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**NEWS RELEASE — FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**SC Bar Foundation awards \$1.9 million in grants**

COLUMBIA, S.C. — The [South Carolina Bar Foundation](#) recently awarded \$1.9 million in grant funds to support civil legal aid, law related education and other law related projects for Fiscal Year 2016.

Since 1987, the Foundation has allocated approximately \$49.7 million to various legal related organizations that work on behalf of the justice community.

The grantees for Fiscal Year 2016 are:

**Catholic Charities Office of Immigration Services:** Meets the need for low-cost, high-quality immigration legal services by providing family-based immigration services and assisting immigrant victims of crime.

**Center for Heirs' Property Preservation:** Protects and preserves heirs' property through legal services and education.

**Citizens Opposed to Domestic Abuse:** Provides comprehensive legal services to victims of domestic violence and their children in Beaufort, Colleton, Hampton and Jasper counties.

**Lowcountry Legal Volunteers:** Offers legal services to the low income community through the skills of retired volunteer attorneys.

**National Judicial College:** Awards scholarships to SC judges so that they may attend training to increase their capacity to better serve their communities.

**One-Eighty Place Homeless Justice Project:** Provides direct legal services to the homeless population through its on-site attorneys.

**Richland County Court Appointed Special Advocates:** Funds are used to promote Guardian diversity and support training efforts.

**Sistercare:** Offers legal services free of charge to battered women and their children.

**S.C. Access to Justice Commission:** Seeks to expand legal services for low income South Carolinians.

**S.C. Appleseed Legal Justice Center:** Works to uphold individuals' rights to food, shelter, education and access to justice.

(MORE)

**S.C. Bar Ask-A-Lawyer Program:** Hosts legal education clinics, phone banks and legal lessons seminars to advance the public's understanding of the law.

**S.C. Bar Law Related Education Division:** Promotes civic education through programs for the state's youth.

**S.C. Center for Fathers & Families:** Operates six fatherhood programs that connect low income fathers with livable wage jobs and provides training to help the fathers become better dads.

**S.C. Legal Services:** Serves thousands each year as the only statewide, full-range civil legal services provider for low income citizens.

**S.C. Victim Assistance Network:** Offers legal services to immigrant victims of crime.

**S.C. YMCA Youth in Government:** Provides scholarships for students who would not otherwise have the opportunity to participate due to financial constraints.

**Turning Leaf Project:** Arranges re-entry services for men leaving the Charleston County Detention Center.

**University of South Carolina School of Law Public Interest Fellows Project:** Supports placement of law students as fellows in legal services organizations.

**Upstate Mediation Center:** Provides mediation services to low income individuals in family and probate court.

To learn more about the SC Bar Foundation and the work of its grantee organizations, please visit [www.sctbarfoundation.org](http://www.sctbarfoundation.org).

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*The **South Carolina Bar Foundation** funds the advancement of justice by improving access, education and accountability. Since 1987, the Foundation has allocated approximately \$49.7 million to various legal related organizations that work on behalf of the justice community. For more information, visit [www.sctbarfoundation.org](http://www.sctbarfoundation.org).*