

AAA-ICDR Foundation® Announces \$2,663,189 in Recently Approved Grants



2024 Foundation Annual Grants Total \$1.8 Million

Ten organizations have been awarded grants to further the AAA-ICDR Foundation's three priority areas: using innovative approaches ADR to **bridge community conflict**, focusing on civil discourse to mend societal divisions; **prevent and reduce violence**, emphasizing vulnerable, underserved communities and police/social service partnerships; and **support diversity, equity, and inclusion**, focused on access to justice.

From 85 preliminary applications received, the Foundation Board awarded grants to:

The Ohio State University Foundation	\$250,000
ROCA Inc.	\$250,000
Union League Boys and Girls Club	\$250,000
Essential Partners	\$224,450
Dignity Best Practices	\$200,000
University of Maryland Law School, Center for Dispute Resolution	\$191,739
Western Justice Center Foundation	\$150,000
Resolution Systems Institute	\$147,000
BUILD, Inc.	\$100,000
Center for Conflict Resolution	\$75,000

For more information on the grants and the organizations that received them, please visit [What We Funded](#).

In Brief

Following is a selection from the above Annual Grant awards addressing the Foundation's priority areas.

Bridging Community Conflict

Bridging Communities: A National YMCA Dialogue Network

YMCAs are engines of impact and scale as trusted local institutions and associations of a national network serving 11 million people in 10,000+ communities. Grant recipient Essential Partners will work with a network of YMCAs (Tacoma, Oklahoma City, Nashville, Houston, Silver Bay New York, and YUSA) to develop a model for YMCA associations as trusted, shared community spaces that facilitate dialogues on local issues, such as health disparities, racial inequality, rural/urban divides, and public safety.

Preventing and Reducing Violence

Rewire4: Emotional Regulation Training with Police and Corrections, Phase 2 Implementation

This is second phase of a program to train police and corrections officers in Baltimore, MD, Boston, MA, and Hartford, CT, of which 3,000 have been trained to date, under a grant from the Foundation. The goals of Rewire4 are to provide an understanding of how trauma and the developing brain fuel high-intensity encounters; teach four foundational conflict resolution skills to use in challenging interactions; and strengthen and improve relationships between police/corrections officers and the community.

Support Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Focused

on Access to Justice

Expanding Access to Justice Through ADR Tech Tools in Landlord Tenant Disputes

The Ohio State University's Moritz College of Law and Department of Computer Science and Engineering (CSE) will collaborate to design and create tech tools to expand ADR access to justice in the context of landlord tenant disputes. The JusticeTech interdisciplinary program will allow Law and CSE students to design and build tools to help individuals with legal problems while also identifying and mitigating risks created by justice technologies.



AAA-ICDR Foundation Utilizes Its Rapid Response Grants to Address Urgent Current Events

The Foundation granted a total of \$250,000 to combat rising antisemitism and Islamophobia on U.S. college campuses. Grants were awarded to three organizations that work directly with administrators and students: Divided Community Project, Bridge USA, and Sustained Dialogues Institute.

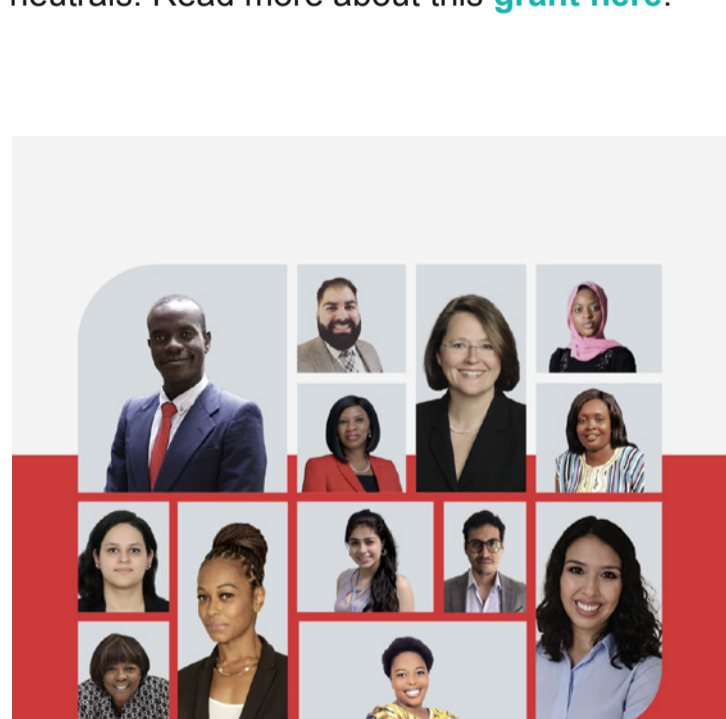
The Foundation and #CampusBridge at The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law's Divided Community Project announced a unique [Video Contest](#) for college and university student teams across the United States.

