providers to hire and retain top-notch legal talent to better serve their clients in need. LRAP provides eligible attorneys a forgivable, one-year loan to help pay their significant educational debt. This makes it possible for poverty law attorneys to manage their student debt without having to compromise their desire to work in the civil legal aid sector.

Training and Technical Assistance

The DC Bar Foundation invests in the capacity of the civil legal aid network through ongoing professional and organizational development opportunities, such as eviction defense and litigation skills trial advocacy trainings for civil legal aid attorneys.



Kirra L. Jarratt
Chief Executive Officer



David W. Ogden
Board President

DEAR FRIENDS,

It was a year like no other. In early 2020, we awarded a record \$10.5M in grants to 33 DC legal aid organizations, and our private fundraising was far ahead of the previous year's pace. Then, the pandemic struck, and interests rates—critical for our IOLTA program—plummeted.

We pivoted quickly. Thankfully, we had systems in place for staff to work from home. We downsized our physical office to preserve valuable resources, and we converted in-person events to virtual. Without missing a beat, we continued our mission to fund, support, and improve legal representation of financially disenfranchised people and those living in vulnerable situations in the District of Columbia.

In June, we awarded \$100,000 in COVID-19 Emergency Response grants to nine legal aid organizations in the District.

We funded two new legal aid networks to increase coordination, cooperation, and collaboration, which ultimately brings better legal results for our DC neighbors in need.

The Landlord-Tenant Legal Assistance Network includes the six grantees of the publicly-funded Civil Legal Counsel Projects Program. Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, these organizations created a single phone line in June 2020 for tenants facing eviction where attorneys can help those in need.

Six of our family law grantees comprise the Family Law Learning Network, which began in February 2020. They are focused on learning from each other and collaboratively building their capacity to use data and evidence to improve their legal practices.

We conducted our events online, beginning with the President's Reception in September to honor members of our 77 Society - our most generous donors. In early October, the Young Lawyers Network Leadership Council hosted a panel conversation on race, equity, and civil legal aid, moderated by DC Attorney General Karl Racine.

We know that due to systemic racism's long-term effects, communities of color have disproportionately borne the brunt of this public health crisis. And for that reason, we remain even more committed to help those among us who have critical civil legal aid needs with no one to help them navigate the system.

As we look to the future, a robust civil legal aid network is critical to the District's recovery from the pandemic. We are finding new ways to listen to the client community, evaluate the unmet needs, address racial equity issues, and create a system-wide coordinated intake program. Building a transformed civil legal aid ecosystem that serves all District residents' needs is the mission to which we are committed. We hope you will join us.

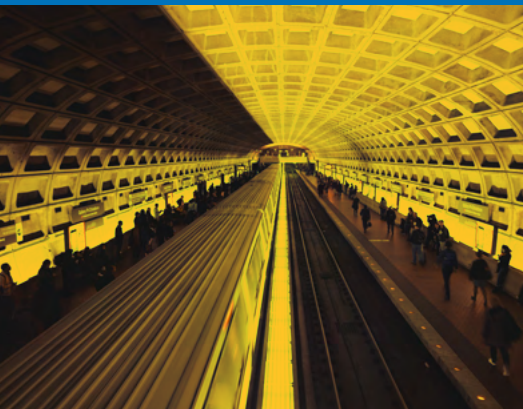
Kirra L. Jarratt
Chief Executive Officer

David W. Ogden
Board President

2020 Update



85
Hosted two of a four-part racial justice training series for 85 legal aid attorneys in DC



\$10.5 M
Awarded over \$10.5 million in grants to amplify voices of those in need, keep families in their homes, and protect people.



80%
of Grantees serving Wards 5, 7, and 8

\$100K
Awarded over \$100,000 in emergency grants to support high-priority and short-term emergency civil legal aid needs of the most vulnerable residents in our community.



The Majority
of the grants targeted residents in Wards 5, 7, and 8, where nearly two-thirds of the District's Black families live, and a concentration of families of four live on an annual income of less than \$25,000.



110
Attorney FTEs funded

THE DC BAR FOUNDATION assists our grantees with operational support funds through our General Support Grants program, as well as community project funds through our Civil Legal Counsel Projects Program and Access to Justice program.

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STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

1

ENGAGE ALL STAKEHOLDERS IN THE WORK

Work with partners to support the civil legal aid network by studying outcomes, providing data, identifying needs, sharing observations, and serving as a sounding board to develop better solutions to meet community needs.



