

# THE BARBARA MCDOWELL AND GERALD S. HARTMAN FOUNDATION

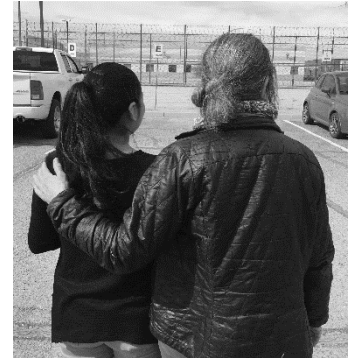
## CASE FOR SUPPORT

SOCIAL JUSTICE THROUGH LEGAL ACTION

### *Mission*

The Barbara McDowell Foundation aims to improve the economic well-being, social conditions, and civil liberties of disadvantaged persons and groups in the United States.

**We fulfill our mission by making grants to organizations that undertake systemic, social justice litigation and by coordinating direct, pro-bono litigation through our High Impact Project.**



Foundation grantee Center for Gender and Refugee Studies' client and staff outside an immigration detention center

### *The Need*

Nonprofit organizations representing our country's most vulnerable persons, defending their rights, and championing their causes very often lack the necessary funds to pursue even the most egregious cases.

In 2018, low-income Americans received inadequate or no legal help whatsoever for 86% of the civil legal problems they encountered because of a lack of resources (as reported by the Legal Services Corporation in *The Justice Gap: Measuring the Unmet Civil Legal Needs of Low-income Americans*).

This "justice gap" between legal needs and available services exacerbates our country's systemic inequities and disadvantages especially our most at-risk populations.

**PEOPLE OF COLOR, WOMEN, IMMIGRANTS, THE ELDERLY, PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES, AND LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, AND TRANSGENDER, OR LGBT, PEOPLE ARE MORE LIKELY TO LIVE IN POVERTY AND MORE LIKELY TO NEED LEGAL ASSISTANCE**

*Your gift to the McDowell Foundation helps fill the "justice gap," making vital financial resources available to nonprofit organizations which undertake social justice litigation.*

Your financial contribution benefits a diverse array of constituent populations and impacts a wide variety of social justice causes. Cases we have funded include efforts to:

- *Stop discriminatory policing practices*
- *Ensure services to the disabled*
- *End racial discrimination in jury selection*
- *Provide adequate healthcare for female inmates*
- *Ensure fair access to public benefits*
- *Gain equal treatment for immigrants*
- *Improve conditions for children in detention*
- *Protect the voting rights of Native Americans*

OVER FOR MORE INFORMATION >>>

## *Your Gift Matters*

Each year, we receive many more grant requests than we can fulfill. With today's legal, political and economic climate, there is a significant and growing need for grantmaking to support social justice litigation.

*As one of the few nationwide sources for social justice litigation grants, we are raising additional funds to allow us to donate more money to more grantees, creating even greater impact.*

### **GIVING LEVELS**

<i>President's Circle:</i>	<i>\$20,000 and above</i>
<i>Major Benefactor:</i>	<i>\$10,000 to \$19,999</i>
<i>Leadership Circle:</i>	<i>\$5,000 to \$9,999</i>
<i>Partner Gift:</i>	<i>\$1,000 to \$4,999</i>
<i>Supporting Gift:</i>	<i>\$500 to \$999</i>
<i>Donor:</i>	<i>\$100 to \$499</i>

**HOW TO GIVE:** You can make your gift through a check, or via PayPal. For more information on giving please see our ***Donor Information Guide*** or visit our website at [www.mcdowellfoundation.org/donate](http://www.mcdowellfoundation.org/donate).

**Your gift to the McDowell Foundation demonstrates your commitment to furthering social justice.**

### **RECENT GRANTEES**

#### **2019**

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

#### **2018**

Bazelon 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**

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

### **RECENT HIGH IMPACT CASES**

#### **2019**

**Investigation of a School System's Failure to Integrate Disabled Children into Normal Classrooms and Programs** – *In partnership with Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law, Disability Rights New York, Disability Rights Advocates, and Drinker Biddle*

**Investigation of Landlords Violating Potential Tenants' Housing Rights for Failure to Accept Section 8 Housing Vouchers from Persons of Color** – *In partnership with The Public Interest Law Center and Drinker Biddle*

**Challenge to the Seizing Without Due Process By New York City of State Tax Refunds for Transit Violations** – *In partnership with The National Center for Law and Economic Justice, New Economy Project, and Drinker Biddle*

#### **2018**

**Constitutional Challenge Regarding Termination of Parental Rights in Pennsylvania** – *In partnership with Drinker Biddle*

#### **2017**

**Challenge to Segregation and Discrimination of Institutionalized Intellectually Disabled Persons** – *In partnership with Disability Rights North Carolina and Drinker Biddle.*

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[www.McDowellFoundation.org](http://www.McDowellFoundation.org)

A tax-exempt 501c3 organization

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