

2015 ACJF Grants (March & December)

Total Grants: \$215,330

A+ Education Partnership/Support for Alabama GRIT Campaign: \$25,000

Goal: To provide support for the work of Alabama GRIT – Graduate Ready. Impact Tomorrow –supporting the state’s strategic plan for ensuring that all students graduate and are prepared – Plan 2020. GRIT will shine a light on the potential of Alabama students, hold discussions on education issues, share the early results of Plan 2020 and undertake other means to assure progress towards Plan 2020’s high standards.

Alabama Appleseed Center for Law & Justice, Inc.: \$15,000

Goal: To expose and reduce the devastation caused by (1) triple digit interest and due process violations of unchecked third-party debt collection and (2) advocate for change in Alabama law that allows payday and automobile title lenders to charge up to 456% APR on loans. The grant will continue to provide trainings for judges and lawyers and supply resource materials to practicing attorneys.

Alabama Network of Family Resource Centers: \$15,000

Goal: To continue to build the capacity of ANFRC, the state coordinating entity for all local Family Resource Centers. The Network provides training and technical assistance to help communities develop FRCs and to strengthen the work of existing FRCs, collaboration with state level agencies on behalf of local FRCs, grant writing for services provided by FRCs, statewide education of the collective impact of FRCs.

Arise Citizens’ Policy Project: \$20,000

Goal: To create a strategy and structure for consumer advocacy and community engagement at this critical time in restructuring Alabama’s Medicaid System. The work will focus on vulnerable older adults and includes legal and policy analysis that evaluates obstacles to long-term care reform in Alabama.

IMPACT Alabama/SaveFirst: \$15,330

Goal: Implement a Volunteer Management & Training Software system to enable SaveFirst to reach more low-income families in rural communities across the state with their free, certified volunteer tax preparation initiative. The SaveFirst initiative exists to ensure these individuals receive the full Earned Income Tax Credit, counteract predatory lending practices, and encourage long-term financial planning.

United Way of Central Alabama, Inc. (B’ham): \$15,000

Goal: To support the Foreclosure Prevention Partnership, a group of 20 trusted community organizations across the state. The Partnership utilizes the 2-1-1 Call Center to serve as the Central Point of Contact where individuals with foreclosure concerns are referred to the partnering service provider best suited to address their situations. The grant will provide training for staff and generate public awareness efforts.

Legal Services Alabama: \$30,000

Goal: To support LSA, a statewide law firm that provides high quality free civil legal services to vulnerable low-income people in all 67 counties in Alabama. LSA focuses on three areas of law: family, housing, and consumer and public benefits.

Volunteer Lawyers Programs: \$65,000

Goal: To support legal assistance available to low-income individuals in civil legal matters through the use of pro bono attorneys. VLPs balance the work of serving clients with the work of recruiting, supporting, recognizing, and retaining its body of volunteers who provide assistance in the critical areas of family, domestic violence, elder, immigration, and housing law.

Birmingham Bar Association VLP: \$20,000

Madison County VLP: \$15,000

Montgomery County Bar Foundation VLP: \$15,000

South Alabama VLP: \$15,000

YWCA Domestic Violence Law Clinic: \$15,000

Goal: To support the highly successful YWCA Family Law Center’s comprehensive legal services system that serves victims of sexual assault, domestic violence and dating violence to those who cannot afford legal services.