In September 2020, DCBF began work with two organizations: Interaction Institute for Social Change (IISC) and Visible Network Labs (VNL). IISC is charged with identifying who should be in the network, as well as who should participate in an initial convening of the network, currently scheduled for the first half of 2021. VNL will conduct a parallel network analysis that will further inform the IISC-led convening and our next steps in transforming the network. VNL will also provide multiple trainings on network science.

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

2

IDENTIFY UNMET CIVIL LEGAL NEEDS

Work with stakeholders to identify barriers to access for those in need while launching a data-driven intake and referral system to improve access to civil legal aid services.



In August, DCBF received a \$65,000 Momentum Fund Grant from United Philanthropy.

The grant will be used to pilot a participatory grantmaking project where we will work directly with community residents to design a legal aid solution with their voice at its center.



STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

3

INFUSE RACIAL JUSTICE AND EQUITY IN OUR WORK

Continue to integrate racial justice & equity initiatives to evolve our practices in the pursuit of justice.



In 2020, DCBF continued its partnership with Service Never Sleeps, a local, African American woman-led training organization, to continue delivering racial justice training for our grantees' staff attorneys and leadership.

DCBF and its grantees both recognize the racial makeup of the District and want to ensure that we have the understanding and skills needed to provide the highest quality of service to clients seeking support.

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

4

FUND WITH INTENTION

Make more strategic grantmaking decisions.



In response to the COVID-19 crisis, DCBF committed \$100,000 to support the DC civil legal aid network's ability to adapt and respond to the emergent needs of DC workers and families who are most vulnerable to the health and economic repercussions of the current pandemic.

The Foundation made grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$25,000 to nine organizations to help mitigate high-priority and short-term emergency civil legal aid needs of the most vulnerable residents in our community.

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

5

DEMONSTRATE HOW PEOPLE WHO NEED SERVICES ARE GETTING THEM

Describe how we are improving District residents' lives by measuring the effectiveness of services, studying outcomes, determining the level of impact, and sharing those findings with our partners and stakeholders.



The Family Law Learning Network (FLLN) kicked off in April 2020. FLLN comprises six DCBF grantees. NPC Research is leading this multi-year initiative, and will provide facilitation, training and technical assistance related to using data to improve service delivery.

The six organizations have already developed project-specific logic models and data frameworks, and will be working on co-creating client feedback surveys. Logic models help network members define a common understanding of their partnership goals and activities, while data frameworks are guidelines that establish how network members come together to share data for maximum benefit.

Supporting DC Residents Through Times of Loss

Mr. A is a Ward 5 resident whose wife of many years—a nurse who dedicated her career to the care of others—served as their family’s sole breadwinner in 2020. When the pandemic hit, Mr. A.’s wife followed the call of duty, treating COVID patients until she contracted and, tragically, eventually succumbed to the disease. Thanks to the DC Bar Foundation’s DCBF generous COVID-19 Response funding, a team of two attorneys from DCBF grantee DC Affordable Law Firm has been able to work alongside Mr. A., representing him in the arduous, heart wrenching, multi-stage process of probating his wife’s estate. At Mr. A.’s request, DC Affordable Law Firm’s team will take his representation a step beyond the work funded by DCBF, drafting powers of attorney and a will for Mr. A. so that their children will not be left picking up the pieces if something happens to him.



WHAT JUSTICE LOOKS LIKE

Securing Life-Saving Unemployment During the Pandemic

Ms. R. was a worker in both Virginia and the District before the pandemic hit. In March of 2020, Ms. R. was terminated from both of her jobs. Shortly after, she applied for unemployment benefits in DC. After waiting almost two months, she was told to apply in Virginia. Virginia’s unemployment office then told her that she had to apply again in DC. At this point, frustrated and in need of financial assistance, Ms. R. contacted DC Bar Foundation grantee, Neighborhood Legal Services Program (NLSP) for help. NLSP worked with her to resolve the situation regarding her unemployment, and she was able to get critical back pay going back to her initial application in DC in the spring.



Fall Reception

The Foundation held its annual Fall Reception on October 10, 2019. Generously hosted each year by Alston & Bird, the reception brought together members of our network to highlight the important work and support of our grantees, LRAP participants, donors, and volunteers. Naseema Shafi, Chief Executive Officer of Foundation grantee Whitman Walker Health spoke about issues facing the LGBTQ+ community in DC, how the Whitman Walker Health Legal Services Program supports their clients, and how DC Bar Foundation funding helps make their work possible.

