

## Berkeley Law Foundation

385 Simon Hall  
Boalt Hall School of Law  
University of California  
Berkeley, CA 94720

October 2005

The Berkeley Law Foundation (BLF) is now soliciting proposals for public interest law grants for 2006-2007. The deadline for submitting proposals is Friday, January 27, 2006.

BLF traditionally awards one to three grants per year to individual lawyers undertaking public interest projects serving legally disadvantaged or under-represented groups. We generally view our grants as seed money for projects that will continue to provide sorely needed legal services for many years.

Enclosed are a Request For Proposals (RFP) and grant application materials, which include a complete list of our previous grantees. Although most of our grantees have been located in the San Francisco Bay Area, we have funded projects in New York, Washington, District of Columbia, Chicago, Southern California, Florida, and Arizona, among other locales.

As described in the RFP, a full-time grant will be approximately \$30,000 and may exceed this amount depending on the availability of other funds. Finalists will be selected in March 2006 and interviewed in early April 2006. BLF expects to select its 2006-2007 grantees by May 1, 2006.

The application materials include people to contact for further information. We look forward to your response.

# Berkeley Law Foundation

## Mission Statement

The mission of the Berkeley Law Foundation (BLF) is to fund new lawyers and innovative public interest law projects that serve disadvantaged people. BLF members invest directly in the public interest work of our peers, emphasizing a shared-income approach to social change. We make this choice because we recognize that lawyers have a personal and professional responsibility to dismantle inequalities and to improve access to justice. Recognizing that the responsibility to challenge systemic inequality applies equally to the structure of our organization, BLF incorporates diversity as a core value.

Our approach to funding public interest law, first established by BLF in 1976, empowers lawyers to pursue careers in the public interest, launches creative public interest projects and organizations, provides legal services to thousands of disadvantaged people, and deploys the power of the law in the service of social justice.

## How To Apply For A Grant

BLF is now inviting proposals for grants for the 2006-2007 funding year. Please review the criteria for funding that are described below and follow the format for grant proposals that is attached.

Proposals should be sent to:

Berkeley Law Foundation  
385 Simon Hall  
Boalt Hall School of Law  
University of California  
Berkeley, CA 94720

(510) 642-1738

Fax (510) 642-9125

Email: [berkeleylawfoundation@yahoo.com](mailto:berkeleylawfoundation@yahoo.com)

**PROPOSALS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY FRIDAY, JANUARY 27, 2006.**

## Criteria For Funding

### **What BLF Will Fund**

BLF seeks to fund projects that will include the following components: legal advocacy, community education, and/or policy change in areas affecting people who are denied access to the legal system.

Because grants are for one year only, proposed projects must be designed so that they can achieve results within that time, and can either demonstrate the capacity to become self-supporting or can develop other sources of funding after the grant year. BLF prefers to make grants that provide seed money for new projects rather than to assist established, ongoing projects. While we understand that administrative or overhead costs may be a part of a project's expenses, BLF will not fund grants primarily or exclusively targeted toward administrative or overhead costs. Factors also considered in awarding grants include:

- need for the proposed project
- impact of the proposed project
- availability or lack of other sources of funding
- level of existing legal services that address the same problem as the proposed project
- quality of the proposal
- qualifications of the applicant
- applicant's connection to the community served
- diversity of applicant
- stability of sponsoring organization
- date of graduation
- applicant's demonstrated commitment to community service

Please see our website at [www.berkeleylawfoundation.org](http://www.berkeleylawfoundation.org) for programs that BLF has previously funded. Proponents are encouraged to develop proposals that address needs and issues not dealt with by previous BLF projects.

### **The Applicant**

BLF prefers to fund original projects developed by individual applicants, not organizations. The applicant must have a leadership role in developing, writing and submitting the grant proposal. Grantees must be lawyers or recent graduates. Although BLF prefers to fund new lawyers, it also has supported more experienced lawyers who have sought to enter, or remain in, the public interest field.

Grantees may work independently, but BLF favors affiliation with a preexisting public interest group. Association with a public interest group helps grantees to secure supplemental funding (either financial or in kind) to cover the full cost of the project, to establish connections with the client community, and to obtain supervision from a more experienced attorney. However, BLF is funding the project set forth in the application, not other work of the sponsoring organization.

### **How Much BLF Will Fund**

In 2006, BLF expects to award one to two grants for full-time work for twelve months. A full-time grant will be approximately \$30,000, depending on funds available.

