

Bank of America Settlement Program

Foreclosure Prevention and Community Redevelopment Grants

Overview

The Alaska Bar Foundation is pleased to announce that it will award more than \$1,211,035 in grants to civil legal services providers based in the State of Alaska that serve low-income, underrepresented Alaska residents in the areas of foreclosure prevention legal assistance and/or community redevelopment legal assistance. The Alaska Bar Foundation is able to award these funds as a result of the 2014 settlement on mortgage-related litigation between the U.S. Department of Justice and Bank of America Corporation.

Eligible civil legal services providers can apply for a grant, to start January 1, 2017 and to extend for one to four years, in the following two areas:

- (1) Foreclosure prevention legal assistance; or
- (2) Community redevelopment legal assistance.

Organizations may submit up to two applications, one for foreclosure prevention and the other for community redevelopment legal assistance.

Organizations may partner with each other on applications, but may not submit more than one application, either singly or in a partnership, in either category. Organizations intending to expend money in one geographical area of Alaska are encouraged to partner with other applicants as an equitable distribution of funds for statewide impact will be one of the criteria considered by the Foundation in making grant award decisions.

Deadline

Applications should follow the “Bank of America Settlement Program Grant Application Format” and be submitted by **5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 1, 2016**. The entire application must be e-mailed in PDF format to the Alaska Bar Foundation at schmidk@alaskabar.org.

Questions

Please direct all questions to Karen Schmidlkofer, Alaska Bar Association Controller, at 907-272-7469 or schmidk@alaskabar.org.

Section I

Grant Application Information

Eligible civil legal services providers can apply for a grant, to start January 1, 2017 and to extend for one to four years, in the following two areas:

- (1) Foreclosure prevention legal assistance; or
- (2) Community redevelopment legal assistance.

The Foundation will make grants to organizations under the following grant guidelines for projects falling within the two program areas above. The Foundation will not make grants to: individual persons; religious organizations; political campaigns; organizations that are designed primarily for lobbying; organizations dedicated to funding litigation; governmental entities; endowment scholarship or fellowship programs; continuing legal education programs for lawyers; lawyers in the private practice of law; law enforcement or correctional organizations; or law schools.

The following grant guidelines will be utilized by the Foundation.

1. The Foundation does not intend to use its limited Bank of America Settlement resources to replace existing funding.
2. A primary function of an agency seeking a grant must be consistent with the guidelines of the Foundation for Bank of America Settlement program monies.
3. Grant requests must be consistent with the tax exempt public purposes prescribed by the Foundation and with applicable Internal Revenue Code regulations and rulings relative to Section 501(c)(3) organizations.
4. Generally, the Foundation will not be the primary source of financial support for the applicant for a sustained period of time.
5. The majority of the available grant funds will be awarded in January each year. Organizations may submit up to two applications, one for foreclosure prevention and the other for community redevelopment legal assistance. Organizations may partner with each other on applications, but may not submit more than one application, either singly or in a partnership, in either category.
6. Grant period to start January 1, 2017 and to extend for one to four years.
7. The Foundation will give highest funding priority for programs delivering legal assistance to the economically disadvantaged.
8. Significant weight will be given to a history or a clear ability of an applicant to provide a successful program.

9. Consideration will be given to the proportion of clients to be served within a geographic area and the breadth of services proposed to be offered. Organizations intending to expend money in one geographical area of Alaska are encouraged to partner with other applicants as an equitable distribution of funds for statewide impact will be one of the criteria considered.
10. The Foundation will rely on the written demonstration submitted by the applicant, thus the applicant must present the Foundation with complete, thorough and accurate information.
11. Upon submission all proposals become the property of the Alaska Bar Foundation which has the right to use any or all ideas presented in any proposals submitted in response to this request, whether or not the proposal is accepted.

Section II

Grant Application Format

The entire application must be e-mailed in PDF format to the Alaska Bar Foundation at schmidk@alaskabar.org. This copy should be signed by an official who has authority to bind the organization to the proposed obligations.

Proposals may vary in form and detail; however, applicants are asked to address all items listed below and to provide as much detail as appropriate to assist the Foundation in making its grant award determinations.

1. Cover Sheet

Prepare a cover sheet (not to exceed one page) which includes:

- a) The name, address and telephone number of the program/agency making applications for funds;
- b) The name of the chief administrative officer for each partnering organization if applicable;
- c) The name, address and telephone number of the chief policy making officer for each partnering organization if applicable;
- d) The name and title of the person preparing this application.
- e) The category(ies) under which these funds are requested. Grant categories are:

Foreclosure legal assistance: These funds are to go to legal service organizations and used for things like assistance to homeowners with notification of being in arrearage; assistance to homeowners who fell behind and were threatened with court action or received notice of foreclosure; matters in which a loan modification was sought or obtained, including through foreclosure mitigation programs; legal assistance with servicer violations resulting in foreclosure notice; negotiation of retention programs, including forbearance plans, reinstatement quotes, and repayment plans; transitional options, including traditional short sale, deed in lieu of foreclosure and cash for keys; escalation, mediation, litigation and appeal of servicer violations, loan modification denials, and foreclosure.

Foreclosure prevention proposals may include but are not limited to:

- Outreach and education on foreclosure and legal options;
- Review of loan documents and counseling on loan modification;
- Assisting with compliance review of violations of state or federal homeowners bill of rights violations;
- Assistance with loan modification, including modification denials, forbearance agreements and repayment plans;
- Negotiation, mediation and litigation to address service violations;

- Reverse mortgage advice to older adults;
- Seeking to restore title in cases of consumer fraud, predatory lending or financial abuse of various types; and
- Policy and advocacy and support services to increase capacity and foster collaboration with local, state and national groups on any of these issues.

