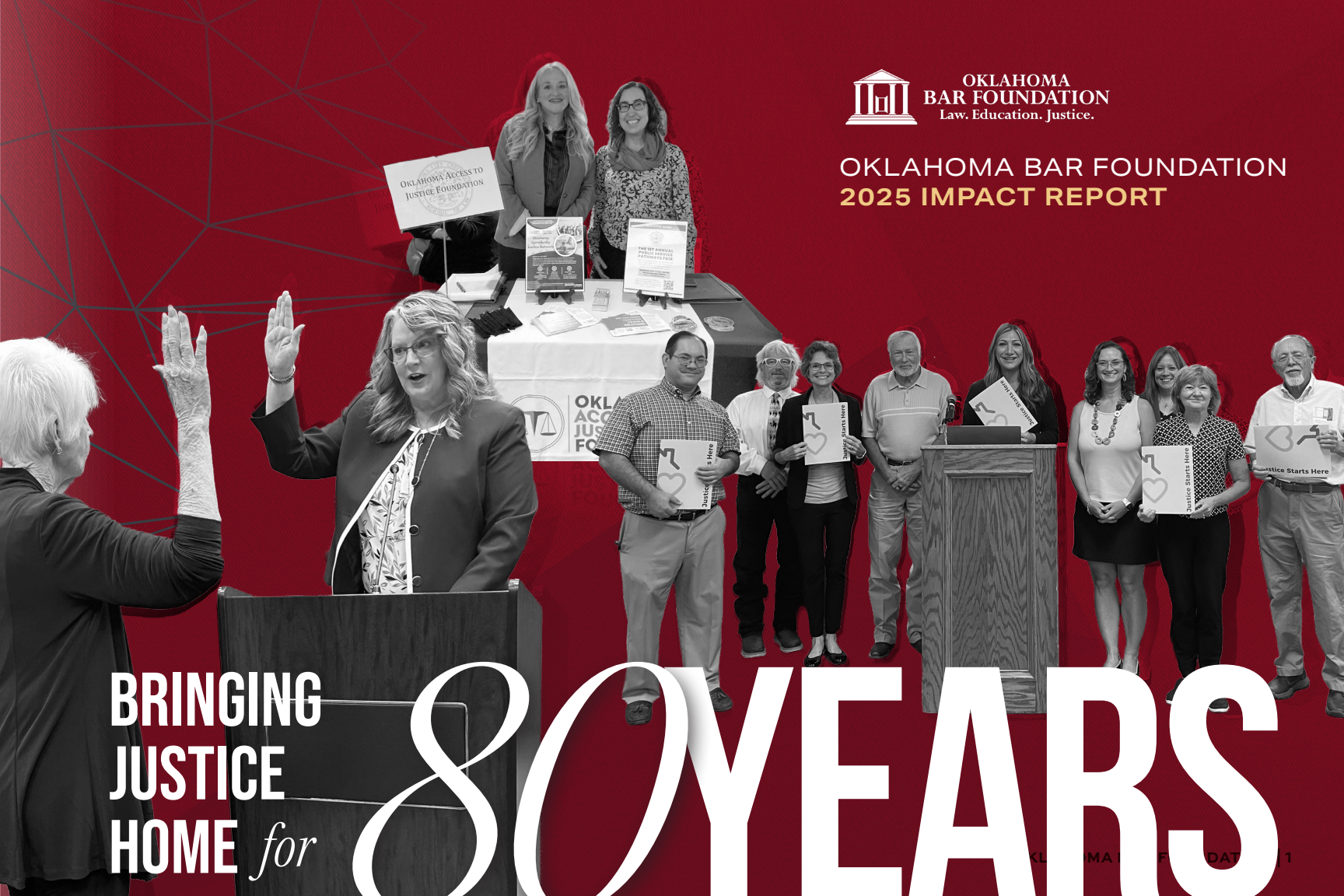

OKLAHOMA
BAR FOUNDATION
Law. Education. Justice.
OKLAHOMA BAR FOUNDATION
2025 IMPACT REPORT
BRINGING
JUSTICE
HOME for 80 YEARS

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

OKLAHOMA BAR FOUNDATION
Law. Education. Justice.