## **The Selection Process**

Committees made up of BLF members initially review the proposals and select finalists who will be notified in approximately mid-March 2006. Each finalist is invited to Berkeley or San Francisco for a personal interview (at the finalist's expense). If an interview in the Bay Area is not feasible, finalists may be able to engage in a telephone interview.

The announcement of new grantees for 2006 can be expected on or about May 1, 2006. New grantees generally begin their projects in the Fall, although contracts are negotiated individually to accommodate specific needs of the grantees and their projects.

## **Further Information**

Examples of successful grant proposals are available at the BLF office. If you have further questions regarding the submission of a proposal, the criteria for funding, or related matters, the following individuals are available to answer your questions: **Khari Tillery**, Grants Committee Co-Chair, [ktillery@kvn.com](mailto:ktillery@kvn.com); **Louis Garcia**, Grants Committee Co-Chair, [Louis.Garcia@ed.gov](mailto:Louis.Garcia@ed.gov).

## Format For Grant Proposals

Eight copies of the grant proposal shall be submitted.

The proposal shall include the following components:

1. The **cover or title page**, including the name, address, phone number, and e-mail (if available) of the applicant or contact person, the brief title of the project, and the amount of funding requested.
2. A **one page summary of the application** (on an 8.5 x 11" page, one side only), giving:
  - (a) the name of the applicant
  - (b) project title
  - (c) brief description of applicant and sponsoring organization, if any
  - (d) summary of the problem
  - (e) the steps the project proposes to take to address the problem
  - (f) overall objectives

The summary should also include at the bottom of the page the words "amount requested" followed by the appropriate figure. The summary may be single or double spaced.

Submit a separate, unattached original of this summary, and include a copy of this summary as the first page after the cover page of each of the eight complete proposals submitted.

3. A **description of the project** (4 to 6 double spaced pages) should address the following points:
  - (a) *The need or problem the project addresses.* Include a discussion of what, if any, has already been done in the area of need and by whom, why past efforts have been inadequate, the target group, the geographical focus of the project, and other problems shared by the target group.
  - (b) *Project Goals.* Define and discuss the goals of your project, including a discussion of the intended impact of the project on the problem identified above.
  - (c) *Proposed Action Steps.* Discuss how the project will meet the goals identified above. Please include a timetable for the accomplishment of these steps.
4. A **description of the applicant** (up to 2 double spaced pages). Please describe your prior community service experience, your connection to the community that you propose to serve, how you would contribute to the diversity of the public interest legal profession, and any other reasons you are qualified to undertake your proposed project. By "diversity" we mean individuals who are: people of color; gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgender/queer; economically disadvantaged; mentally, developmentally or physically disabled; immigrants; non-native English speakers; and members of other disadvantaged groups.
5. **Material supporting your proposal including:**
  - (a) If there is a sponsoring organization, a **description of the organization** and how it can contribute to the success of the project.
  - (b) A **list of the people involved** in the project, including respective roles and relevant experience.

- (c) A **resume** of the applicant.
- (d) **One letter of support from your sponsoring organization**, if there is one. Be sure to include eight copies of this letter of support.
- (e) **Two letters of recommendation from knowledgeable persons or organizations.**  
Submit letters only from those who either know your work well or are very familiar with the proposed project. Letters from persons involved in the proposed project's area would be particularly helpful. Do not ask persons currently serving on the BLF Board of Directors to write letters of recommendation. Be sure to include eight copies of each letter of recommendation.
- (f) **Overall Budget.** If you do not have a sponsoring organization or you propose to use significant portions of your BLF grant to cover expenses other than salary , please provide a budget in narrative form. This narrative should describe how you will fund your project's expenses, including detailing how you will cover salary, benefits (if any), payroll taxes and office overhead. Further details about project expenses such as travel, copying, etc. must also be provided.
- (g) **Other Funding.** Please mention any other sources that you have approached for funding. For each source of support, state whether the proposed project has a commitment from that source and/or if there are contingencies on such support. Please include a discussion of potential future sources of support.

### Deadline

Complete proposal must be postmarked by Friday, January 27, 2006.

**BERKELEY LAW FOUNDATION**  
**YEAR-LONG GRANTEES**

1976-1977    **Employment Labor Project for Asian Workers, *Victoria Chin***  
With the Asian Law Caucus in San Francisco  
(Employment Rights Project)

1977-1978    **Disability Law Project, *Paul Silver and Bob Funk***  
With The Center for Independent Living in Berkeley  
(Disability Law Resources Center)

**Lesbian Law Project, *Donna Hutchins***  
With Equal Rights Advocates in San Francisco  
(Lesbian Rights Project)

1978-1979    **Family Day Care Law Project, *Lujuana Treadwell***  
With BANANAS in Berkeley and  
The San Francisco Lawyer's Committee on Urban Affairs

**Legal Services for Prisoners with Children, *Ellen Barry***  
Jointly funded by BLF and NYU Public Interest Law Foundation

1979-1980    **Family Abuse Project, *Rita Banks***  
With Columbus Community Legal Services Clinic in Washington, D.C.

