Texas Appleseed’s mission is to promote social and economic justice for all Texans by leveraging the skills and resources of volunteer lawyers and other professionals to identify practical solutions to difficult, systemic problems.

TEXAS APPLESEED 2014 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

George Butts  
CHAIR  
George Butts Law* - Austin

Allene D. Evans  
IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR  
The University of Texas System* - Austin

Elizabeth Mack  
CHAIR-ELECT  
Locke Lord LLP* - Dallas

Neel Lane  
SECRETARY-TREASURER  
Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP* - San Antonio

Hon. Marilyn Aboussie  
- San Angelo

Sydney Ballesteros  
Gibbs & Bruns LLP* - Houston

Ricardo G. Cedillo  
Davis, Cedillo & Mendoza, Inc.* - San Antonio

Clinton Cross  
- El Paso

Dennis P. Duffy  
BakerHostetler* - Houston

Edward F. Fernandes  
Hunton & Williams LLP* - Austin

N. Scott Fletcher  
Jones Day* - Houston

R. James George, Jr.  
George Brothers Kincaid & Horton, LLP* - Austin

David Gerger  
Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan LLP* - Houston

Mark K. Glasser  
Sidley Austin LLP* - Houston

Sean Gorman  
Bracewell & Giuliani LLP* - Houston

Marcy Hogan Greer  
Alexander Dubose Jefferson & Townsend LLP* - Austin

Gregory Huffman  
Thompson & Knight LLP* - Dallas

Tommy Jacks  
Fish & Richardson P.C.* - Austin

Susan Karamanian  
George Washington University Law School* - Washington, D.C.

Charles Kelley  
Mayer Brown LLP* - Houston

Layne Kruse  
Norton Rose Fulbright* - Houston

Mark Wawro  
Susman Godfrey L.L.P.* - Houston

J. Chrys Dougherty III  
CHAIR EMERITUS  
(1915-2014)

*affiliations listed for identification only

2014 STAFF

Rebecca Lightsey  EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
Deborah Fowler  DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Ann Baddour  DIRECTOR, FAIR FINANCIAL SERVICES PROJECT  
Morgan Craven  STAFF ATTORNEY

Brennan Griffin  DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR  
Gabriella McDonald  PRO BONO AND NEW PROJECTS DIRECTOR

Brett Merfish  STAFF ATTORNEY  
Mary Schmid Mergler  DIRECTOR, SCHOOL-TO-PRISION PIPELINE PROJECT

Kelli Johnson  COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR  
Jacques Ntonme  STAFF ATTORNEY

Jamie Tegeler-Sauer  DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATE  
Olga Sauseda  OFFICE MANAGER

Madison Sloan  DIRECTOR, DISASTER RECOVERY AND FAIR HOUSING PROJECT  
Karla Vargas  STAFF ATTORNEY
THE PRO BONO DIFFERENCE

OUR 2014 PRO BONO PARTNERS

Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP
Alexander Dubose Jefferson & Townsend LLP
ATX Hack for Change
Atlas, Hall & Rodriguez, LLP
BakerHostetler
Baker Botts L.L.P.
Davis, Cedillo & Mendoza, Inc.
DLA Piper LLP (US)
Enoch Kever PLLC
George Brothers Kincaid & Horton LLP
George Butts Law
George Washington University Law School
Graves, Dougherty, Hearon & Moody
Hunton & Williams LLP
Jones Day
Kaplan Test Prep and Admissions
Kirk Tuck Photography
Locke Lord LLP
Mayer Brown LLP
McDermott Will & Emery
Norton Rose Fulbright
Susman Godfrey L.L.P.
The Vernon Law Group, PLLC
Vinson & Elkins LLP

123 VOLUNTEERS

3,100+ HOURS DONATED

$1.5 MILLION+ VALUE OF SERVICES DONATED
2014 PROJECTS

PROTECTING CHILD REFUGEES • DISASTER RECOVERY & FAIR HOUSING
PAYDAY & AUTO TITLE LENDING REFORM • DISMANTLING THE SCHOOL-TO-PRISON PIPELINE
CRIMINAL DISCOVERY REFORM • FOSTER CARE • DIVERSITY LEGAL SCHOLARS
MENTAL HEALTH & THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM • JUVENILE JUSTICE REFORM

DISASTER RECOVERY & FAIR HOUSING

Texas Appleseed fought for the rights of low-income families to rebuild their homes after Hurricanes Ike and Dolly. After a four-year battle, ground was broken in September 2014 to rebuild Galveston public housing as part of mixed-income developments. We partnered with Texas Low Income Housing Information Service (TxLIHIS) to ensure that federal dollars were earmarked for rebuilding public housing and helped negotiate a rebuilding plan with the City and the Galveston Housing Authority. Also in 2014, we were able to see results of our HUD-approved Conciliation Agreement with the State of Texas, which resolved fair housing complaints we filed with TxLIHIS. The percentage of funding for home repairs for the poorest Texans has doubled: from 29% before the Conciliation Agreement to 60% after.

