



# GIFTS THAT KEEP ON GIVING

Patrick J. Krebs

**T**his is the time of year when many of us reflect back on the past year and give thanks for the gifts in our lives. Whether its friends, family, health, happiness, or good fortune, there is a lot to be thankful for. At the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Foundation (CMBF), we are no different. We are blessed with wonderful staff members who give their talents to design and administer our programs, dedicated volunteers who give their time to implement our programs, and generous sponsors who support our two annual fundraising events — the Halloween Run for Justice and Rock the Foundation. On behalf of the CMBF, I would like to thank you for all that you do to help us give back to the less fortunate in our community.

But there is another group of people that deserves our recognition and thanks — our donors. We recognize there are many other charitable organizations and worthy causes, and we truly appreciate that our donors entrust their funds to us to invest in the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association’s (CMBA) Justice for All and Diversity & Inclusion Pipeline programs. Last year, the CMBA’s pro bono and community outreach programs connected

with thousands of people in Northeast Ohio. Without donor funds, the CMBF would not be able to fund the CMBA’s programs and those programs would not have the reach or the impact that they currently have.

For all of the good that the CMBF and CMBA have been able to do, there is still much work to be done. If the CMBF is not currently in your gift-giving plans, please consider joining our team. In making a donation to the CMBF, you can earmark your funds to the Annual Fund. That gift will provide direct support for the many outreach and pro bono legal assistance programs that are desperately needed in our community.

Or you can choose to give a gift to a specific CMBA program. For instance, you can direct your gift to “Friends of The 3Rs,” which supports a program where volunteer lawyers mentor and tutor high school students in the Cleveland Metropolitan School District and the East Cleveland School District on their Rights, Responsibilities, and Realities. You can elect to support “Friends of High School Mock Trial,” helping over 800 students in Northeast Ohio to participate in the Ohio Mock Trial and Cleveland Mock Trial competitions. Or you can

direct your gift to the “Louis Stokes Scholars Fund,” which supports the award-winning internship program for college students from Cleveland and East Cleveland schools interested in pursuing careers in the law.

We at the CMBF and CMBA are very proud of the work that we have done through our programs to lift up those in need in our community. We recognize that we cannot do this work alone and thank all of our volunteers, sponsors, and donors for helping us make a difference. If you are not currently part of our team of volunteers, sponsors, or donors, please consider making a gift to the CMBF of your time, your talent, or your treasure. By giving back to our community and investing in our youth, your gift will be a gift that keeps on giving.

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