



wbf

THE
WOMEN'S BAR
FOUNDATION

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

Dear Friends,

Essential, effective legal representation for low-income individuals, especially women and children, continue to be at the heart of the Women's Bar Foundation's work. The WBF continues to occupy a unique niche in the legal community, providing legal assistance for low-income individuals whose incomes may disqualify them from legal services, but who cannot afford an attorney. Our clients regularly face critical legal issues in matters relating to domestic violence, family law, end-of-life planning and other challenging issues. We recruit, train and mentor volunteer attorneys, who in turn **provide effective and compassionate legal representation that literally changes lives. Your generous support makes this possible.**

Over the past year, the **WBF served 153 individuals**, some in multiple proceedings, through The Family Law Project for Domestic Abuse Survivors and The Elder Law Project, as well as the Women's Prison and Re-Entry Project. We continue to expand our roster of attorneys, offer comprehensive training, bring volunteer attorneys and mentors together during our brown bag lunches, and this year, held a first ever volunteer attorney reunion.

2019 has also been a year of change. We welcomed W. Lola Remy as the new Director of Pro Bono Programs, moved our files into the cloud, and began a project of integrating our internal systems related to client intake, case management and volunteer attorney management. These exciting changes will strengthen our ability to respond to client needs, and provide easier access to important data to help us improve our work.

We are continuing to build on our success in securing grant funding and developing relationships with our capacity building partners, as well as our generous donors.

Thank you for your tremendous support and commitment to providing access to justice. Together, we will continue to make a difference for some of the most vulnerable individuals in the year ahead.



Jennifer Furey
President



Margaret E. Talmers
Executive Director

MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

VOLUNTEER

Make a difference — become a volunteer attorney or volunteer mentor in one of the WBF's *pro bono* projects!

- ☞ **As a volunteer attorney**, you will receive comprehensive training, gain valuable skills in client counseling, negotiation and trial advocacy, and provide critical services to low-income individuals and their families who have nowhere else to turn.
- ☞ **As a volunteer mentor**, you will provide invaluable guidance for the volunteer attorneys, which has a positive impact on the outcome for our clients. To volunteer, please contact Lola Remy, Director of Pro Bono Programs at LRemy@womensbar.org.

DONATE

The Women's Bar Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization, dedicated to providing pro bono legal services to low-income individuals, primarily women and children. We are funded exclusively through the generosity of foundation grants, law firms, corporations and individual donors.

Every donation makes a lasting difference in the lives of our clients.





All donations are fully tax deductible.

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Women's Bar Foundation

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THE FAMILY LAW PROJECT FOR DOMESTIC ABUSE SURVIVORS

The **Family Law Project for Domestic Abuse Survivors** (FLP)'s volunteer attorneys represented clients in **84** full representation cases and **137** brief service cases. Over **75** volunteer attorneys participated in comprehensive trainings. Once assigned a case, volunteer attorneys were assigned an experienced volunteer mentor who provided expert guidance.



THE ELDER LAW PROJECT

The **Elder Law Project** (ELP) received **495** calls, and referred **48** low-income seniors to volunteer attorneys to prepare essential planning documents, including wills and health care proxies. **25** volunteer attorneys participated in a comprehensive training. ELP staff conducted site visits to senior centers to provide information about the Project.



WOMEN'S PRISON AND RE-ENTRY PROJECT

The **Women's Prison and Re-Entry Project** (WPRP) volunteer attorneys conducted several educational seminars at South Bay Suffolk County House of Correction, involving **33** incarcerated women. WPRP prepared the seminars on legal topics selected by the women.



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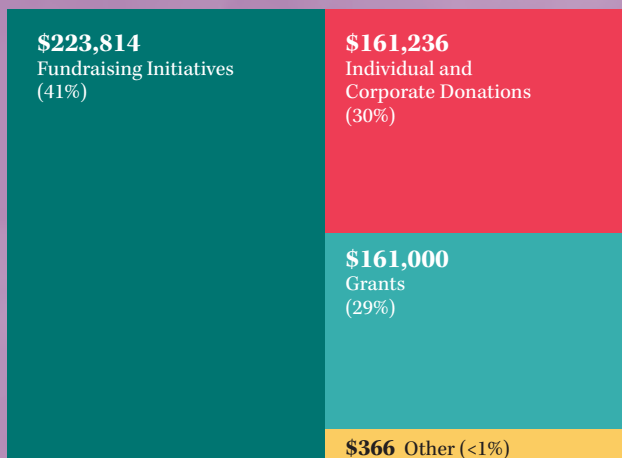
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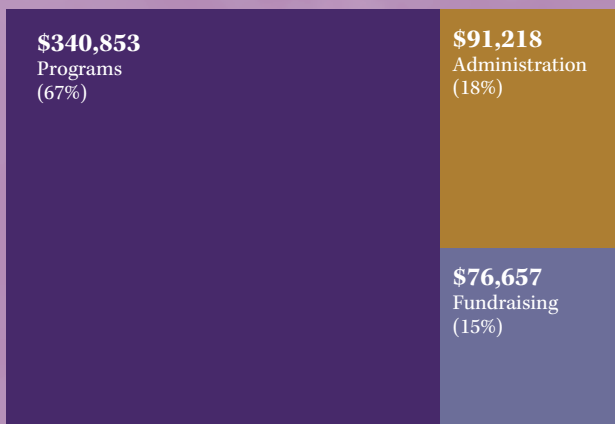
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Total Income



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