Community Redevelopment: These funds are to go to legal service organizations and used for things like support to non-profits or small businesses on projects or programs that generate affordable housing, job creation, and community capacity building. Projects should support and promote economic development by providing legal services that revitalize or stabilize low-income communities. A broad range of strategies may be employed from counseling advocacy groups, transactional law, representation, or policy and impact work.

Community redevelopment proposals may include but are not limited to:

- Increasing the capacity of local non-profit organizations that serve low income communities;
- Supporting the development and preservation of affordable housing, childcare, senior centers, job training programs and day labor centers;
- Supporting micro-businesses, low-income entrepreneurs, and other local and community-owned services;
- Training low-income community members to advocate on behalf of their community;
- Legal representation of low-income communities with respect to community conditions such as environmental issues, transit development, homelessness, affordable housing and other matters that help in the healthy development of communities;
- Other legal assistance that is transformative for the community in that it promotes systemic change, or promotes economic security and has a broad impact;
- Redevelopment assistance to cities and boroughs to ensure that localities and developers meet their obligations to provide adequate relocation assistance and replacement housing for families displaced by redevelopment; and
- Developing programs, policies, legislation and other strategies to eliminate and prevent conditions of blight and deal with affordable housing.

- f) The amount requested;
- g) The period of time (up to four years) over which the grant funds will be expended;
- h) A brief abstract of the project, purpose and goals.
- i) A statement concerning whether the applicant has its annual financial statements audited, and if so, by whom.

2. Funding and Support

- a) Briefly describe the agency's efforts to obtain funding and other community support and list all current funding sources;
- b) Describe how the requested Foundation grant funds will be utilized. Explain if Foundation

grant funding will be used to expand existing services, to maintain existing services or to support a new project initiative;

- c) Describe the potential impact if Foundation grant funds are not available;
- d) Describe how you might use a grant in an amount less than originally requested.

3. Program Information

- a) Provide a description of the purpose and scope of the program/agency. Include information on staffing, community(ies) served, number and types of clients, staff caseload, the overall community need for such services, and the program's specific priorities and method of selection of these priorities.
- b) Attach a statistical summary of caseload data for the most recent year in which complete statistics are available which includes number of cases handled with a breakdown by category and by location.

4. Tax Status

Describe the program/agency's organizational and tax status.

5. Equal Employment Opportunity Statement

Each prospective grantee shall clearly state, in an appendix section of the proposal, their equal employment opportunity policies and practices.

6. Budget

Provide budget information (one for each year for the duration of the proposal) for this particular program, and attach it to the copies of the program/agency budget (or end of year financial statement) for the three (3) previous years. Sources and amounts of all program income should be included for each year.

Section III

Grant Conditions and Agreement

Please fill out form, sign and include with your grant application

*Multiyear project recipients must complete this form annually

Organization: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Physical Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Contact Person: _____

Title: _____

Type of Grant:

Foreclosure Assistance or Community Redevelopment

Tax ID or Soc Sec Number: _____

(Not required for 501(c)(3) or gov't agencies):

If approved, Grantee agrees that the funds provided pursuant to this grant may be disbursed only in accordance with the following conditions and restrictions:

1. Grant period is to be determined by the Foundation.
2. Grantee will notify the Foundation as soon as possible, but not later than thirty (30) days, after any material changes occurring in the grantee's program or organization, during the period for which this grant is made. Examples of organizational changes include, but are not limited to:
 - (a) change of contact person, telephone number, or office location;
 - (b) questions raised in any financial or operational audit conducted inhouse, by an independent organization or by any governmental agency, such as the IRS or similar state agency.
3. All grant funds will be used for, and only for, the public, charitable purposes specified in the grantee's application for funds, and no portion of the grant funds, including any interest earned thereon, will be used for any other purpose without prior written approval of the Foundation.
4. Any funds not expended or committed for the purposes of the grant within the period stated above will be returned to the Foundation.
5. Grantee will furnish interim, annual and final written report(s) to the Foundation by
 - 1st quarter report due by April 30;
 - 2nd quarter report due by July 31;

- Final or annual report (multiyear projects) by January 31;

All reports will describe how the grant funds were disbursed, and the progress made in accomplishing the grant's purposes.

6. Although grant funds need not be physically segregated, such funds will be shown separately in grantee's financial books for ease of reference and verification. Records of receipts and disbursements under the grant, as well as copies of reports submitted to the Foundation, will be retained by the grantee for at least four (4) years following completion of the grant year. Grantee agrees that its books and records will be made available for inspection by the Foundation during reasonable office hours.
7. Grantee will supply the Foundation with such other information as may be necessary or desirable to permit the Foundation to review the use made of this grant.
8. Grantee will not disburse grant funds provided by the Foundation for any political campaign or to support attempts to influence legislation of any governmental body.
9. Grantee understands that the Foundation has no continuing obligation to make subsequent grants or otherwise finance any project of the grantee organization beyond the grant period specified herein. The Foundation may rescind funds allocated if grantee fails to comply with this agreement in any way.
10. Any questions about the Grant Conditions and Agreement are to be directed to:
Karen Schmidkofer, Controller
Alaska Bar Foundation
P.O. Box 100279
Anchorage, AK 99510-0279
(907) 272-7469 schmidk@alaskabar.org

GRANTEE AGREES to the terms and conditions of the grant as recited above, and certifies that the application and reports are a true and accurate reflection of the expenditures made with these grant funds, and that all transactions reflected have been made in accordance with the grant's general terms and conditions.

Grantee: _____

By: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____