PAYDAY & AUTO TITLE LENDING REFORM

Ten new cities adopted Texas’ unified ordinance in 2014, adding basic, practical standards to control predatory payday and auto title lending practices. We worked closely with a number of those cities, including Midland, Amarillo and Brownsville. In February 2014, we submitted a complaint to the Texas Office of Consumer Credit Commissioner, documenting the wrongful use of criminal complaints by payday loan businesses to collect on defaulted loans. The complaint led to an investigation of one major business, with an order to pay a $10,000 fine and restitution to the impacted consumers. We further documented over 1,500 instances of criminal complaints wrongfully filed by payday loan businesses in eight Texas counties. In December 2014, we submitted an official complaint to state and federal agencies urging regulatory action.
DISMANTLING THE SCHOOL-TO-PRISON PIPELINE

Texas students who are truant—often for complex reasons such as chronic medical issues, homelessness or undiagnosed special education needs—are sent to adult criminal courts where they pay large fines and even serve jail time as a result. In 2014, our nonprofit collected and analyzed years’ worth of truancy data from numerous sources, and observed JP courts across Texas, for purposes of our 2015 report, *Class, Not Court: Reconsidering Texas’ Criminalization of Truancy*. In 2014, we also quickly responded to the news that school districts were arming themselves with military weapons through the federal government’s 1033 Program, which provides military surplus to local law enforcement. We drafted a letter to the Department of Defense, signed by over 20 advocacy organizations across the U.S., calling for an end to the program for K-12 schools. Some districts willingly decided to relinquish the weapons in response. In 2014, we also produced a free video series in English and Spanish with Texas RioGrande Legal Aid called *Youth in Court*, which explains to youth charged with low-level crimes how to navigate the court process and prepare a defense. It has garnered more than 8,000 views on YouTube.

PROTECTING CHILD REFUGEES

When tens of thousands of children fled violence in their home countries of El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala in the spring of 2014, Texas Appleseed quickly responded and began work on systemic ways to help child refugees coming to the U.S. for safety. Texas Appleseed and MALDEF filed a civil rights and fair housing complaint with HUD against League City, Texas, based on its passage of a resolution banning the housing or detention of child refugees. The complaint was the first action of its kind nationally. HUD has opened a federal compliance review of League City.
FINANCIAL OVERVIEW
EXTRACTED FROM AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2014

REVENUE
- Grants: 57%
- Contributions & Events: 41%
- Other Income: 2%

EXPENDITURES
- Housing & Disaster Recovery: 30%
- School to Prison: 14%
- Management & Fundraising: 11%
- Other Programs: 20%
- Payday Lending: 18%
- Foster Care: 8%

TOTAL REVENUE
$1,269,241

TOTAL EXPENSES
$1,355,742
MAJOR DONORS

CORPORATE & INSTITUTIONAL DONORS

ACT, Inc.  
Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP  
Alexander Dubose Jefferson & Townsend LLP  
Atlas, Hall & Rodriguez LLP  
Baker Botts L.L.P.  
Beck Redden LLP  
Brorby Crozier & Dobie, P.C.  
Cammack & Strong, P.C.  
Center for Responsible Lending  
Consumer Federation of America  
Davis, Cedillo & Mendoza, Inc.  
DLA Piper LLP (US)  
Enoch Kever PLLC  
Ewell, Brown & Blanke LLP  
ExxonMobil Corporation  
Fibich, Leebron, Copeland, Briggs & Josephson  
George Brothers Kincaid & Horton LLP  
Gibbs & Bruns LLP  
Graves Dougherty Hearon & Moody  
Hartline Dacus Barger Dreyer LLP  
Haynes and Boone, LLP  
H-E-B  
Hunton & Williams LLP  
Jones Day  
King & Spalding  
Locke Lord LLP  
Mayer Brown LLP  
McGinnis Lochridge  
McKool Smith  
Norton Rose Fullbright  
Research & Planning Consultants, LP  
Russell Korman Company, Inc.  
Scott Douglass & McConnico LLP  
Sidley Austin LLP  
State Bar of Texas  
Susman Godfrey L.L.P.  
Thompson & Knight LLP  
University of Texas at Austin  
University of Texas School of Law  
Vinson & Elkins LLP