**Legal Resource and Education Center for the Elderly, *Donna Meyers Ambrogi***  
With Legal Assistance for the Elderly in San Francisco  
(Community Legal Education)

**Pasadena Community Development Monitoring and Advocacy Project,**  
*Nicholas Georges Rodriguez*  
With El Centro de Accion Social in Los Angeles

1980-1981    **Electronics Committee Legal Component,**  
*Amanda Hawes, Carolyn Langekamp & Blythe Nikelson*  
With the Santa Clara Center for Occupational Safety and Health  
(Electronics Committee of Occupational Safety & Health)

**Street Law Project, *Tom Nazario***  
With USF Community Legal Education Program  
(Center for Community Legal Education, Inc.)

- 1981-1982    **D.C. Housing Law Project**, *Jo Ann Abramson and Karen Knopp O’Kinski*
- Nursing Home Advocacy Project**, *Harriet Prensky*  
                  With Bet Tzedek Legal Service in Los Angeles
- Oakland Eviction Defense Center**, *Jay Koslofsky*  
                  With the Oakland Tenant Union
- Undocumented Immigrants Rights Project**, *Ramiro Castro*  
                  With La Raza Centro Legal in San Francisco
- 1982-1983    **Alameda County Domestic Violence Project**, *Elizabeth Hendrickson*  
                  With Bay Area Battered Women’s Shelters
- Anti-Displacement Project**, *Randy Shaw*  
                  With the North of Market Planning Commission in San Francisco
- Central American Refugees Program**, *Miriam Hayward*  
                  Housed in The Most Holy Redeemer Church in San Francisco
- Industrial Cooperative Legal Education**, *Peter Pitegoff*  
                  With Industrial Cooperative Association
- 1983-1984    **Asian Women’s Legal Assistance Project**, *Sharon Ngim*  
                  At San Francisco Chinatown’s Cameron House
- Imperial Valley Immigration Project**, *Eliseo Sisneros*  
                  With California Rural Legal Assistance in Sacramento
- Mission Community Defense Welfare Advocacy**, *Enrique Monguia*  
                  With Mission Community Legal Defense, Inc. in San Francisco
- 1984-1985    **Assistance for the Developmentally Disabled Project**, *David Schott*  
                  With the Mental Health Advocacy Project in San Jose
- Medicare Advocacy Project**, *Bess Murchison Brewer*  
                  With the National Senior Citizens Law Center &  
                  The National Health Program in Los Angeles
- 1985-1986    **AIDS Civil Rights Project**, *Benjamin Schatz*  
                  With a grant from the Harvard Justice Foundation
- Legal Aid for Mothers in Prison Project**, *Gail Smith*  
                  With John Howard Association & the Committee to Aid Inmates in Need

**Public Housing Monitoring Project, Michael Harris**  
Matching grant with San Francisco Neighborhood Legal Assistance Foundation

**Refugee Children's Advocacy Project, Sandy Weiner**  
With El Rescate in Los Angeles

1986-1987 **California Institute for Women in Prison Project, Karen Shryver**  
With Prison Law Office in San Quentin

**In Defense of Sacred Land and Its People Project, Lee Brooke Phillips**  
With the Big Mountain Legal Defense/Offense Committee in Flagstaff, Arizona

1987-1988 **GAIN/AFDC Advocacy Project, Sandy Weiner**  
With the Income Rights Project in San Francisco

**Immigration Amnesty Project, Jennifer Linder Wright**  
With the Legal Aid Society of San Mateo County

**Preventative Legal Services for the Elderly Through Education and Advocacy, Angelo A. DiGangi**  
With Community Advocacy Canter, CAC, in Ridgewood, New York

1988-1989 **The Homeless Advocacy Project, Lisa Parsons**  
With the Bar Association of San Francisco

**AIDS in Prison Project, Allison Hardy**  
With the Prison Law Project

**Berkeley Community Law Center Project, Brad Adams**

1989-1990 **Welfare Rights Education Project, Kim Baker**  
With the Income Rights Project in San Francisco

**Homelessness Prevention Project, David Robinson**  
With the Community Action for Legal Services Legal Support Unit  
In New York, New York

