



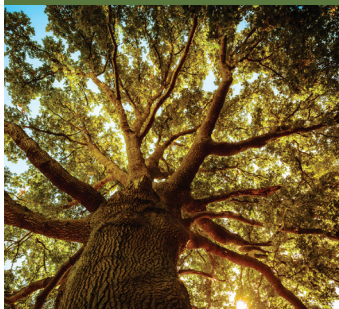
NORTH CAROLINA  
IOLTA



JUSTICE *is*  
FOUNDATIONAL

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

## JUSTICE is FOUNDATIONAL



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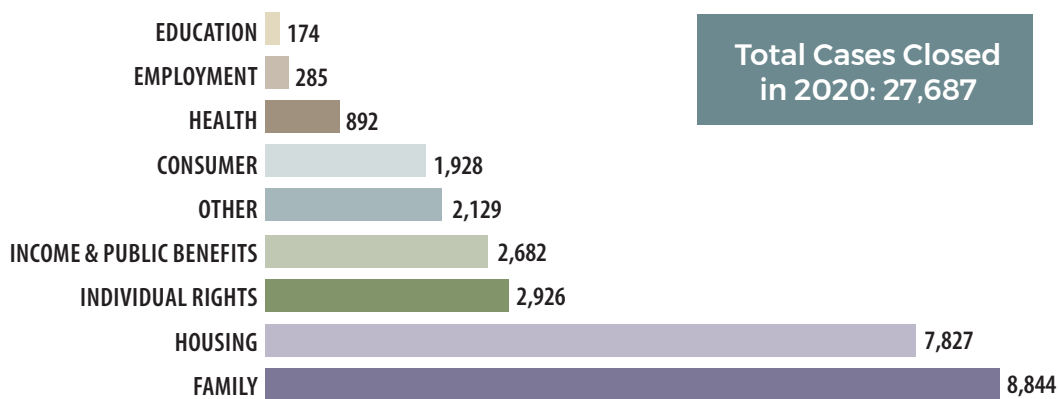
Claire Mills  
FINANCE DIRECTOR &  
OPERATIONS MANAGER



## Dear Friends of IOLTA,

All North Carolinians deserve to have their basic needs met and their civil rights protected. Justice is foundational to the safety, health, and wellbeing of the entire community. As a partner in the civil justice community, we strive to heighten awareness about the need for civil legal aid. As a grantmaker, we support the work of legal aid providers who serve clients in need regardless of their ability to pay.

Grantees of NC IOLTA closed 27,687 cases on behalf of clients in 2020. Family law matters, including services to prevent domestic violence, and housing law, including preventing eviction and foreclosure, remained the highest areas of need.



## Highlights of 2020 include:

- **IOLTA grantees responded to critical needs in times of crisis.** Legal services organizations are a vital player in disaster response and recovery. The pandemic presented new challenges for all, but IOLTA grantee organizations quickly responded to client needs as in past disasters. From ensuring access to medical care to assisting small businesses and nonprofits with securing available funding to protecting the rights of incarcerated individuals, IOLTA grantees worked collaboratively to assess the evolving circumstances presented by the pandemic and identify solutions to address the needs of the community.
- **2020 Strategic Support grants promoted transition to remote work.** Approved in 2019, Strategic Support grants totaling \$1.25 million were distributed in 2020. Eight grants included support for technology upgrades, necessary improvements in a regular year but truly critical in the midst of a pandemic which required remote work. Supported technology investments included laptops, phone systems, and enhancements to case and donor management software.
- **2020 Legal Needs Assessment.** In 2020, IOLTA supported the development of a Legal Needs Assessment, the first comprehensive assessment of civil legal needs in North Carolina in more than two decades. Released in April 2021, the study was conducted in partnership with UNC Greensboro's Center for Housing and Community Studies, the NC Equal Access to Justice Commission, and Equal Justice Alliance. IOLTA was honored to support this effort.

Thank you for all you do to help ensure North Carolinians have access to civil legal aid that allows them to meet their basic needs.

Maria Missé  
Chair, Board of Trustees

Mary L. Irvine  
Executive Director



# IMPACT OVERVIEW

NC IOLTA awards grants to provide civil legal aid for low-income individuals and other programs designed to improve the administration of justice. In 2020, NC IOLTA distributed nearly **\$3.4 million in grants** through the regular IOLTA grant cycle.



**41,629**  
North Carolinians  
served by all  
NC IOLTA grantees



**27,687**  
cases closed by  
grantees



**100**  
North Carolina  
counties served by  
NC IOLTA grants



**17,370**  
hours of pro bono  
service provided by  
volunteer attorneys

## More than \$6 million administered in 2020

### 31 GRANTS MADE TO 14 ORGANIZATIONS:

**\$1,926,250**

to fund civil legal aid  
for low-income individuals

**\$325,000**

to volunteer lawyer programs  
that engage private attorneys to  
provide pro bono legal services

**\$3,398,647**  
IOLTA dollars

**\$263,750**

to advance administra-  
tion of justice efforts in  
North Carolina

**\$883,647**

to fund efforts within  
grantee programs  
to support strategic  
initiatives

This includes  
technology,  
infrastructure,  
strategic planning,  
management  
training, and other  
strategic initiatives.

**\$1,933,600**

NC IOLTA also distributed \$1,933,600 for  
community economic redevelopment  
and foreclosure prevention legal services  
from the Bank of America settlement.

**\$2,631,725**

**\$698,125.91**

NC IOLTA administered \$698,125.91 in state  
funds for domestic violence legal services  
on behalf of the State Bar as authorized by  
the NC General Assembly.

