

MJF
ANNUAL
REPORT
2019



LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Greetings from MJF!

2019 was a year of change for MJF. Susan Morrow (HUSL '98), long-time staff attorney at Mitchell Hamline School of Law, joined the Career and Professional Development Office at Mitchell Hamline. We hired Sara Thomas (MHSL '18) as the new staff attorney at Mitchell Hamline. We celebrated Janine Laird's (WMCL '79) 15 years of service to MJF at our Annual Awards Celebration. Christy Botts (UST '11), long-time staff attorney at University of St. Thomas School of Law, took on program director responsibilities, which include managing our Street Law program. I started as executive director in November 2019 after working at MJF in various roles since 2014.

2020 has brought continued changes. We hired Kendall Hames (UST '15) as the new staff attorney at our University of Minnesota Law School office. Our offices at the University of Minnesota moved from the 1st floor to the 4th floor. In mid-March, we pivoted to working remotely. Our team is working with our partner agencies to establish more remote volunteer opportunities and think of ways that law students may step in to help address the surge of legal needs arising from the pandemic.

We are also working to assist new initiatives taking place in the wake of the murder of George Floyd. We are planning for how we can better support law students in their development as lawyer leaders who are committed to working for racial justice. This will include reviewing our programming and expanding our training offerings.

Because of the pandemic, we have switched to a virtual event format for our 33rd Annual Awards Celebration. It will be held on Wednesday, September 30th. Our keynote speaker will be Ivan Fong, Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary at 3M.

Sincerely,
Anna Beadle (UMN '10)
MJF Executive Director

SUMMER FELLOWSHIPS

The Summer Fellowship Program (formerly the Summer Clerkship Program) is MJF's oldest program. Each year, MJF raises funds which are used to pay the stipends of law students who work full time at a legal service agency for the summer. During the summer of 2019, MJF funded thirteen student clerkships in the metro area, and four in greater Minnesota:

7th Judicial District Public Defender's Office: Rebecca Bradish (UMN)
10th Judicial District Public Defender's Office: Madison Van Cleave (UST)
Central Minnesota Legal Services: Kate Bolander (UMN)
Children's Law Center of Minnesota: Audrey Meyer (UST)
Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota: Ana Delgado Hualde (UMN)
Mid-Minnesota Legal Aid/Minnesota Disability Law Center: Riley Vadner Pierre (UST)
Mid-Minnesota Legal Aid Housing Discrimination: Katherine Wagner (MH)
Mid-Minnesota Legal Aid Immigration: Mark Ficken (UMN)
Minneapolis Department of Civil Rights: Catherine Rios Keating (MH)
Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women: Maya Schulte (UST)
Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy: Mary-Anne Farai Churu (MH)
Office of The Federal Defender: Beth Davis (UST)
Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services Economic Justice Unit: Jessica Szuminski (UMN)
Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services Housing Unit: Claire Hepworth (MH)
Anishinabe Legal Services: Monica Wittner (UST)
Legal Services of Northwest Minnesota: Megan Hsiang (UST)
Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services, Mankato: James Rasmussen (UST)

STUDENT-FUNDED FELLOWSHIPS

MJF student chapters at each law school also raise funds for students to fill summer clerk positions in public interest through the Public Interest Law Fellowships (PILF) at Mitchell Hamline and the University of St. Thomas and the Public Interest Clerkships (PIC) at the University of Minnesota. Each of the law school student chapters have unique processes for selecting which PILF/PIC applications are funded, and they raise money in various ways, including silent auctions and chili cookoffs.

During the Summer of 2019, the student chapter funded six full-time and two part-time fellowships:

3rd Judicial District Public Defender's Office: Brittany Turany (UMN)
10th Judicial District Public Defender's Office (part-time): Dylan O'Brien (MH)
Al Otro Lado: Sarah Koziol (UST)
ICWA Law Center (part-time): Kristina Tester (UMN)
JustUs Health: Charlie Johnson (MH)
Legal Rights Center: Maddie Phillips (UMN)
Maine Indian Tribal State Commission: Rachel Hampson (UST)
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency: Bethany Anderson (UMN)

LAW SCHOOL PUBLIC SERVICE PROGRAM

The Law School Public Service Program (LSPSP) is a collaborative effort of MJF, the Minnesota law schools, the Minnesota State Bar Association (MSBA), and legal service providers throughout Minnesota, to promote an ethic of public service in Minnesota law students and to increase the availability of legal services to Minnesota's low-income populations.

