

# **2022** Opportunity Grant Recipients

# Advocates for Immigrant Rights (TN, AR, KY, LA, MS)

\$18,500

This project will expand Welcome South, a collaborative regional online immigration services platform that ensures services are not duplicative, clients are not traumatized by retelling their stories, and limited resources are used efficiently. The ABE Opportunity Grant will help train staff to use the platform for maximized client benefit. To learn more, visit Advocates for Immigrants Rights.

# Alaska State Association for\$12,000Guardianship & Advocacy (AK)

The 2022 ABE Opportunity Grant will support the pilot of ASAGA's Income and Expense Tracker Application, a user-friendly, intuitive mobile and computer accessible software that will help guardians successfully submit accurate reports to the court, reducing reimbursement denials. Funds will support training of users and advocates on the software. To learn more, visit <u>ASAGA</u>.

#### **Ascend Justice (IL)**

The launch of self-help stations in Illinois women's prisons will make e-filing (statutorily required in many legal cases) accessible to incarcerated women. The ABE Opportunity Grant will help create an e-filing manual, purchase technology, and recruit and train peer navigators. To learn more, visit Ascend Justice.

#### **Code the Dream (National)**

In collaboration with the Pennsylvania Farmworker Project, this effort will update and enhance Vamos, a unique mobile app that helps legal and social service organizations plan, conduct, track, and report farmworker outreach activities to improve client outcomes. The ABE Opportunity Grant will support stipends for diverse, low-income apprentices to develop the app's new features. To learn more, visit <u>Code the Dream</u>.

#### **D.C. Bar Foundation (D.C.)**

\$25,000

In partnership with the D.C. legal services community, this project will develop and implement a user-friendly, secure, accessible Coordinated Intake and Referral (CIR) system for civil legal needs that ensures successful case placement. The ABE Opportunity Grant will help gather needed organization and end-user information to inform effective system design. To learn more, visit the <u>DC Bar Foundation</u>.

# Duquesne University School of Law (PA)

#### \$23,500

The ABE Opportunity Grant will support this effort to build an interactive web-based computer program to assist pro se child custody litigants preserve their right to appeal by gathering information and preparing the initial documents so the court can hear the case on its merits and not reject it due to procedural mishaps. To learn more, visit <u>Duquesne University School of Law</u>.

#### Hands and Voices (National)

\$22,600

A web-based educational advocacy intake tool in plain English and Spanish is essential to connect parents of deaf or hard-of-hearing children with local free or low-cost advocacy, legal services, resources, and support. The ABE Opportunity Grant will support its creation, including updating a critical guide that contains case law and ADA information used by attorneys, advocates, and teacher prep programs and creating Spanish, English, and American Sign Language videos to educate families about rights and services. To learn more, visit <u>Hands</u> & Voices.

#### \$25,000

\$25,000

### Legal Aid of San Bernardino (CA) \$25,000

The ABE Opportunity Grant will help fund the production of English and Spanish interactive videos that will educate low-income seniors and families on the six steps of the eviction process, how to respond if served notice of eviction, how to represent oneself, and where to get legal help. To learn more, visit Legal Aid of San Bernardino.

### Legal Aid of the Bluegrass (KY) \$50,000 Tennessee Alliance for Legal Services (TN)

The ABE Opportunity Grant will support the implementation of a two-state collaborative, voice integrated Legal Wellness Checkup tool, so that those with limited English or written language skills can understand their legal needs and receive referrals to local resources. To learn more, visit Legal Aid of the Bluegrass.

#### Legal Link (CA)

# \$25,000

This project will develop a web and app-based tool that will help community legal navigators identify legal issues that are barriers to their clients' housing, health, and economic stability. During the pilot year, the ABE Opportunity Grant will support the training of community navigators, serving more than 500 low-income families in the Bay Area, to use the tool and develop customized intervention plans. To learn more, visit Legal Link.

#### Louisiana Bar Foundation (LA)

#### \$22,000

The launch of Good Repair, a web-based application for Louisiana renters experiencing housing habitability problems, especially common after disasters is the focus of this project supported by a 2022 ABE Opportunity Grant. Tenants will use the app to communicate needed repairs to their landlords and appropriate government housing authorities and to create the proper document providing notification to deduct the cost of repairs made on their own. The app will also provide referrals to legal resources. To learn more, visit the Louisiana Bar Foundation.

## Villanova University (National) \$25,000

Using innovative user-centered design principles, this project will convene stakeholders to develop ways to engage retired lawyers and judges as mentors to DOJ-authorized accredited immigration representatives. The ABE Opportunity Grant will be used to create best practices for remote mentoring and blueprints for an innovative legal tech networking solution to link accredited representatives with their new mentors. To learn more, visit <u>Villanova University Immigration</u> <u>Studies</u>.