

# Together, We Are...

## ...Supporting Children in Court

AABA members in 1997, the non-profit CASA provides legal support to abused and neglected children, and strives to place them in safe, permanent homes. Since 2001, the Barrister's Ball has raised nearly \$125,000 to support the CASA mission.

In April 2015, the Foundation hosted the **Barrister's Beach Bash**, a tropical-themed version of our annual ball. Members and guests donned flowered shirts, sundresses and leis for this fun event at Chartwell Country Club. The highlight of the evening was the Silent Auction, which raised funds to support the Anne Arundel Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA). Founded by

## ...Helping Students in Need

This year, the AACBF decided to help local students in need by supporting the **Weekend Food Program** at two public schools: Germantown Elementary in Annapolis and High Point Elementary in Pasadena. At both schools, a large percentage of students receive free or reduced meals at school, and many of these students also lack adequate food at home. Through the Weekend Food Program, the students in need are identified by school staff and provided with a bag or backpack full of food items every Friday during the school year. Weekend Food Programs are organized by staff or volunteers and supported entirely by donations. The Foundation's campaign to support the Weekend Food program was launched in November 2015 and has raised \$5,400 to date.

Last spring, the Foundation donated proceeds from the Spring Golf Tournament tee sign sponsorships to the summer camp program at the Stanton Community Center in Annapolis. The Foundation's donation made it possible for 9 disadvantaged students to attend the Center's six-week camp.

## ...Inspiring Youth Interest in the Law

In spring 2015, more than 180 students submitted essays on this year's topic. For this year's essay contest, high school students were invited to express their opinions on the U.S. Supreme Court case *Walker v. Texas Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans*. The students had to consider whether a state has the right to deny a request for a specialty license plate bearing an image of the Confederate flag. A sophomore from South River High School claimed the first-place \$500 award. In November 2015 the Maryland State Bar Foundation presented Kathleen Meredith and Hon. Timothy Meredith, the essay contest sponsors and founders, with the Legal Excellence Award for the Advancement of Public Understanding of the Law for their support of this important program.

The AACBF also encourages local youth to expand their interest in and knowledge of the law by sponsoring an annual **Essay Contest**, which is open to public and private high school students. Over the past 16 years, more than 2,500 students from 11 county high schools have submitted essays.



## ...Providing Comfort to Families in Need

In cooperation with Graul's Market, AABA volunteers delivered the meals to the Admiral Oaks Community Center in Annapolis on the Monday before Thanksgiving. Since 2002, the AACBF has raised more than \$73,000 through the Thanksgiving Dinner Drive.

In 2015, the AACBF continued the successful **Thanksgiving Dinner Program** for the fourteenth year. Through this program, the Foundation raises fund to provide Thanksgiving dinners with all the trimmings to underserved families in our county. This year, the Bar Foundation provided dinners to 65 families.

## ...Ensuring Access to Justice for All

who do not qualify for legal service programs, but who still cannot afford legal counsel.

Through the AABA Community Service Division, we support efforts to ensure that all citizens have equal access to justice, especially those facing economic challenges. Programs supported by our members include the **Ask-A-Lawyer in the Library** program, which provides up to 20 minutes of free legal advice to individuals

For the past four years, AABA members have also volunteered to assist at the **Anne Arundel County Homeless Resource Day**. During this day-long event, attorneys provide legal advice and services to homeless individuals in our area. This year, 18 attorneys participated in the event and provided guidance to 74 homeless individuals.

# Caring for the Communities We Serve

Each year, the AACBF provides much-needed legal assistance to the underserved and makes charitable gifts and contributions to community based agencies. With your generous contributions, the Foundation has made a positive impact on communities throughout our county, creating a better quality of life for all residents.

### 2015 Bar Foundation Program Distributions At-A-Glance

Anne Arundel Court Appointed Special Advocates .....	\$2,800
Weekend Food Program .....	\$5,400
High School Essay Contest .....	\$1,000
Thanksgiving Dinner Drive .....	\$2,625
Stanton Community Center Summer Camp .....	\$1,760

**TOTAL \$13,585**

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**Make a Donation and Make a Difference**  
You can make a difference by contributing the \$25 voluntary checkoff on the AABA annual dues notice and/or by giving an in-kind or monetary donation. The Foundation carries the IRS classification of a 501 (c) (3) organization, and therefore your contribution is tax deductible as a charitable donation. Every contribution, large or small, is welcomed and appreciated. We thank you in advance for your continued generosity.

# Protecting Children Giving Guidance

## Caring for the Community Helping Those in Need

### Inspiring Students

**The Anne Arundel Bar Foundation  
2015 Annual Report**

### The Community Efforts of the Anne Arundel County Bar Foundation



Since 1990, the Anne Arundel County Bar Foundation (AACBF) has pursued its mission to foster and maintain the honor and integrity of the profession of law. Each year, we support several charitable and service initiatives that strengthen our community and ensure equitable access to justice. The AACBF made significant progress in 2015, distributing more than \$13,000 in funds to projects that had a direct impact on our local youth and neighbors in need.

The AACBF is extremely grateful to the members of the Anne Arundel Bar Association (AABA) who volunteered their time or donated essential funds this year. In this Annual Report, you will find details on each of the programs we supported this year. With your continued generosity, we can continue to build on our success in 2016.

### Supporting Communities Throughout Anne Arundel County Since 1990

The Anne Arundel County Bar Foundation (AACBF) is the charitable arm of the Anne Arundel Bar Association. As a separate and distinct entity from the AABA, the AACBF must raise funds sufficient to meet its own operating expenses. Donations through the voluntary checkbox on the AABA membership renewal form help to keep the AACBF running and our programs moving forward.

**“Through the Anne Arundel County Bar Foundation, the county’s legal professionals form important connections with the communities that they serve. Each year, our members’ generous donations make it possible for us to support several charitable initiatives in our efforts to ensure equitable access to justice and support our neighbors in need.”**

--Greg Jimeno, President  
Anne Arundel County Bar Foundation