



# TOGETHER, WE ARE MAKING AN IMPACT

Patrick J. Krebs

Last month, the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Foundation released its annual Impact Report entitled, *Making our Community Shine, A Year of Bar Impact 2018 – 2019*. The purpose of the Impact Report is to provide our volunteers, sponsors, fellows, donors, and friends an in-depth analysis of how we use their time, treasure, and talents, and to quantify the impact that all of us together have on the community through the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association’s award-winning programs. A quick review of the numbers in the Impact Report demonstrates the lasting impact we have made together this past year.

At the CMBA and the CMBF, our volunteers are the backbone of everything we do. From our pipeline programs like the 3Rs Program, Mock Trial, the Stephanie Tubbs Jones

Summer Legal Academy, and the Louis Stokes Scholars Program, to our free legal clinics in homeless shelters, our volunteers drive our programs. Last year alone we had 965 volunteers serve 3,590 people through 13,180 hours of service at an estimated value of donated time of \$1,977,000! Thank you to all of our volunteers who gave so generously of their time.

Each year, the CMBF makes friends and raises funds through three annual events. The 72nd Annual Franklin A. Polk Public Servants Merit Award Luncheon celebrated the accomplishments of 12 individuals who have dedicated their careers to public service. Those individuals will forever be honored on the Public Servants Memorial Wall inside the Cuyahoga County Courthouse. A total of 19 firms, organizations, and individuals donated their money to keep this time-honored Cleveland tradition alive. Similarly, hundreds of runners, walkers, and friends took part in the 17th Annual Halloween Run for Justice, which raises critical funds for CMBA programs. More than 80 firms, organizations, and individuals sponsored this successful event. Lastly, nearly 500 guests helped the CMBF celebrate Rock the Foundation 14 at Music Box Supper Club on the West Bank of The Flats. That event would not have been possible without the generous support of 52 firms, businesses, and individuals. In all, these three events raised more than \$200,000 in critical funds to help the CMBF achieve its mission. Thank you to all of

our sponsors for making each of these events a smashing success.

The CMBF’s Foundation Fellows program offers the opportunity for individuals, firms, and organizations to make leadership level contributions to the Foundation. Annually, we accept nominations for distinguished members of the legal community who contribute significantly to the advancement of justice in the greater Cleveland community and demonstrate the highest standards of integrity and professionalism. Fellow contributions are directed to the CMBF Endowment. Through the generosity of our Founding Fellows, Leadership Fellows, and our Gold Fellows, Silver Fellows, and Fellows, the Endowment supports and sustains the “Lawyers Giving Back” programs funded by the CMBF. Thank you to all of our Fellows for your leadership.

In closing, a heartfelt thank you to all of you who have helped the CMBF make a difference this year in the lives of so many. Please continue to spread the word about the CMBF and the important work that we do. Time and again, Cleveland’s legal and business communities have answered the call to help us in our mission of giving back to the City we love!

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