



## Access to Justice Campaign Update October 22, 2004

**Race for Justice Set for October 30:** On Saturday, October 30, the **Young Lawyers Section** of the State Bar of Michigan will host runners from across Michigan at Detroit's beautiful Belle Isle Park for the 8<sup>th</sup> annual Race for Justice. Contributions and sponsorships for the event will support the ATJ Operations Fund for unrestricted use throughout the state. A press release and race registration form are available at [http://www.michbar.org/news/releases/archives04/annual\\_race.cfm](http://www.michbar.org/news/releases/archives04/annual_race.cfm).

**Leadership Focuses on Year-end Campaign Activities:** The ATJ Statewide Campaign Committee met on October 12<sup>th</sup> and continued strategic planning to generate regional law firm support and to cultivate donors who have completed ATJ pledge commitments. The committee's next teleconference will be held on Tuesday, November 23, 2004 @ 4:30 p.m.

**A Call for Coordination:** Now is the time for legal assistance programs to coordinate their year-end fundraising through their region's SCC leader! A map showing SCC regional leadership can be found at <http://www.michbar.org/programs/ATJCampaign/map.cfm>. If you have not already done so, a great place to begin fundraising is with your board of directors. The State Bar is proud that its Board of Commissioners has 100% participation in support of the ATJ Fund.

**ATJ Donor Newsletter Available 11/01/04:** The fall 2004 ATJ Donor Newsletter will be ready for distribution on November 1. Included is a client legal assistance success story, recognition of the 2004 Cumiskey *Pro Bono* Award winner, and State Bar President Nancy Diehl's ATJ year-end message. Fundraisers are encouraged to use the newsletter as a discussion topic with donors. Contact Lesa Smith for extra copies.

**ATJ Receives Support Through SBM Dues Statement:** As of today, over \$12,500 has been received from 120 donors who used their annual dues statement to support access to justice. This is an easy and convenient way for members of the Bar to contribute to the ATJ Fund. Just over 50% of the dues statements have been received so far. Campaign and program leadership are encouraged to remind prospects of this option during their cultivation conversations.

**\$4,000 Received from Lansing Law Firms:** Two Lansing law firms recently extended support for the 2004 ATJ Campaign with gifts totaling \$4,000. **Sinas, Dramis, Brake, Boughton & McIntyre, PC** continued support of the Fund with its repeat gift of \$3,000. **Willingham & Cote, P.C.** made a first time gift of \$1,000. Led by Jim Graves, continued follow-up is underway to encourage additional support from this group of law firms.

**Programs Coordinate with ATJ Fund:** **Guild/Sugar Law Center** and **Western Michigan Legal Services** are currently coordinating their campaign efforts with the ATJ Fund. As a reminder, the State Bar will provide free labels for your prospect pool of Michigan lawyers if your program uses the ATJ Fund and has the appeal letter reviewed by Campaign staff.

**State Bar President Visits Upper Peninsula:** Nancy Diehl met this week with bar associations, the media, and the public during her Upper Peninsula tour. [http://www.michbar.org/news/releases/archives04/peninsula\\_tour.cfm](http://www.michbar.org/news/releases/archives04/peninsula_tour.cfm) Nancy focused on the Bar's efforts to protect the public, support its members, promote the administration of justice, and address the unmet civil legal needs in the Upper Peninsula. Ken Penokie, Executive Director of Northern Michigan Legal Services, joined her in Escanaba.

**ATJ Website Support:** Pledge forms, program lists, tax information and credit card giving options can be found at [www.atjfund.org](http://www.atjfund.org). Pictures from the September 22 event are also available for viewing at <http://www.michbar.org/programs/ATJCampaign/wmichdinner.cfm>. Please visit often and provide feedback.