Scoutt Prize

In May 2020, the DC Bar Foundation awarded the annual Jerrold Scoutt Prize to Beth Mellen, supervising attorney in the Housing Law Unit at Legal Aid Society of the District of Columbia, and Director for the organization's Eviction Defense Project. In addition to her work with Legal Aid's Eviction Defense Project and Housing Right to Counsel Project, Beth also regularly

advocates on behalf of the city's most vulnerable residents on issues surrounding rent control, housing affordability, housing conditions, and greater systemic problems with District agencies and legislators. Her policy advocacy work includes work on important legislation at the DC Council.

The Jerrold Scoutt Prize was established by the firm of KMA Zuckert LLC (formerly Zuckert, Scoutt & Rasenberger LLP) in 1992 in honor of the public interest commitment of one of its founding partners, Jerrold Scoutt, Jr. It is awarded annually to an attorney who has worked for a significant portion of his or her career at a nonprofit organization providing direct, hands-on legal services to the needy in the District of Columbia.

President's Reception

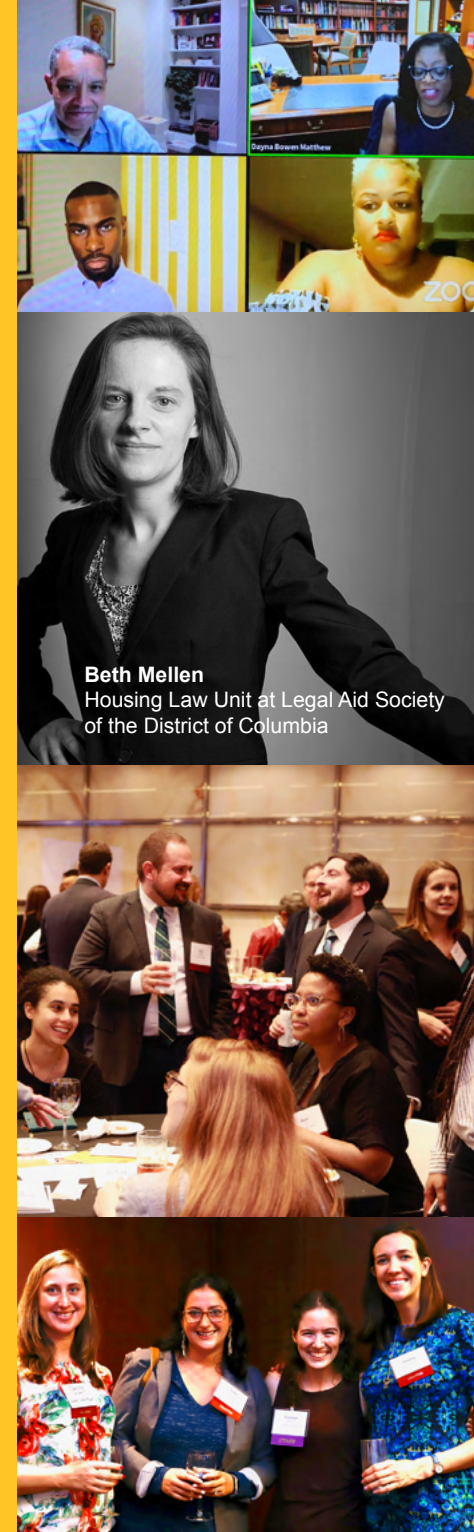
The Foundation hosted its third annual President's Reception for 77 Society members on September 10, 2020 – our first virtual event of 2020. We spent the evening honoring our most generous donors and thanked them for their support of access

to justice in DC.

The live-streamed event featured remarks from the Foundation's CEO, Kirra Jarratt, and President, David Ogden, as well as features from DC Councilmember Charles Allen, DC Mayor Muriel Bowser, and DC Bar Foundation grantees.

Avenues to Justice

The Foundation's Young Lawyers Network Leadership Council made an impressive pivot from its annual Lip Sync for Justice fundraising event to create Avenues to Justice, a virtual panel discussion on race, equity, and civil legal aid in DC. The discussion, hosted on October 8, 2020 and facilitated by DC Attorney General Karl A. Racine, raised over \$41,500 and featured an impressive panel of guests, including: Dayna Bowen Matthew, Dean and Harrold H. Greene Professor at GW Law, Deray Mckesson, author and civil rights advocate, and Aja Taylor, Advocacy Director at Bread for the City.