As I begin my term as President of the Oklahoma Bar Foundation, I do so with a clear appreciation for the responsibilities entrusted to the Foundation and for its longstanding role in supporting access to justice across Oklahoma. My early work in publishing provided a practical understanding of how legal frameworks protect interests and facilitate informed decision-making, ultimately leading me to pursue a career in law. Later, my service as chairperson of the Oklahoma Bar Association's Young Lawyers Division reinforced the importance of public service and demonstrated the value of sustained engagement in our professional community. That experience, and the lasting relationships formed through it, continue to inform my commitment to the Foundation's mission and to the broader responsibilities we share as members of the legal profession.

This year marks the Foundation's 80th Anniversary, a milestone that underscores both the progress made and the responsibility ahead. What began as a modest effort to support law-related issues has grown into a statewide leader in funding programs that expand access to justice. The generosity of Oklahoma lawyers over eight decades has strengthened our endowment and enabled the Foundation to support organizations whose work reaches thousands of individuals each year. As we honor this legacy, we also look to the future: ensuring sound stewardship of our resources, strengthening our partnerships, and maintaining the stability of our annual grantmaking for the long term.

The organizations we support best demonstrate the Foundation's impact. Legal Aid Services of Oklahoma provides essential civil legal assistance to vulnerable individuals across the state. Oklahoma Lawyers for Families and Children ensures that abused and neglected youth receive the advocacy they deserve. Numerous youth-justice, diversion, and legal education programs create avenues for accountability, understanding, and second chances. Community organizations funded by OBF work to improve access to the courts, assist individuals navigating legal processes, and expand legal literacy in meaningful and practical ways.

Among our partners, CASA programs, including CASA of Oklahoma County and CASA organizations in Tulsa and statewide, perform particularly important work. Their trained volunteers provide consistent, informed advocacy for children navigating the court system, ensuring their voices are heard during difficult proceedings. Earlier this year, CASA of Oklahoma County honored the Foundation with its Community Impact Award. I was privileged to accept the award on behalf of OBF and to witness firsthand the dedication of CASA volunteers and the measurable impact their service provides. It was the first award the Foundation has received and a meaningful recognition of our longstanding investment in the wellbeing of Oklahoma's children.

Another significant grantee, Lawyers Helping Lawyers, offers confidential support to attorneys facing mental health challenges, substance use concerns, and the pressures inherent in legal practice. Through counseling resources, peer assistance, and crisis intervention, Lawyers Helping Lawyers contributes to the wellbeing of individual attorneys and to the overall health and integrity of the profession. Supporting those who serve the public is essential to maintaining a fair and reliable justice system.

As we celebrate this anniversary year, I invite every member of the Oklahoma Bar Association to engage with the Foundation's mission—whether by contributing to the endowment, sharing our work within your networks, or encouraging community organizations to seek support. The needs across our state remain significant, and collective participation is vital to meeting them.

I extend my sincere appreciation to the donors, volunteers, board members, and staff who sustain the Foundation's work. Your dedication over the past eighty years has built an institution that is both resilient and deeply impactful. I look forward to our continued work together on behalf of all Oklahomans.

-M. Courtney Briggs

2026 Oklahoma Bar Foundation President

> "Community organizations funded by OBF work to improve access to the courts, assist individuals navigating legal processes, and expand legal literacy in *meaningful and practical* ways."

CASA of Oklahoma County honors the Oklahoma Bar Foundation with its Community Impact Award

The award was a meaningful recognition of our longstanding investment in the wellbeing of Oklahoma's children.

Pictured left to right: Kim Vanbebber, Executive Director of CASA of Oklahoma County, Courtney Brigges, OBF Board of Trustees President, OBF Executive Director Renee DeMoss, OBF Director of Grant Services and Communications, Jessi Hesami.



OKLAHOMA BAR FOUNDATION STAFF:



Renee DeMoss
Executive Director



Jessi Hesami
Director of Grants & Communications



Deb Holt
IOLTA Manager



Candice Pace
Director of Development & Strategic Partnerships



Jocelyn Payne
Executive Assistant

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HOW WE INVEST IN JUSTICE

Through strategic grantmaking, the Oklahoma Bar Foundation expands access to justice across all 77 counties—providing legal services, supporting courts, and investing in the future of the profession.

IOLTA GRANTS

Support nonprofit legal organizations helping Oklahomans with critical needs like housing, family safety, and access to benefits.

HOUSING PROTECTION GRANTS

Prevent eviction and promote housing stability through legal representation and early intervention.

COURT GRANTS

Fund courtroom technology and improvements to ensure efficient, accessible justice.

COURT REPORTER GRANTS

Address shortages in rural counties by supporting recruitment and retention of court reporters.

SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

Support law students and recognize leaders advancing justice in Oklahoma.

COURT INTERPRETER PROGRAM

Expanding language access in courts for LEP individuals so all Oklahomans can participate fully in the legal system.

IOLTA GRANTS

GRANTEE	PROGRAM/ SERVICE
1st Step Male Diversion Program	Wrapped in Hope: Intake Supplies & Support for Second Chances
22nd Judicial District CASA	Court Appointed Special Advocates Program
American Civil Liberties Union of Oklahoma Foundation	Know Your Rights: ACLU of Oklahoma Education Sessions
American Dream Center Institute	Low-Cost Legal Services for Immigrants & Refugees
Bill of Rights Institute	Teaching Rights & Responsibilities Under the Law to OK Students
CASA of Canadian County	Court Appointed Special Advocates Program
CASA for Kids	Court Appointed Special Advocates Program
CASA of Northeast Oklahoma	Court Appointed Special Advocates Program
CASA of Oklahoma County	Court Appointed Special Advocates Program
CASA of Southern Oklahoma	Court Appointed Special Advocates Program
CASA of Western Oklahoma	Court Appointed Special Advocates Program
Catholic Charities of Eastern Oklahoma	Immigration Legal Services
Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City	Citizenship Initiative & Support for Survivors of Crime
Center for Children and Families	Divorce & Co-Parenting Services
Child Advocacy Network	Tulsa's Only Multidisciplinary Child Abuse Team
Community Action Agency of Oklahoma City	Community Legal Counsel Center
Community Court Advocacy Network	CCAN Case Management
Community Crisis Center	Community Crisis Center Court Advocacy
Domestic Violence Intervention Services	DVIS Legal Program
Grand Lake Mental Health Center	Services for Justice Involved Individuals & Families

IOLTA GRANTS

AREA OF SERVICE	GRANT AMOUNT	LIVES IMPACTED
Tulsa County	$18,084	25
Hughes, Pontotoc & Seminole Counties	$20,000	70
Statewide	$15,000	250
Statewide	$30,000	100
Statewide	$25,000	12,903
Canadian County	$20,000	106
Kay, Logan & Payne Counties	$15,000	120
Delaware, Mayes, Ottawa, Rogers & Washington Counties	$25,000	175
Oklahoma County	$25,000	630
Carter, Johnston, Love, Marshall & Murray Counties	$15,000	111
Beckham, Custer, Dewey, Roger Mills & Washita Counties	$20,000	185
Statewide	$35,000	400
Canadian, Cleveland & Oklahoma Counties	$75,000	600
Cleveland & Oklahoma Counties	$30,000	660
Okmulgee, Tulsa & Wagoner Counties	$20,000	1,774
Canadian & Oklahoma Counties	$47,500	545
Oklahoma County	$30,000	127
Craig, Delaware & Ottawa Counties	$14,000	150
Creek & Tulsa Counties	$25,000	3,630
Kay County	$20,000	92

IOLTA GRANTS

GRANTEE	PROGRAM/ SERVICE
Historical Society of the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Oklahoma	Enhancing Civics Education
Latitude Legal Alliance	Latitude Legal Alliance Representation for Underserved Immigrants
Lawyers Helping Lawyers Foundation	Lawyers Helping Lawyers Foundation
Legal Aid Services of Oklahoma	Access to Civil Legal Services
Marie Detty Youth and Family Service Center	New Directions Domestic & Sexual Violence Prevention Services
Mary Abbott Children's House	Forensic Interview Program
Mental Health Association Oklahoma	Special Services Docket
New Sanctuary Empowerment Center	El Centro Legal Program
Oklahoma Access to Justice Foundation	Legal Education & Empowerment
Oklahoma CASA	Strengthening CASA Advocacy
Oklahoma City University	HEROES Program
Oklahoma City University	American Indian Wills Clinic
Oklahoma County Juvenile Bureau	Literacy Initiative Program
Oklahoma County Juvenile Bureau	Connect to Redirect
Oklahoma Disability Law Center	Educational Juvenile Court Advocacy/Liaison Program
Oklahoma Guardian Ad Litem Institute	GAL Services for Children & Legal Training Program
Oklahoma High School Mock Trial Program	Oklahoma High School Mock Trial Program
Oklahoma Indian Legal Services	Native Navigator Rural Justice Connection