1990-1991 **Welfare Reform/Self-Sufficiency Project, Natalie Hanlon**  
With the Legal Aid Society of Metropolitan Denver

**Legal Action Center for the Homeless of Alameda County, Claire Schwartz**  
With the Berkeley Community Law Center

- Watsonville Cannery and Farm Worker's Housing Advocacy Project, *Dania Wong***  
With the Legal Aid Society of Santa Cruz Project
- 1991-1992 **Legal Information and Referral Network for People Living with AIDS Project, *Danya Deck***
- Community Preservation and Economic Development Project, *Julie Gutman***  
With the East Palo Alto Community Law Project
- Legal Project to Guatemalan Refugees Who Are Affected by the American Baptist Church Case Settlement, *Alyssa Simpson***  
With the Central American Refugee Center of Los Angeles
- 1992-1993 **Battered Immigrant Women and the Marriage Fraud Act, *Rosa Fregoso***  
With the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles  
and the Asian Pacific American Legal Center
- Pelican Bay Prison Project, *Heather Mackay***  
With Redwood Legal Assistance, the Prison Law Office  
and Legal Services for Prisoners with Children
- Equal Access to Medical Care, *Christopher Jones***  
With Greater Orlando Area Legal Services
- 1993-1994 **Children's AIDS/HIV Project: Free Legal and Social Services for Children Affected by AIDS and HIV, *Noelani Loo Jai***
- Proyecto San Pablo: El Centro Immigrants' Rights Project, *Cristina Guerrero***
- 1994-1995 **Women's Health Access, *Cynthia Dailard***
- School-Based Children's Advocacy, *Rebecca Gutman***
- 1995-1996 **Women's Economic Agenda Project, *Erica Etelson***  
With the Welfare Fraud Defense Center
- Citizenship Campaign, *Amagda Perez***  
With the UC Davis Immigration Law Clinic
- 1996-1997 **Redwood Employment Advocacy Project, *Caleb Rush***  
with the Redwood Legal Assistance (RLA)
- Access to Health Care and Economic Justice for Minors, *Aliza Organick and Leslie Mansfield***

- 1997-1998     **Sexual Minority Youth Law (SMYL) Project**, *Vitaly Kurlyand*  
 With the Legal Services for Children
- The Eloy Project**, *Andrea G. Black*  
 With the Florence Immigrant and Refugee Project
- 1998-1999     **Migrant Poultry Worker Justice Project**, *Lisa D'Souza*
- CalWORKS and Disability Project**, *Julia R. Wilson*  
 With the Legal Aid Society of San Mateo County
- 1999-2000     **Protecting Abused Immigrant Children**, *Martha Chavarin-Romero*  
 With the Immigrant Legal Resource Center of San Francisco
- The Education Access Project for Homeless Children and Youth**, *Sarah Price*  
 With the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless
- 2000-2001     **Alkali Flat Family Law Project**, *Jon Givner*  
 With Legal Services of Northern California
- Collaborative Brownsfields Revitalization Project**, *Daniel Tellalian*  
 With the Urban Analysis Project
- 2001-2002     **Advocating to Prevent Vietnamese Domestic Violence**, *Monalisa Vu*  
 With the Nihonmachi Legal Outreach of San Francisco, CA
- Immigration Detention Outreach and Litigation Project**, *Jessica Boell*  
 With the ACLU Immigrant's Rights Project in Oakland, CA
- 2002-2003     **FATHER Law Program**, *Melissa Froehle*  
 With Central Minnesota Legal Services
- Protecting Low Wage Workers' Rights**, *Eddie Gena*  
 With the Community Legal Services of Phoenix
- Suitcase Clinic Legal Services**, *Tirien Steinbach*  
 With the East Bay Community Law Center
- Gender Identity Law Program**, *Dean P. Spade*  
 With the LGYP Urban Justice Center in New York
- 2003-2004     **The Indigenous Farmworkers Project** *Alegria de la Cruz*  
 With the California Rural Legal Assistance Project

**Kinship Caregivers Advocacy Project** *Maria Jaime*  
With the California Rural Legal Assistance Project 2004-2005

**Legal Education and Advocacy Project for Youth in the Juvenile Justice System,** *Aila Malik*  
With Fresh Lifelines for Youth (FLY), Santa Clara County, CA

**Mediation Assistance for Indigent Litigants in the Northeast Housing Court of Massachusetts,** *Patricio Rossi*  
With Neighborhood Legal Services, Essex County, MA

2005-2006 **Transgender Family Law Project,** Shane Caya  
With Transgender Law Center