Beth Mellen
Housing Law Unit at Legal Aid Society
of the District of Columbia

INDIVIDUALS (\$0 - \$999)

Anonymous
 Yewande D. Aderoju
 Cepehr Alizadeh
 Laura Goldin Ames
 Alison Lima Andersen
 Elizabeth Aniskevich
 Valarie B. Ashley
 James Barton
 Stacy Barton
 Melanie Bates
 James D. Bishop
 Stephanie Bitto
 Diane Boykin
 Brian Boynton
 Steven Brammer
 Leila Brown
 Meghan C. Hammond
 Stacy Cammarano
 Michael Carpenter
 Ricardo Carvajal
 Tanja Castro
 Ann Chauvin
 Yevedzo Chitiga
 Thomas Cicotello
 B.A. Cockburn
 Tamara L. Copeland
 Diana Daniels
 Benjamin M. Dean
 Katherine A. DeStefano
 Brad C. Deutsch
 Lucas Dolan
 Kelly Dunbar
 Billy J. Easley
 Paul Eckert
 Carolyn Ellison
 Adam Farra
 Reece G. Flexner
 Hannah Flint
 David S. Forman
 Monique Fortenberry
 David Reed Freeman
 Bernard B. Fulton
 Martha G. Gadd
 Karen N. Gardiner
 Sandra George
 Gwen S. Green
 Felecia Greer
 Kerry-Ann Hamilton
 Christopher A. Hatfield
 Kathleen Havey
 Traci L. Higgins
 Gunnar Himich
 Kevin Hinton
 Sheila Slocum Hollis
 Christine Hopkinson
 Bryan J. Hoynak
 Joanne Hurt
 Linda Jackson
 Alma Jadallah
 Carol Jones
 George A. Jones
 Harlan Jones
 Carla Jordan-Detamore
 James M. Jorling
 Leslie Keyes
 Paul J. Kiernan
 Maria Kirby
 Rachel S. Kronowitz
 Peter L. Dressel
 Emily Lagan
 Caroline C. Leary
 Kimberly S. LeBlanc-Ross
 Brenda Lee
 Allendra Letsome
 Ariel Levinson-Waldman
 Cara Levy
 Kathleen B. Lewis
 Timothy A. Libutti
 Courtney Lindsay
 Bridget Bailey Lipscomb
 Loree Lipstein
 Elizabeth Lynch
 Tania Mabrey
 Helena Mastrogianis
 Melonie J. McCall
 Vonya B. McCann
 Kimberly A. McCarthy
 Patrick M. McDermott
 Jennifer McLain
 Eun Mi Mi Yu
 Danielle Morris
 Thomas Mueller
 Lindsey Nelson
 Joseph Onek
 Angela M. Owens
 Teresa Payne-Nunn
 Heather Peeler
 Brian Pickett
 Kyle Pozza
 Erin Prangley
 Abigail Pulliam
 Patricia Reilly
 Greer Richey
 Karen Ritter
 Ruth Robinson
 Seth A. Rosenthal

David J. Ross
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 Tiana L. Russell
 Janice Ryan
 Fahad Saghir
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 W. Mark Smith
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 Jay Stewart
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 Kenneth R. Thomas
 Whitney Toomer
 John Tucker
 Marna S. Tucker
 Mark H. Tuohey
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 Betsy Yuhas
 Debra Zusin

DONORS AND PRIME PARTNERS

The Interest on Lawyers Trust Accounts (IOLTA) Program, comprised of thousands of pooled bank accounts, is administered by DCBF and distributed within the community for legal aid. We are extremely grateful for our Prime Partners for going above and beyond by offering a higher interest rate on their IOLTA accounts and making civil legal aid more accessible in our community.

City First Bank of DC
 Congressional Bank
 Industrial Bank

Premier Bank, Inc.
 United States Senate Federal Credit Union

77 SOCIETY MEMBERS

Named in honor of the year that the DC Bar Foundation was founded, the 77 Society recognizes the generosity of our donors, as well as the impact their support has on low-income District residents in need of civil legal aid. Membership in the 77 Society is extended to individuals whose gifts to the DC Bar Foundation total \$1,000 or more each fiscal year. Members are listed below by the year they joined the 77 Society.

