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DC Affordable Law Firm Receives Three Awards through the DC Bar Foundation Access to Justice Grants Program

WASHINGTON, DC — DC Affordable Law Firm (DCALF) is thrilled to announce that they are the grateful recipient of three 2023 grants from the DC Bar Foundation Access to Justice Grants Program. The grants will support DCALF’s three practice areas: Family and Probate Law, Immigration Law, and DCALF’s work through the Family Law Assistance Network (FLAN).

The Family Law Assistance Network (FLAN) is a network of lawyers providing rapid-response, limited-scope legal assistance to unrepresented DC family law litigants from lower-income households. FLAN is comprised of attorneys from DC Affordable Law Firm, the D.C. Bar Pro Bono Center, and the Legal Aid Society of DC.

Grant funds will support DCALF’s growing Probate and Family Law services that experienced 200% and 141% program increases, respectively, since 2019.

Most excitedly, this marks the first time DCALF has received funding from the Access to Justice Grants Program for their Immigration Law practice. Through this new funding, DCALF will serve DC residents seeking legal assistance with asylum cases, permanent residency or citizen applications, employment authorizations, Special Immigrant Juvenile Status, and more.

DCALF was founded in 2015 to bridge the justice gap and provide accessible, affordable, high-quality legal representation to DC residents who make too much money to qualify for the many free legal aid services available in DC but not enough to be able to afford to pay private lawyer rates. Over 100,000 DC residents currently fall into this category, with households earning between 200% and 400% of the Federal Poverty Level.

“DC Affordable Law Firm was originally conceived as a fee-for-service representation model, but over the past few years, we have seen the barrier to access that even minimal fees create for our clients,” says DCALF’s Executive Director Gabby Mulnick Majewski. *“The DC Bar Foundation’s critical investments in DCALF have transformed our ability to better center the humanity and lived experiences of our clients – moving the needle forward by allowing us to continue serving the same population of clients, but in a way that better accounts for and respects their finite incomes and economic realities. We are now able to serve 80% of our clients for free thanks to the DC Bar Foundation, and are incredibly grateful the DC Bar Foundation saw our clients as deserving of these critical investments.”*

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DC Affordable Law Firm is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to provide accessible, affordable, high-quality legal services to DC residents with unmet legal needs who do not qualify for traditional sources of free legal aid and are unable to pay prevailing legal rates. Learn more and get involved at www.dcaffordablelaw.org.