IOLTA GRANTS

AREA OF SERVICE	GRANT AMOUNT	LIVES IMPACTED
Statewide	$10,000	1,000
Statewide	$100,000	4,461
Statewide	$200,000	16,288
Statewide	$250,000	32,500
Caddo, Comanche & Cotton Counties	$20,000	1,625
Cleveland, Garvin & McClain Counties	$15,000	1,200
Statewide	$30,000	250
Tulsa County	$45,000	200
Statewide	$50,000	1,500
Statewide	$25,000	19
Oklahoma, Canadian, Cleveland & Pottawatomie Counties	$57,000	250
Statewide	$45,000	100
Oklahoma County	$4,927	80
Oklahoma County	$8,525	1,600
Canadian & Oklahoma Counties	$52,715	35
Statewide	$100,000	200
Statewide	$75,000	800
Statewide	$150,000	1,200

IOLTA GRANTS

GRANTEE	PROGRAM/ SERVICE
Oklahoma Lawyers for Families and Children	Oklahoma Families Forward: Redefining Access to Justice for Families
Okmulgee County Family Resource Center	Court Appointed Special Advocates Program
Palomar: Oklahoma City Family Justice Center	Palomar Legal Network
CASA of Pawnee/Osage	Court Appointed Special Advocates Program
Pittsburg County Child Abuse Response Effort	MDT Training Initiative for Child Abuse Investigations
Project Commutation	Project Commutation Internship Program
ReMerge	Diversion Program for Mothers
Resonance Center for Women	Diversion & Reentry Services
Safe Center	Legal Services & Domestic Violence Protection
Safe Center	Advocacy for Child Survivors
San Bois CASA	Court Appointed Special Advocates Program
Teen Court	Delinquency Prevention
The CARE Center	Child Abuse Forensic Interviewing
The Comeback Kid Society	Deliquency Prevention
The Parent Child Center of Tulsa	Tulsa Safe Babies
The Spero Project	Refugee Legal Services
The Spring Shelter	Legal Services for Survivors of Domestic Abuse & Human Trafficking
Trinity Legal Clinic of Oklahoma	Community Justice Initiative
Tulsa CASA	Court Appointed Special Advocates Program

IOLTA GRANTS

AREA OF SERVICE	GRANT AMOUNT	LIVES IMPACTED
Statewide	$235,550	500
Creek & Okmulgee Counties	$20,000	111
Canadian, Cleveland, Logan & Oklahoma Counties	$30,000	120
Creek, Kay, Osage, Pawnee & Payne Counties	$25,000	57
Statewide	$20,000	500
Statewide	$80,000	1,000
Canadian, Cleveland, McClain & Oklahoma Counties	$31,060	100
Statewide	$25,000	1,600
Jefferson & Stephens Counties	$75,000	450
Jefferson & Stephens Counties	$30,000	564
Atoka, Haskell, Latimer, LeFlore & Pittsburg Counties	$25,000	200
Comanche County	$50,000	1,362
Oklahoma County	$20,000	1,122
Statewide	$20,000	1,300
Tulsa County	$25,000	75
Canadian, Cleveland & Oklahoma Counties	$130,000	2,700
Statewide	$15,000	2,500
Canadian, Cleveland, & Logan Counties	$75,000	400
Tulsa County	$35,000	260

IOLTA GRANTS

GRANTEE	PROGRAM/ SERVICE
Tulsa Lawyers for Children	Legal Advocacy & Representation for Children
Wings of Hope Family Crisis Services	Court Advocacy Program
YMCA of Greater Oklahoma City	Youth and Government Program
Youth & Family Resource Center	Court Appointed Special Advocates Program
Youth Services of Tulsa	Youth Court
YWCA Enid	Legal Advocacy Program for Survivors of Domestic Violence
YWCA Tulsa	Immigration Legal Services

"This program taught me to love myself...and *gave me the confidence* to maintain my sobriety indefinitely,"

-Resonance Center for Women Graduate





IOLTA GRANTS

AREA OF SERVICE	GRANT AMOUNT	LIVES IMPACTED
Tulsa County	$65,000	315
Lincoln, Logan, Noble, Pawnee & Payne Counties	$20,000	400
Statewide	$16,900	2,500
Lincoln & Potttawatomie Counties	$15,000	35
Tulsa County	$10,000	475
Garfield, Grant, Blaine, Major & Kingfisher Counties	$20,500	3,000
Tulsa County	$100,000	747



Resonance Center for Women marked a powerful achievement this year: two of their largest outpatient treatment graduating classes ever. The graduation ceremonies were filled with celebration, family support, and meaningful reflections from women who have worked tirelessly toward lasting recovery.