Class of 2017

Murray J. Belman
 Maureen F. Del Duca
 Marc L. Fleischaker
 Nathalie F.P. Gilfoyle ***
 Susan F. Hoffman
 Philip W. Horton
 Ellen M. Jakovic
 Kirra L. Jarratt
 Stuart Land
 Andrew Marks
 Mary E. McClymont
 Patrick McGlone
 John M. Nannes
 David W. Ogden ***
 Carter Phillips
 Stephen Pollak *
 Daniel A. Rezneck
 Stanley O. Sher
 Paul M. Smith **
 Bruce V. Spiva *
 Janet R. Studley

Class of 2018

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 Ronald S. Flagg
 Jamie Gorelick **

Hartmut Schneider
 Marsha E. Swiss
 Michael Ward

Class of 2019

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 John C. Cruden
 Mark Herzog
 Adam Pollet
 John P. Reiman *
 Michael Rogan *
 James J. Sandman
 Matthew S. Watson
 Melissa Weberman

Class of 2020

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 Connie Bertram
 Jonathan Cedarbaum
 Emilio W. Cividanes
 Charles Curran
 Kenneth Epps
 Geoffrey Fehling
 Wayne Gibson
 Meryl Grenadier
 Stephanie Hui
 Paul Hamburger

Ashley James
 Rachael Kent
 Perry Lange
 Karen A. Lash
 Deborah Lindenberg
 Ronald Machen
 William McElwain
 William McLucas
 Benjamin Powell
 Danielle Reyes
 Allison Rochford
 Kenneth Salazar
 Howard Shapiro **
 Andrew Shaw
 Jean Simons
 Danielle Spinelli
 Daniel Volchok
 Seth Waxman *

KEY

* Advocates of Justice
(\$2,500 - \$4,999)

** Champions of Justice
(\$5,000 - \$9,999)

*** Pillars of Justice
(\$10,000 and above)

THANK YOU

LAW FIRMS AND CORPORATIONS

Platinum (\$25,000 and up)

Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP
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Goodwin Procter LLP
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AARP Foundation, Alston & Bird, Eversheds Sutherland (US) LLP,
Relman Colfax and Dane, Sidley Austin LLP, and WilmerHale for hosting DCBF board
and committee meetings.

Venable LLP for hosting DC Consortium meetings.

Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP for their many hours of general counsel support.

Sidley Austin LLP for hosting our racial justice training series, and Hogan Lovells for
hosting eviction defense cohort trainings. WeWork 80 M Street for hosting our Go
Casual for Justice pop-up table, and Eversheds Sutherland (US) LLP for hosting our
77 Society Breakfast.

GO CASUAL FOR JUSTICE PARTICIPATING WORKPLACES

\$2,500-\$4,999

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Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP
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\$1,000-\$2,499

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& Dunner LLP
Latham & Watkins LLP
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& Scarborough LLP
Seyfarth Shaw LLP
Sidley Austin LLP
Steptoe & Johnson LLP

\$500-\$999

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Troutman Sanders LLP
Venable LLP
Zuckerman Spaeder LLP

\$250-\$499

American Psychological
Association
Eversheds Sutherland
(US) LLP

\$100-\$249

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& Jacobson LLP
Holland & Hart LLP
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Lewis Baach PLLC
Littler Mendelson PC
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up to \$100

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Titanium (\$5,000)

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Platinum (\$3,500)

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Silver (\$1,500)

