

You Can Help Provide Access to Justice for Texans

Lawyers know first-hand the value and necessity of quality legal representation. You see victims of domestic violence, veterans denied benefits they have earned and families losing their homes all too frequently because they cannot afford a lawyer.

Lawyers have a professional responsibility to help others in our community gain access to the justice system to protect their rights, their freedom, their homes, their livelihoods, and their families. Legal needs studies have consistently found that only 10 to 20% of the people who qualify for services are able to obtain it due to lack of resources, and funding per eligible person has dropped by almost 60% in recent years.

Supporting civil legal aid through the Texas Access to Justice Foundation is a way to work for access to justice for all Texans.

About the Texas Access to Justice Foundation

The Texas Access to Justice Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization created by the Supreme Court of Texas in 1984. The Foundation grants millions of dollars per year to nearly 40 organizations statewide that provide free civil legal assistance to low-income Texans. With TAJF grants, legal aid organizations provide free legal assistance in civil matters, such as protection from domestic violence and assistance with housing issues, to more than 150,000 low-income Texans each year.

I want to help disadvantaged Texans have access to justice!

\$ _____

Name: _____

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My gift is in honor of: _____

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Mail to: Texas Access to Justice Foundation - Donations
P.O. Box 12886, Austin, TX 78711-2886
Or donate online at: www.teajf.org

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TEXAS | ACCESS to JUSTICE FOUNDATION

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...for ALL TEXANS

The Texas Access to Justice Foundation is the leading source for funding legal aid in Texas. We are committed to the vision that all Texans, regardless of income, will have equal access to the civil justice system.

With TAJF grant funding, legal aid organizations provide assistance in civil matters to more than 150,000 disadvantaged Texas families each year. Civil legal aid provides access to legal help for people to protect their livelihoods, their health and their families.

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...for VETERANS

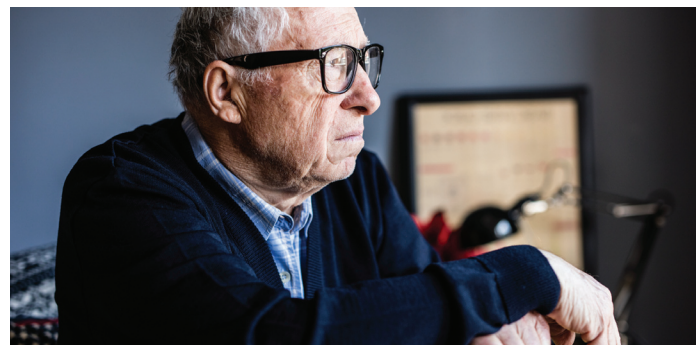
When a veteran was struggling to get the benefits he rightly earned, legal aid was there to help. With legislative funding and private donations, TAJF helped more than 8,800 veterans last year. The Foundation granted \$1.87 million to 14 grantees throughout the state to access the legal help they needed to successfully integrate back into civilian life and secure the rights and benefits for which they risked their lives. As a sustaining commitment to veterans, Richard Mithoff created the Joe Jamal Endowment for Veteran Legal Services at the Foundation in 2017, which has raised nearly \$700,000.

...for **SEXUAL ASSAULT SURVIVORS**

Legal aid helps survivors of sexual assault achieve safety, security and stability as they put their lives back together after trauma. Upon receiving legislative funding for victims of sexual assault, the Texas Access to Justice Foundation has worked with nine legal aid organizations throughout the state to create the Legal Aid for Survivors of Sexual Assault (LASSA) network, including a statewide hotline to reach those in rural areas. Since the program's inception in October 2015, the LASSA network of legal aid providers has helped nearly 10,000 survivors of sexual assault.

...for **ELDERLY and PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES**

For an elderly grandfather, effective legal intervention in a consumer law matter meant maintaining his basic means of survival. Funding from TAJF helps elderly Texans whose economic security or health care is in jeopardy. Last year, TAJF grantees provided legal assistance to nearly 43,000 persons with disabilities for issues such as special education, accessibility and housing.



...for **FAMILIES**

When a mom sought protection for her children from an abusive father, she turned to legal aid when she had nowhere else to turn. More than 73 percent of legal aid clients are women, and family law issues account for a large number of cases handled by legal aid. To qualify for legal aid, a family of four must not earn more than \$31,375 per year.

...for **COMMUNITIES & HOMEOWNERS**

As a result of a Bank of America donation, the Foundation has granted nine legal aid programs \$15 million, for the 2016-18 grant year, to help with community redevelopment and foreclosure prevention. The legal aid provided by these grants has prevented foreclosures and helped families remain in their homes. Through these efforts, family structures are stabilized, and families remain self-sufficient.

...for **VICTIMS OF NATURAL DISASTERS**

When Hurricane Harvey slammed the Texas Coast, legal aid responded to help with the emergency needs of the thousands affected by storm damage. With critical state funding and donations, the Foundation provided more than \$2.4 million in grants to victims to help rebuild their lives. The needs of those affected by Harvey and other natural disasters in Texas continue.

...in **SUPPORT OF FUTURE LEGAL AID LAWYERS**



The Texas Student Loan Repayment Assistance Program (LRAP) assists attorneys who choose to pursue careers in legal aid in Texas.

The Foundation, in conjunction with the Equal Justice Works post-graduate program, sponsors Fellows that take an innovative and entrepreneurial approach to addressing critically needed legal services with their host organizations. The Foundation also supports six Fellows in a new Disaster Recovery Legal Corps.

Grant funds also support seven law school clinical programs throughout the state that help train future lawyers and provide needed legal services in local communities.

...in **LEVERAGING PRO BONO**

With TAJF funding, legal aid programs are able to leverage resources and support pro bono efforts in local communities. Texas lawyers provide more than 1.87 million hours in free or indirect legal services to the poor, valued at more than \$486 million, according to the most recent State Bar Pro Bono Survey.

...in **PARTNERSHIP**

With bi-partisan support, the Foundation has received general revenue funds from the Texas Legislature for basic civil legal services. The Foundation works with the State Bar of Texas, Texas Access to Justice Commission, Office of the Attorney General and other partners to coordinate the civil legal services delivery system in Texas.

The Interest on Lawyers' Trust Accounts (IOLTA) program also values the public-private partnership of approximately 60 banks and credit unions that participate in the Prime Partner program, which helps generate additional funds for legal aid.