The Houston Bar Foundation was established in 1982 as the charitable arm of the Houston Bar Association. Since that time, the Foundation has supported programs that help provide legal representation to the indigent, promote community understanding of our legal system and foster the administration of justice. Through the generosity of its contributors, the Foundation has been able to make a difference in the greater Houston community.

A 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, the Houston Bar Foundation has an endowment that now stands at over $11.4 million. The annual support of the Fellows Program, together with donations from individual, law firms, corporations and other organizations that regularly contribute to the Foundation, is helping us make progress toward the Foundation’s ultimate goal of becoming self-sustaining.

We still have a long way to go to reach that goal, and forward progress becomes more difficult when the programs supported by the Houston Bar Foundation see increased need every year. Through prudent management by the Foundation board, the HBF has been able to award more than $16,000,000 in grants, primarily to support pro bono legal services through the Houston Bar Association’s Houston Volunteer Lawyers.

Statistics show that 5.2 million Texans qualify for legal aid, yet less than 10 percent of the civil legal needs of low-income and poor Texans are being met. Texas ranks 47th in the nation in access to legal aid lawyers. The Houston Bar Foundation Fellows Program is crucial to our mission of making Houston a city where justice for all is a reality.

MISSION STATEMENT

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“For 35 years, the Houston Bar Foundation has worked as the charitable arm of the Houston Bar Association. With your support, the Foundation is proud to provide essential support for pro bono legal services for the poor in Houston.”

Travis J. Sales | 2017 Chair
Houston Bar Foundation

HOUSTON BAR FOUNDATION

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Suite FLB 200
Houston, TX 77002

Main (713) 759-1133
Fax (713) 759-1710
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HBF FELLOWS
MAKING A DIFFERENCE
IN THE GREATER HOUSTON AREA

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The HBF provides critical funding for the Houston Volunteer Lawyers. Pro bono programs include:

- **Legal Clinics:** Clinics provide low-income clients an opportunity to apply for assistance with Houston Volunteer Lawyers and receive free legal advice on a walk-in basis almost every other week.

- **Self-help Divorce Clinics:** HVL maintains desks to provide assistance to self-represented litigants at the Harris County Civil Courthouse and the Harris County Law Library.

- **Veterans Clinics:** HVL has a 100% pro bono placement rate for low-income veterans in need of continued representation.

- **Veterans Clinics:** Texas Children’s Medical–Legal Partnership: Texas Children’s Hospital and HVL have a Medical-Legal Partnership to provide low-income patients with critical legal assistance.

- **Veterans Clinics:** Houston Area Women’s Center: ExxonMobil, Norton Rose Fulbright and Gray Reed & McGraw partner with HVL to provide legal advice clinics and protective orders for domestic violence victims.

- **The Juvenile Justice Mock Trial Program:** This program teaches 8th grade students throughout Harris County about the justice system.

- **Continuing Education Grants:** These grants provide Harris County court staff with educational programs that improve the administration of justice for all Houstonians.

- **Now You are 18 Handbooks:** These booklets explain the rights and responsibilities of 18 year olds, and are distributed to all high school seniors.

**Programs Supported by the Houston Bar Foundation**

**Benefits of Being an HBF Fellow**

- **Honor and privilege:** less than 20% of Houston Bar Association members are nominated.

- **All contributions made are tax deductible.**

- **Opportunity to attend exclusive networking events for Houston Bar Foundation Fellows.**

- **Knowledge that you are supporting crucial pro bono efforts in Houston.**

- **Listed on the HBA/HBF Website and the HBF newsletter.**

- **Recognized in the community through the extension of HBF marketing efforts.**

**What is Asked of an HBF Fellow?**

- **Fellow:** Attorney is invited to become a Fellow by contributing $2,500 to the Houston Bar Foundation, either in one payment or $250 annually over a 10-year period.

- **Life Fellow:** After completing a Fellow contribution of $2,500, attorney is invited to become a Life Fellow by contributing an additional $2,500, either in one payment or $250 annually over a 10-year period.

- **Sustaining Life Fellow:** After completing a Fellow commitment of $2,500 and a Life Fellow commitment of $2,500, attorney is invited to become a Sustaining Life Fellow by continuing to contribute $250 per year. If the attorney decides to discontinue his/her Sustaining Life Fellow commitment, the attorney retains the designation as a Life Fellow.