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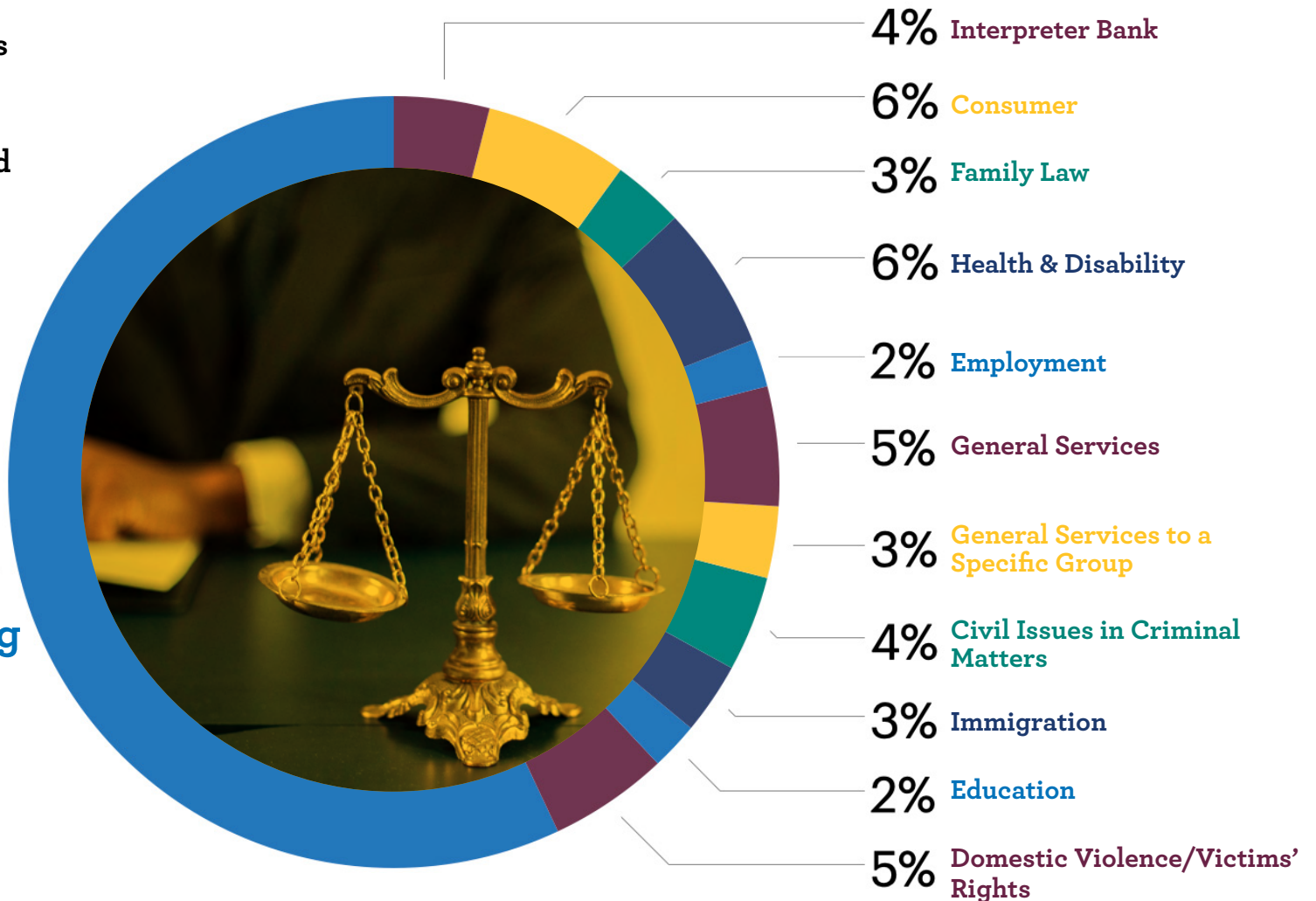
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THANK YOU