In addition, Rapid Response Grants of \$50,000 each were awarded to organizations that utilize conflict resolution approaches to address homelessness and housing insecurity. All Home is an organization that convenes key stakeholders in the Bay Area, utilizing facilitated dialogue and consensus building to address housing disparities and economic security. Cleveland Mediation Center—A Program of FrontLine Service, a community center that plays a key role in Cleveland's shelter diversion program, utilizes mediation to help individuals and families seeking shelter find safe, appropriate alternatives to avoid becoming homeless.

Call for Volunteers: If you are interested in volunteering as a mediator for the Cleveland Mediation Center program, please contact danielle.cosgrove@clevelandmediation.org.

The AAA-ICDR Foundation Partners with the JAMS Foundation to Fund Key DEI Initiative

The AAA-ICDR Foundation together with the JAMS Foundation is funding a multi-year Special Initiative Grant totaling \$750,000 to support the Ray Corollary Initiative, the mission of which is to increase diversity, equity, and inclusion in the appointment of diverse arbitrators, mediators, and other ADR neutrals. Read more about this [grant here](#).



2023 Diversity Scholarships

The Foundation's Diversity Scholarship Grants encourage diversity, equity, and inclusion within the ADR field through financial assistance (up to \$2,000) toward participation in degree programs or fellowships, or for attendance at well-recognized conferences.

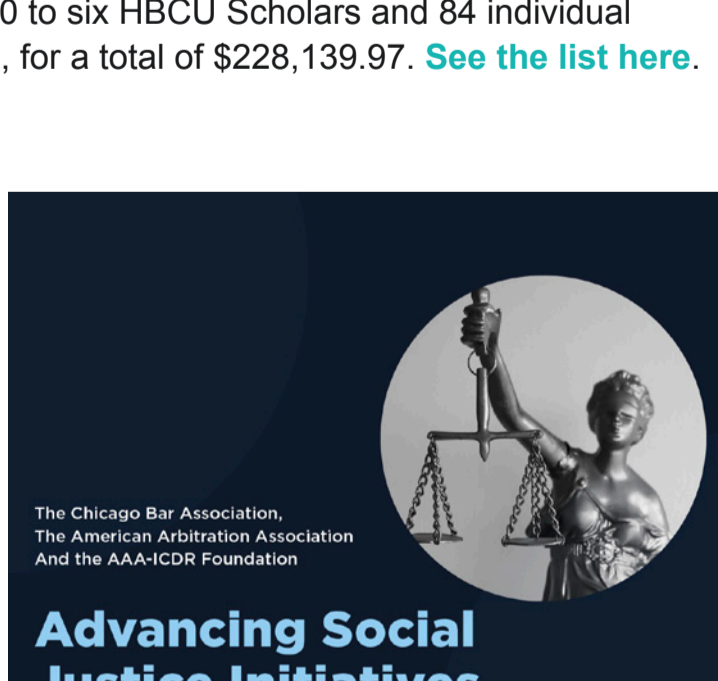
In addition to these individual Diversity Scholarships, the Foundation provides scholarships at two HBCU law schools with programs granting certificates in dispute resolution: Howard University and North Carolina Central University.

Both scholarships provide \$50,000 annually, with a three-year commitment of \$150,000, to award scholarships to second- or third-year law students selected by the universities.

In 2023, the Foundation funded a total of \$100,000 to six HBCU Scholars and 84 individual Diversity Scholarship Grants totaling \$128,139.97, for a total of \$228,139.97. [See the list here](#).

Advancing Social Justice Initiatives through ADR: Foundation Webinar

On January 17, 2024, the AAA-ICDR Foundation and the Chicago Bar Association D.I.C.E. Committee co-hosted a webinar featuring three AAA-ICDR Foundation grantees, all of which used alternative dispute resolution to help achieve social justice in their programs. These include the Roca Impact Institute, Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute, and New York State Office of Court Administration. [Watch recording here](#).



Funding for the Foundation

The Foundation is funded primarily by the AAA-ICDR and its Roster of Arbitrators and Mediators. Last year, the AAA-ICDR contributed \$878k to the Foundation, in monetary and in-kind contributions. AAA-ICDR arbitrators and mediators contributed \$600k by opting to donate at least half of their panel fees. The Foundation greatly appreciates the ongoing, generous support of the AAA-ICDR and the AAA-ICDR Panel. Donors who contribute at the \$1,000 or \$2,000 levels are recognized as Leadership Donors and Chair's Circle Donors, respectively. To contribute, please visit the [Donate](#) page on the Foundation's website.

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