## Charlotte Center for Legal Advocacy

- \$93,750 to support civil legal aid in Mecklenburg and surrounding counties
- \$37,500 to support pro bono legal services in Mecklenburg County
- \$60,200 to provide foreclosure prevention legal assistance
- \$160,000 to support community redevelopment legal assistance
- \$105,000 to support capital expenditures and technology purchases

## Children's Law Center of Central North Carolina

- \$31,250 to support child advocacy in high-conflict custody disputes in Guilford and Forsyth Counties
- \$43,661 to support strategic planning, professional development, and website upgrades

## Council for Children's Rights, Inc.

- \$50,000 to support child advocacy in high-conflict custody disputes in Mecklenburg County
- \$58,000 for additional social worker capacity to support child clients
- \$78,300 to support strategic planning, technology purchases, building renovations, and professional development

## Disability Rights North Carolina

- \$150,000 to address educational services for at-risk juveniles with disabilities in North Carolina schools
- \$65,000 to support technology purchases, community outreach and materials, and professional development

## Financial Protection Law Center

- \$70,000 to provide foreclosure prevention legal assistance
- \$93,000 to support community redevelopment legal assistance

- \$61,000 to support technology purchases and professional and organizational development

## Land Loss Prevention Project

- \$25,000 to preserve land rights for minority and indigent individuals and address issues of environmental concern in North Carolina
- \$61,600 to provide foreclosure prevention legal assistance
- \$175,000 to support community redevelopment legal assistance
- \$36,350 to support building maintenance and repairs, staff training, and website and communication plan development

## Legal Aid of North Carolina

- \$1,000,000 to support statewide civil legal aid
- \$225,000 to support pro bono lawyer engagement across the state
- \$371,000 to provide foreclosure prevention legal assistance
- \$122,500 to support community redevelopment legal assistance
- \$67,000 for strategic planning support and promotion of self-help clinics

## Mediation Network of North Carolina

- \$43,750 to support mediation centers and coordination of efforts across the state
- \$19,606 to support technology purchases

## North Carolina Center on Actual Innocence

- \$35,000 to support advocacy of credible innocence claims across the state
- \$112,785 to support fundraising development and IT and infrastructure purchases

## North Carolina Equal Access to Justice Foundation

- \$63,000 to support North Carolina driver's license restoration and expunction efforts and translation of *pro se* form packets
- \$75,000 to conduct a North Carolina legal needs assessment

## North Carolina Legal Education Assistance Foundation

- \$64,000 to assist public interest attorneys across the state with loan repayment obligations

## North Carolina Justice Center

- \$468,750 to support statewide impact litigation efforts and legal services to immigrants
- \$79,800 to provide foreclosure prevention legal assistance
- \$384,500 to support community redevelopment legal assistance
- \$95,980 to support racial equity work, technology purchases, and leadership development

## North Carolina Prisoner Legal Services

- \$50,000 to protect the rights of jail inmates to safe and humane conditions
- \$20,200 to support equity, diversity and inclusion training, staff development, technology purchases, and website development

## Pisgah Legal Services

- \$52,500 to support civil legal aid in Western NC
- \$62,500 to support pro bono legal services in Western NC
- \$56,000 to provide foreclosure prevention legal assistance
- \$300,000 to support community redevelopment legal assistance
- \$103,745 to support equity, diversity, and inclusion work and training, as well as IT and infrastructure upgrades

## FOUNDATIONAL PARTNERS

**FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS ARE AT THE CORE OF NC IOLTA**, critical partners to the program's ongoing ability to make grants and grow our impact. Financial institutions commit to support their communities when they partner with NC IOLTA to offer IOLTA accounts. We thank all eligible financial institutions for their partnership in this joint effort. Nearly 90 banks are eligible to hold IOLTA accounts in North Carolina.

**For a list of all eligible banks, visit [www.nciolta.org](http://www.nciolta.org).**

**WE SPECIALLY RECOGNIZE THE FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS** that go above and beyond the IOLTA eligibility requirements to support NC IOLTA as Prime Partners. Prime Partners pay the higher of .75% or 75% of the Federal Funds Target Rate, exceeding minimal compliance with the eligibility requirements of Rule .1317 to improve the lives of North Carolinians by strengthening the justice system.

**Thank you for your continued support!**

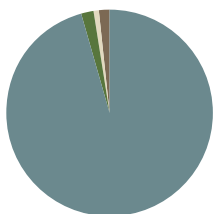
## THANK YOU TO OUR PRIME PARTNERS!

Bank of Oak Ridge  
Carolina State Bank  
Providence Bank

Roxboro Savings Bank  
Union Bank  
US Bank

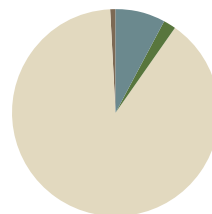
Wells Fargo  
Congressional Bank  
*(settlement agent accounts only)*

## 2020 FINANCIAL INFORMATION



### INCOME

IOLTA Accounts:	\$4,754,411
Interest on Investments:	\$92,032
Cy Pres:	\$41,591
Other:	\$78,406
<b>Total income:</b>	<b>\$4,966,441</b>



### EXPENSES

Personnel:	\$305,787
Non-Personnel:	\$79,078
2021 Grant Awards:	\$3,439,790
2020 Matching Grant:	\$29,000
<b>Total expenses:</b>	<b>\$3,853,655</b>

The financial information provided is a condensed version of NC IOLTA's audited financials for the year ending December 31, 2020. Contact the IOLTA office for additional financial information.



# NORTH CAROLINA IOLTA

## **North Carolina Interest on Lawyers' Trust Accounts (NC IOLTA)**

A program of the  
North Carolina State Bar

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