GRANTS → \$10.5 Million invested in legal assistance in DC

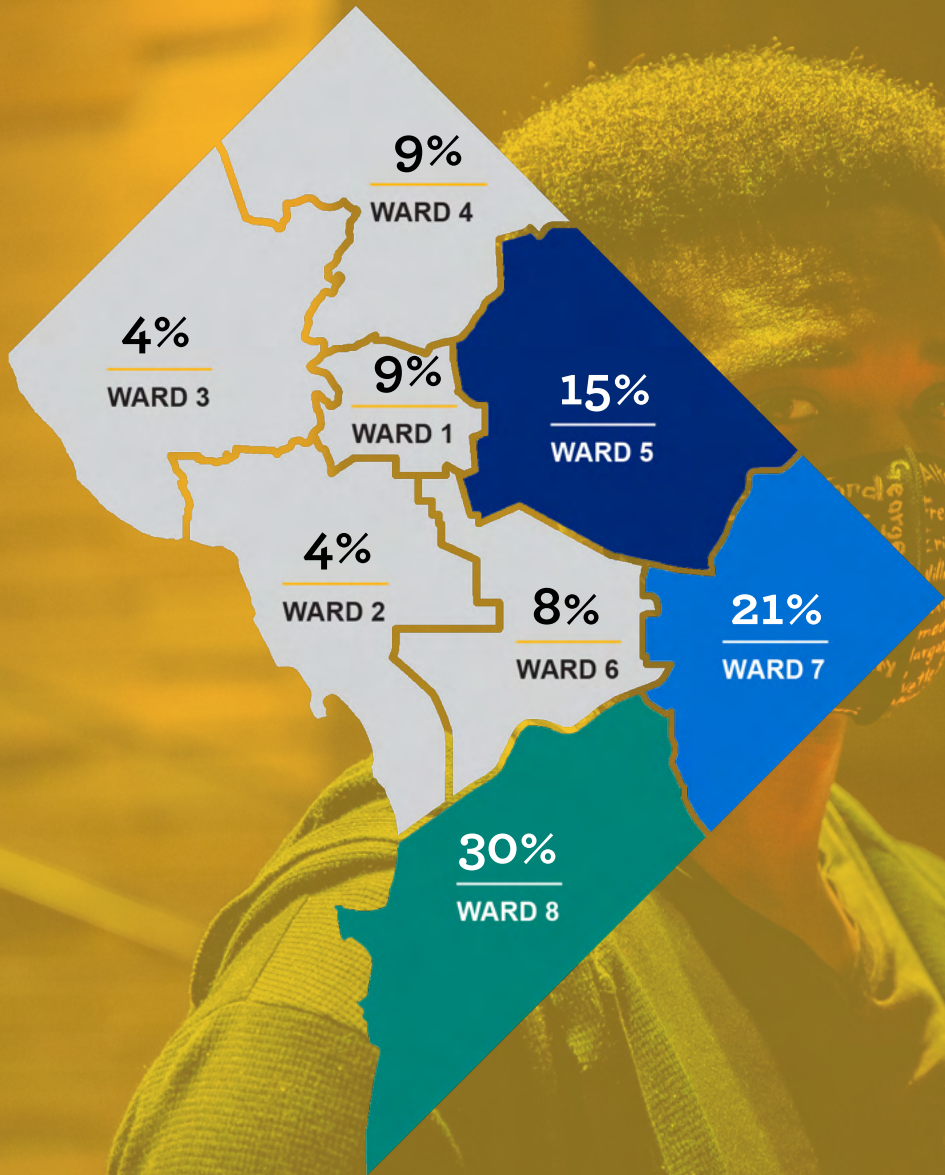
Our grants provide support to organizations that invest in District residents with the greatest need. Our goal is to ensure that residents are being treated fairly in the workplace and marketplace; they are staying in their homes; and our most vulnerable or isolated neighbors are receiving specialized outreach and support.

57% → **Housing**



DCBF funds both general support and project-based grants in numerous categories. Examples of our project-based grants include medical-legal partnerships, court-based projects, and community law offices located in underserved neighborhoods. For more detailed information about our grant programs and the legal aid services that our grantees provide to DC residents, please visit our website at www.dcbfoundation.org.

PERCENTAGE OF DC RESIDENTS SERVED BY Civil Legal Counsel Projects Program GRANTS BY WARD



2020 GRANTEES

- Advocates for Justice and Education
- African Communities Together
- Amara Legal Center
- Asian Pacific American Legal Resource Center
- Ayuda
- Bread for the City
- Break the Cycle
- Capital Area Immigrants Rights Coalition
- Catholic Charities Legal Network
- Central American Resource Center
- Children's Law Center
- Christian Legal Aid of DC
- DC Affordable Law Firm
- DC Bar Pro Bono Center
- DC Volunteer Lawyers Project
- Domestic Violence Legal Empowerment and Appeals Project
- First Shift Justice Project
- Howard University School of Law
- Legal Aid Society of the District of Columbia
- Legal Counsel for the Elderly
- Mid-Atlantic Innocence Project
- Neighborhood Legal Services Program
- Network for Victim Recovery of DC
- Quality Trust for Individuals with Disabilities
- Rising for Justice
- School Justice Project
- The Safe Sisters Circle
- Torture Abolition & Survivors Support Coalition
- Tzedek DC
- University Legal Services
- Washington Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs
- Whitman-Walker Health
- Washington Legal Clinic for the Homeless