FOUNDATIONS

Atlantic Philanthropies • The Brown Foundation, Inc. • Dallas Women’s Foundation  
Embrey Family Foundation • Ford Foundation • Harold Simmons Foundation • Hazen Foundation  
Hogg Foundation for Mental Health • Houston Endowment • The Meadows Foundation  
Public Welfare Foundation • The RGK Foundation • The Simmons Foundation • Texas Bar Foundation
VISIONARY SOCIETY

The Visionary Society is a group of individuals committed to ensuring justice for their fellow Texans through their generous gifts to Texas Appleseed.

PLATINUM
Contributions of $5,000 and above

David Beck • Lisa Blue Baron • Ricardo Cedillo • Paul Davis • Cheryl & Jim George • Lela & Robin Gibbs
Carol & Mark Glasser • Melanie Gray & Mark Wawro • Marcy & Sam Greer • Ronald Krist • Mike McKool
Elizabeth Mack • Sherry & Gerald Merfish • Gina DeBottis Metts & Mark Metts • Ginni & Richard Mithoff
Gayle & Layne Kruse • Neel Lane • Carrin F. Patman & Jim Derrick • Edmundo Ramirez • James L. Rice III
Karyl Van Tassel • Patricia Villareal & Thomas Leatherbury • Daphne & Ben Vaughan • Angela & Luis Zambrano

GOLD
Contributions of $2,500 to $4,999

Edna & George Butts • Dennis P. Duffy • Kelly & Paul Dybala • Allene Evans & Tom Herod • Peggy & Ed Fernandes
Lizzie & Scott Fletcher • Heidi & David Gerger • Gregory Huffman • Hon. Wallace & Rhonda Jefferson
Maria & Charles Kelley • Patton G. Lochridge • Julie & Michael Lowenberg • Regina Rogers • Vicki & David Sharp
Courtney Stewart • Andreeanne Vachon & Kenneth Anderson • Allan Van Fleet

SILVER
Contributions of $1,000 to $2,499

Hon. Marilyn Aboussie • Stacy & Doug Alexander • Jessica Barger • Hon. Fortunato Benavides • David Blanke
Susan Blount & Richard Bard • Leah & Michael Buratti • Michael Caddell • Amy Chen • Walter Cooke • Clinton Cross
Mary Crouter & David Weiser • Rachel Ekery • Kyra & William Fitzgerald • Angela Fontana & Andre Szuwalski
Deborah & Bill Fowler • Charles T. Frazier • Larry Funderburk • Sean Gorman • Russ & Shelly Horton
Isaac Huron • Daniel A. Hyde • Kenny Jastrow • Louise Joy • Susan Karamanian • Hon. Ron Kirk & Matrice Ellis-Kirk
Tracy LeRoy & Brandon Rottinghaus • Isabelle & Eric Mayer • Tracy McCormack • Nancy McGregor & Neal Manne
Hon. Harriet O’Neill & Kerry Camaack • Kelley & Scott Parel • Hon. Thomas Phillips • Hon. Robert Pitman
David Plaut • Jorge C. Rangel • Irving L. Rotter • Deborah & Hugh Sloan • Les Strieber
Ray Sturm • Frances Tapp • Roger Townsend • John Vernon • Suzanne & Marc Winkelman

BRONZE
Contributions of $500 to $999

Prof. Alexandra Albright • Scott Atlas • Mollie & Stephen Butler • Sara & Colin Clark • Jim Davis
Will Dibrell • Chrys & Mary Ann Dougherty • Hon. Royal Furgeson • Philip C. Friday • John A. Hay, III
Susan Henricks & Tom Smerdon • Patricia & Curtis Ohlendorf • Tommy Jacks • Bill Jones • Susan Kidwell • William Knull
Kris Leftwich • Carroll Martin • Leila Melhem • John McDonald • Hon. Renée McElhaney & Virgil Yanta, Sr.
George Anne & Gene Monger • Maline & Dudley McCalla • Samantha Omey • Macey & Harry Reasoner
Patricia & Steven Selsberg • Paul Slagle • Hon. John & Bettsie Specia • David Sheppard • Bea Ann Smith
David Smith • Margaret & Joel Shannon • Virginia Strama • Larry Temple • Sharron Tomlin • R. Paul Yetter