MJF matches interested law students with volunteer opportunities in the Twin Cities metro area and in Greater Minnesota. Volunteer opportunities are available with varying time commitments, in a variety of legal subject areas. Students may also create their own volunteer placements at organizations within or beyond Minnesota, provided their volunteer work is: 1) law-related in subject matter; 2) public service or public interest-related; 3) unpaid; and 4) not for academic credit.

Volunteering through MJF introduces students to the real practice of law and gives them valuable experience and knowledge that helps them to become better lawyers. Volunteering also introduces students to practitioners in their fields of interest who can provide references, advice, and career guidance. Lastly, the volunteer efforts of students helps increase access to justice for those Minnesotans who are facing legal problems.

AGENCY PARTNERS

Advocates for Human Rights
American Civil Liberties Union, MN Chapter
American Mock Trial Association
Anishinabe Legal Services
Annunciation House
Asylum Law Project
Big Country Court Appointed Special Advocate
Bloomington Public Schools
Breaking Free
Bridge for Youth
Cancer Legal Resource Center
CARA Pro Bono Project
CASA of the Fox Cities
Central District of Illinois
Central Minnesota Legal Services, Minneapolis
Central Minnesota Legal Services, St. Cloud
Children of Incarcerated Caregivers
Children's Dental Services

Children's Law Center of Minnesota
Collaborative Community Law Initiative
Community Mediation and Restorative Services
Conflict Resolution Center
Cornerstone Family Law LLC
Council on American-Islamic Relations
Criminal Justice League
Dakota County Attorney's Office
Department of Corrections
Department of Homeland Security
Dispute Resolution Center
Domestic Abuse Legal Advocacy Center, PSC
Dorsey & Whitney
Dupage County Public Defender's Office
Eden Prairie High School Mock Trial Program
Enivar
Esperanza Immigrant Rights Project
Federal Bar Association Pro Se Project
Forest Lake High School

Fox Rothschild
Franklin County Board of Election
Franklin Learning Center
Gender Justice
Gilbert Law PLLC
Hamline University
Hendricks County Court Appointed Special Advocate Program
Hennepin County Attorney's Office
Hennepin County Bar Association
Hennepin County District Court
HOME Line
Iowa Justice Department
Iowa Legal Aid, Cedar Rapids
Isanti County Attorney's Office
James H. Binger Center for New Americans
Jewfolk, Inc.
Jewish Family Services
Joel M. Anderson & Associates
Judicare of Anoka County

AGENCY PARTNERS

JustUs Health
Legal Aid of North Carolina
Legal Aid Service of Northeastern
Minnesota, Virginia
Legal Aid Society of Columbus
Legal Assistance of Dakota County
Legal Assistance of Olmsted County
Legal Rights Center
Legal Services of Northwest Minnesota ,
Moorhead
Legal Services State Support
LegalCORPS
Lexington-Hamline Community Council
Maslon, LLP
Montana Bankruptcy Court
Montana Legal Services Association
NAACP, Minneapolis
National Immigrant Justice Center
National Institute of Criminology
National Lawyers Guild
Navajo Nation Department of Justice
Neighborhood Justice Center
Northern Virginia Mediation Service
Office of the Parliamentarian
Phi Alpha Delta Mock Trial Coach
Pottawattamie County Attorney's Office
Prepare + Prosper
Pro Life Legal Center
Public Defender, 1st District (Carver/Scott)
Public Defender, 2nd District (St. Paul)
Public Defender, 3rd District (Winona)
Public Defender, 4th District
(Hennepin County)