The Oklahoma Bar Foundation is honored to support this transformative work through these grants.

TOTAL LIVES IMPACTED:

108,354

TOTAL FUNDING AMOUNT:

$3,696,761

HOUSING PROTECTION GRANTS

GRANTEE	FUNDING AMOUNT
Legal Aid Services of Oklahoma	$87,000
Mental Health Association of Oklahoma	$14,000
Neighborhood Services Organization	$5,000
OCU Law School	$87,000
Tulsa County Bar Association	$16,180

HOUSING GRANTS TOTAL: $209,180

COURT GRANT AWARDS

GRANTEE	FUNDING AMOUNT
District Court of Tulsa County	$22,882
District Court of Pontotoc County	$50,000
District Court of Jackson County	$69,302
District Court of Oklahoma County	$15,000
District Court of Garvin County	$15,176

COURT GRANTS TOTAL: $172,360

COURT REPORTER GRANTS

GRANTEE	FUNDING AMOUNT
Tammie Shipman *Rural Court Employment Grant*	$15,000
Mary Oblander *Rural Court Employment Grant*	$15,000
Norman L. Rico *Rural Court Employment Grant*	$15,000
Nicole L. Harrison *Rural Court Employment Grant*	$15,000
Kimberly Morris *Rural Court Employment Grant*	$15,000
Taylor Plumb *Rural Court Employment Grant*	$15,000

COURT REPORTER GRANTS TOTAL: $90,000



With support from the OBF, the American Indian Wills Clinic at Oklahoma City University College of Law provided 90 elders across Oklahoma with estate planning services like wills, Powers of Attorney, and medical directives.

One client had been waiting more than four years before finally completing the process, and walked away with gratitude and relief.

That's the impact of *access to justice.*

SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

TOTAL OF SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED: **$68,334**

Partners for Justice Scholarship



Addison Tesio

OCU School of Law



S. Wade Jameson

TU School of Law



Katie Kernal

OU School of Law

Thomas L. Hieronymous Award



Bryce Cormack

OU School of Law

Maurice H. Merrill Award



Caitlin Cannon

OU School of Law

Chapman-Rogers Scholarship



Bryce Siirila

OCU School of Law



Lori Whitlock

TU School of Law



Lachlan Sigle

OU School of Law

W.B. Clark Scholarship



Caitlin Cannon

OU School of Law



Zach Lee

OCU School of Law

Judy Hamilton Morse Scholarship



Aliyah Payne

OCU School of Law



Mackenzie Clark

TU School of Law



Michael Johnson

OU School of Law

Phillips Allen Porta Award



Trevor Crabtree

OU School of Law



Seth Phung

OU School of Law

Marvin Emerson/Robert G. Spector Award



Keegan Shive

OCU School of Law



Stanton Thomas

TU School of Law



Natalie Spear

OU School of Law

Trustee Eddie Valdez recognized our 2025 scholarship recipients and the Oklahoma Bar Association Outstanding Student with well-deserved plaques.

These students embody resilience, leadership, and a shared commitment to serving Oklahoma.



Thank you to our

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Bring Justice Home —One Gift at a Time

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BRINGING JUSTICE HOME

OTHER WAYS TO SUPPORT THE OBF:

CY PRES
Funds remaining after class action payouts can be awarded to the Oklahoma Bar Foundation.

UNCLAIMED TRUST FUNDS
Contact the OBF if you have unclaimed trust funds in your IOLTA Account.
(405) 416-7070 or foundation@okbar.org.

SCAN TO *give*

Or give online any time at
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Law. Education. Justice.

Your support—whether an individual contribution, firm gift, tribute, or legacy—helps the OBF fund legal services, improve courts, and expand access to justice across Oklahoma.

Community Partners

Community Partners are generous, committed donors who give monthly or annually to expand access to justice in Oklahoma. ***Recognition begins at $1,000/year.***

Memorials & Tributes

Honor the life or legacy of a loved one or colleague through a meaningful gift that supports justice-centered programs.

Legacy Partners for Justice

Leave a lasting legacy with a planned gift and ensure access to justice for future generations.

Questions? Ready to Give or Schedule a Presentation?
Contact Candice Pace at candice@okbarfoundation.org or 405-416-7070.







Thank you to our Board of Trustees, who volunteer their time, expertise, and passion to help OBF fund legal services and programs that strengthen Oklahoma's justice system.

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