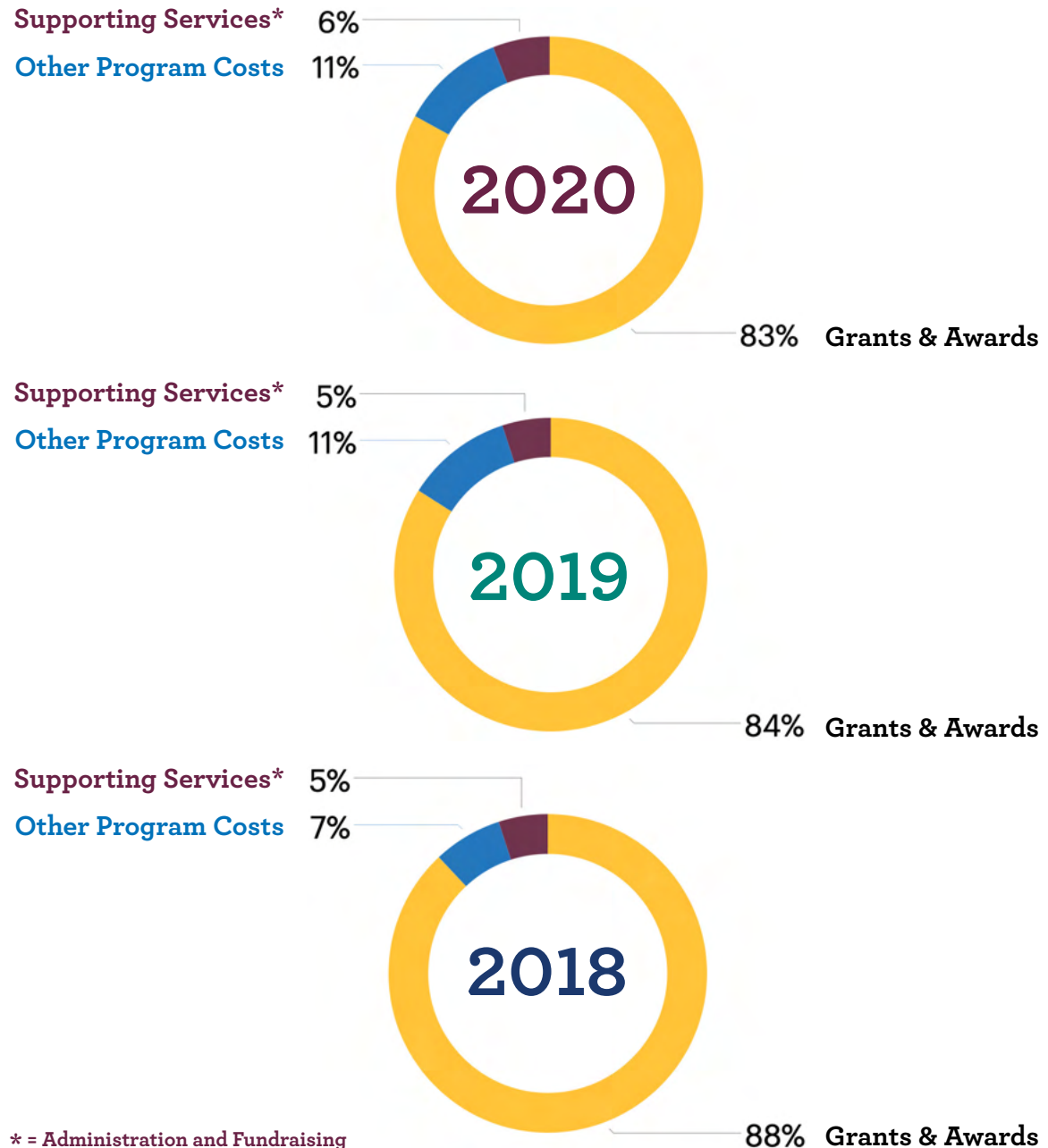
FINANCIALS → Program Expenses vs. Total Expenses

YOUR INVESTMENTS AT WORK

Effective management and efficient operations allow us to invest as much as possible in our programs.

While our grantmaking and other program activities continue to grow in size, the percentage spent on supporting services has stayed level.

For a complete copy of our most recent audited financial statements, please visit our website at dcbfoundation.org.



* = Administration and Fundraising

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Melissa L. Weberman

Arnold & Porter

“2020 was a challenging year, and many obstacles caused by the pandemic still lie ahead. But with your support, we will continue to work to make legal services more accessible to those who need them the most, transforming the legal aid network so that all District residents have a fair and equal legal experience.”

Kirra L. Jarratt
Chief Executive Officer

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