Public Defender, 10th District (Anoka)
Public Defender, 10th District (North
Branch)
Public Defender, 10th District (Stillwater)
Public Defender, Appellate Office
Public Defender, Federal Office
Public Defender, Minnesota State PD Office
Ramsey County District Court
Ramsey County Guardian ad Litem
Ramsey County Mental Health Court
Refugee and Immigrant Center for Education
and Legal Services
Restorative Justice Community Action
Saint Joseph County Public Defenders Office
SCOTUS Notes Project
SMRLS, Austin
SMRLS, Immigrant Legal Services
SMRLS, Mankato
SMRLS, Ramsey County Volunteer Attorney
Program
SMRLS, Rochester
SMRLS, Shakopee
SMRLS, St. Paul
SMRLS, Winona
Southern Poverty Law Center Southeast
Immigrant Freedom Initiative
St. Ansgar High School
St. Paul City Attorney's Office
Standpoint
Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP
Tennessee Justice Center
Texarkana Independent School District
The Allison H.O.P.E. Foundation

The Historyapolis Project
Tubman
Umoja Community Development Corp
United States Department of Justice,
Immigration Court
United States District Court
United States District Court, District of
Minnesota
University of Minnesota Law School
University of St. Thomas School of Law
US Attorney's Office, Minnesota
Utah Legal Services, Provo
Volunteer Lawyers Network
Washington County Community Circles
WATCH
World Without Genocide
YMCA Youth In Government Minnesota

STREET LAW

Street Law is a program of MJF in which law student volunteers teach legal rights, responsibilities and resources to middle school, high school and adult students. Many of the classrooms where the students teach are in alternative learning centers and charter schools. Some of the students in the street law classrooms have been or are court involved. Additionally, there are many street law classroom students that have not been successful in a traditional school setting. A growing number of the street law classrooms are “AVID classrooms.” AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) Classrooms strive to close the achievement gap by preparing all students for college readiness and success in a global society. These are an excellent fit for Street Law volunteers because, at the heart of the Street Law program, is the desire to prepare young people for a bright future – one where they are knowledgeable of their rights and responsibilities and inspired that there is no obstacle so big they cannot overcome it.

During the spring of 2019, 64 law student volunteers participated in the program, teaching in 22 classrooms (at 17 schools in the metro area) where they taught teens their rights and responsibilities in our society.

Prior to teaching, the law students attend an intensive two-day training where volunteer attorneys aid the MJF staff to teach law students about substantive areas of law, guidance about how to create a lesson plan, how to teach in an interactive and engaging way, and diversity and inclusion trainings.

MJF and the law students have been fortunate to have the assistance of volunteer attorneys to assist with teaching in the classrooms as well. Many attorneys volunteer to speak to street law classrooms to give insight into areas of law that are very technical, such as immigration. Classroom students enjoy having an opportunity to meet attorneys, ask them questions, and learn about their career path.

Street Law is a unique program. The students in the classrooms learn practical knowledge about themselves, their rights and responsibilities under the law, get exposed to a potential career path, and the law students emphasize the importance of education – bringing a number of classrooms to their law schools, making the idea of post-high school education and law school more accessible; at the same time, law students learn more about the law by teaching it to others, they begin to understand the importance of translating the language of law for their future clients, and they explore areas of law they might not otherwise think about for their future career paths.

STREET LAW CLASSROOMS 2019

Andersen United Middle School (AVID 8th gr)
Anne Sullivan Middle School (AVID 7th-8th gr)
Anwatin Middle School (AVID 8th gr)
Augsburg Fairview Academy (High School)
Community Learning Project (adult learners)
Field Community School (7-8th gr)
Franklin Middle School
High School for the Recording Arts
Job Corps (adult learners)
Journeys (High School)
Lake Nokomis Community School (Keewaydin)
(AVID 8th gr)
MN Internship Center- N Mpls (High School)
Omegeon- District 287 (High School)
Sanford Middle School (AVID 8th gr)
Seward Montessori (Middle School)
Transitions Plus (18-21 yr olds)
Washington Technology Magnet (middle school)

ANNUAL AWARDS CELEBRATION

At our Annual Awards Celebration, held on Tuesday, November 5, 2019, MJF honored outstanding individuals in the Minnesota legal community.

The winners of the 2019 Outstanding Service Awards were:

Advocate Award: **Lori Leistriz**,

Mid-Minnesota Legal Aid

Direct Legal Service Award: **Rachel Weis**,

Legal Aid Service of Northeastern Minnesota

Private Practice Lawyer Award: **Michael F. Cockson**,

Faegre Drinker

Law Student Awards:

Brooke Hein, Mitchell Hamline School of Law

Abyan Gurase, University of Minnesota Law School

Madison Van Cleave, University of St. Thomas School of Law



UMN awardee Abyan Gurase (center).

