

THE BARBARA McDOWELL AND GERALD S. HARTMAN FOUNDATION

DONOR INFORMATION GUIDE

Our Mission is to Achieve Social Justice

The Barbara McDowell Foundation fulfills its mission by making grants to organizations that undertake systemic litigation and by coordinating direct, pro bono litigation, both focusing on:

- Access to Benefits • Children's Rights • Disability Rights • Discrimination
- Domestic Violence • Environmental Justice • Healthcare • Homelessness
- Housing • Native American Rights • Prisoners' Rights
- Refugee and Immigration Rights • Voting Rights • Veterans' Rights

GRANTEE HIGHLIGHTS

2019 Grantee—National Immigrant Project of the National Lawyers Guild

succeeded in a case brought against the Berks County Detention Center in Pennsylvania. The suit brought challenging the Center's license claimed that detained immigrant children suffered serious deprivations and trauma. Families detained at the facility can now file a petition in the state licensing dispute brought against the detention center.

2017 Grantee—Disability Rights North Carolina won a settlement on behalf of children who are dually diagnosed with mental illness and intellectual and/or developmental disabilities. As a result, the state of North Carolina allocated \$12.4 million to increase capacity to serve children with these complex needs, including a new state-operated clinic and provider training to improve services.

2016 Grantee—Center for Gender and Refugee Studies won asylum protection for a young Guatemalan domestic violence survivor seeking protection in Arizona. The extensive supporting materials developed in the case include model court submissions and reports on country conditions for use as evidence to corroborate asylum claims, which have been disseminated to thousands of attorneys representing domestic violence survivors nationwide.

Our Giving History

Established in April 2009, the Barbara McDowell Foundation has distributed **\$1,200,000 in grants to 44 organizations** nationwide, with a steady increase in the amount of each annual grant **from \$2,500 per grant in 2010 to \$50,000 per grant in 2021.**



About Barbara McDowell

Barbara McDowell was an exceptional advocate for social justice reforms. During her decorated career, she served as the founding director of the *Appellate Advocacy Program* at the Legal Aid Society of Washington, DC, worked as the Assistant to the Solicitor General of the United States, and spent ten years as a partner at the Jones Day law firm. Among her many successes, Barbara argued eighteen cases before the United States Supreme Court, including two on the same day!

Following her untimely death from brain cancer at the age of 56, Barbara's husband, Jerry Hartman, established the foundation in her name to honor and continue her extraordinary work.

RECENT GRANT RECIPIENTS

2021 Grantees

Asian Americans Advancing Justice
Disability Rights New York (Disability Advocates, Inc.)
Gender Justice
National Center for Youth Law

2020 Grantees

Fair Elections Center
National Center for Law and Economic Justice
National Veterans Legal Services Program
National Women's Law Center
North Carolina Prisoner Legal Services, Inc.

2019 Grantees

American Immigration Council
Center for Gender and Refugee Studies
National Center for Law and Economic Justice
National Immigration Project of the National Lawyers Guild
Prisoner's Legal Services of Massachusetts

2018 Grantees

Bazon Center for Mental Health Law
Children's Advocacy Institute
Children's Rights
Legal Services of Alabama
Public Interest Law Center
Sargent Shriver Center on Law and Poverty

2017 Grantees

American Immigration Council
Disability Rights North Carolina
National Immigrant Justice Center
Sargent Shriver Center on Law and Poverty
Western Center on Law and Poverty

Board of Directors

The foundation's board of directors is comprised of lawyers, a law school professor, a doctor, and an educator, all united by one common goal: fulfilling the foundation's mission to ensure the legacy of its namesake, social justice activist Barbara McDowell.

www.mcdowellfoundation.org

The Barbara McDowell Foundation Provides *Essential Services* for Potential Donors

#1 *In-Depth Vetting Process for Potential Grantees*

Nonprofit organizations interested in seeking a grant apply through the foundation's website. The foundation completes an in-house review of all potential grantees followed by board review using protocols developed over the last ten years, including rating criteria that consider:

- The application's **alignment with the mission**
- The **quality** of the proposed project
- The **capacity** of the organization to carry out the project
- The **urgency** of the proposed project
- The **financial health and stability** of the applicant organization.

This process ensures that donations to the foundation will be distributed to exemplary organizations, with sufficient evidence that their selected litigation can establish important legal precedent or effect immediate and lasting change.

#2 *Monitoring Selected Grantees during the Grant Period*

The McDowell Foundation sets itself apart from other foundations with frequent grantor/grantee communication to monitor the status of the grant. Grantee communications include:

- Submission of **quarterly timesheets by grantee** confirming the hours and names of each attorney working on the case for which the grantee received funds
- **Quarterly telephone calls with the grantee** to discuss the progress of the case
- A **six-month interim grantee report** detailing updates on the case and a **year-end report** summarizing how the foundation's funds were used throughout the grant period.

#3 *Quarterly Updates on the Status of Your Donation*

Donors receive quarterly updates on the progress of cases funded by the McDowell Foundation, including condensed versions of the information provided in the grantee reports.

Financial Transparency

Low Operational Expenses The Barbara McDowell Foundation has very low overhead and no rent expense. The former law firm of the Foundation's President provides free support for the Foundation's website and administrative needs. The officers and directors of the foundation receive no compensation or salaries. All foundation employees work part-time as independent contractors at a modest hourly rate.

Capital and Investments The foundation averages a 7% annual return on its investments by way of an established investment policy engaging a passive investment approach and using a professional investment advisor, with the aim of avoiding large market fluctuations. The foundation's investment policy and annual results are available for review by potential donors. The foundation files timely annual tax returns and complies with required state registrations for engaging in fundraising.

For more information, visit www.mcdowellfoundation.org
Telephone: (703) 919-0423
Email: mcdowellfoundation@mcdowellfoundation.org

HOW TO DONATE

Gifts by Check

Please make your check payable to:
The Barbara McDowell Foundation
3607 Whispering Lane
Falls Church, VA, 22041

Gifts by PayPal

Make a secure online donation
with your credit card at
www.mcdowellfoundation.org/donate

Schedule an In-Person Meeting

Foundation representatives are available to meet in person with potential donors.
To schedule an appointment with
Foundation President,
Jerry Hartman, get in touch by email at
jerry.hartman@mcdowellfoundation.org
or by telephone at (703) 919-0423.

THE BARBARA MCDOWELL AND GERALD S. HARTMAN FOUNDATION
SOCIAL JUSTICE THROUGH LEGAL ACTION

A tax-exempt 501c3 organization Federal Tax Identification Number 27-0411226