Photos by Carrie Rainey.

Our keynote speaker at the Annual Awards Celebration was The Honorable Anne K. McKeig.

Justice McKeig joined the Minnesota Supreme Court in September 2016, making her the first female American Indian appointed to the state's highest court. Justice McKeig attended St. Catherine University and Hamline Law School, served as an assistant Hennepin County Attorney and district court judge. She has worked on several committees focusing on child welfare and domestic violence issues, teaches as an adjunct professor at both St. Thomas School of Law and Mitchell Hamline School of Law, and has spoken at numerous conferences regarding child protection, domestic violence, and tribal community issues. A descendant of the White Earth Nation, Justice McKeig is a native of Northern Minnesota, married, and a proud mother of five children.

MJF also recognized outgoing Executive Director Janine Laird for her many years of service, and welcomed incoming Executive Director Anna Beadle. The Annual Awards Celebration was attended by over 200 people, representing over twenty Minnesota law firms, schools and other organizations. The event raised over \$54,000.



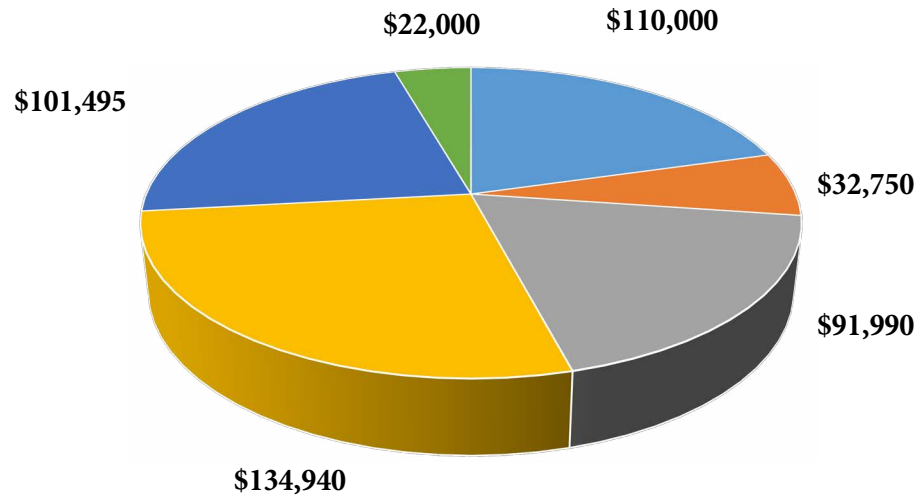
Justice Anne K. McKeig.

VOLUNTEER STATISTICS 2018-2019



FINANCIALS

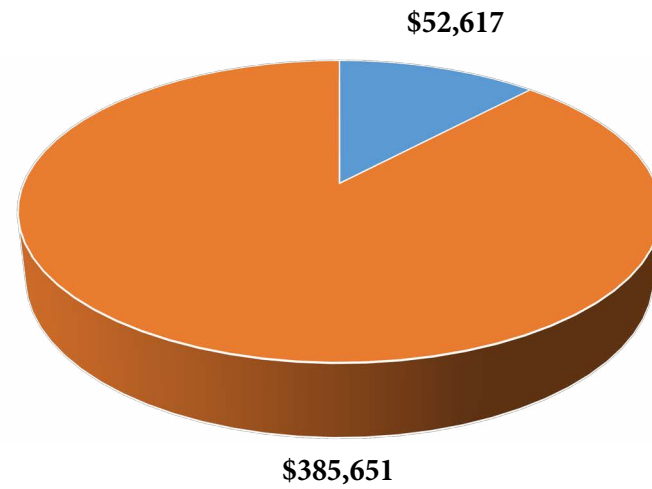
FY 2019 OPERATING INCOME



Total = \$493,175

- Law Firms
- Foundations
- Individuals
- Law Schools
- Government Grants
- Other Income

FY 2019 OPERATING EXPENSES



Total = \$438,268

- Management & Fundraising
- Program Expenses

ORGANIZATIONAL DONORS

1st District Bar Association
3rd District Bar Association
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12th District Bar Association
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