



AMERICAN
ARBITRATION
ASSOCIATION®

INTERNATIONAL CENTRE
FOR DISPUTE RESOLUTION®

FOUNDATION®

QUARTER 4

October - December

Expanding Our Impact



The Foundation is ending 2023 as a successful year of advancing our mission of supporting the prevention and resolution of conflicts by expanding access to ADR. As we look forward to starting the new year, we will have some exciting developments and activities in 2024.



Foundation Wins Award from American Bar Association

The AAA-ICDR Foundation is pleased to announce that it was awarded the **ABA Section of Dispute Resolution's 2023 Lawyer as Problem Solver Award** in October.



This annual award recognizes legal professionals and/or institutions that exhibit extraordinary skill in promoting lawyers as problem solvers and resolving disputes at the individual, community, state, national, and international levels.

ABA Distributes Foundation Grant Funds for Civics, Civility, and Rule of Law

Earlier this year, the Foundation awarded the American Bar Association (ABA) a grant to help bars across the U.S. strengthen democracy and the rule of law. The ABA selected seven state, local, and affinity bars to receive funding for programming on fostering community dialogue, improving understanding of the rule of law, and helping to restore confidence in our democratic processes.

The ABA invited bar partners to generate projects that engage the public with democratic institutions peacefully and respectfully (civility), to engage from the standpoint of constitutional knowledge (civics), and to act in concert with others because many voices are more powerful than one (collaboration). The ABA encouraged programming that builds community bridges and dispute resolution grounded in a positive vision of local solutions to strengthen democracy.



The AAA-ICDR Foundation funded these projects through June 2025.

[Find out more here.](#)



Washington, D.C. Collaborative Reform Conference Sponsored by Foundation

AAA-ICDR Foundation grantee Effective Law Enforcement for All (ELEFA) held its first annual Collaborative Reform Conference, October 11-12, in Washington, D.C., sponsored by the Foundation and attended by AAA staff.

In 2022, the Foundation granted ELEFA \$149,500 to support creating a national education campaign focused on constructive engagement promoting best practices in law enforcement and public safety.

ELEFA produced the **“Community Guide to Mental Health Crisis Response”** while reviewing the history, policy, training, operations, data, and public education campaigns to foster better interactions between communities and law enforcement. Empowering communities to engage with local law enforcement can help inspire positive changes in crisis response systems.

Foundation Board Member Speaks at Grantee Town Hall Forum

AAA-ICDR Foundation grantee Arizona Town Hall held a special forum on September 29-30th, funded by the Foundation. The forum, titled Bridging Divides to Build Community, was an interactive program designed to develop solutions that empower individuals to overcome the differences that divide them and find ways to build community. Foundation Board Member Hon. Bruce Meyerson was among the speakers at the event, and AAA staff also attended.

ARIZONA TOWN HALL
Creating Solutions

BRIDGING DIVIDES TO BUILD COMMUNITY

SEPTEMBER 29-30, 2023

RIO SALADO COLLEGE | TEMPE, AZ

Join us for an interactive program designed to develop solutions that will empower individuals to overcome the differences that divide them and find ways to come together to build community.

aztownhall.org/BridgingDivides

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR PROGRAM SPONSOR

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Pictured from L to R. LaGaysha Nelson, AAA Case Filing Supervisor, Melinda Hatton Director of the AAA-ICDR Foundation, Tracey Frisch Corporate Secretary and Director of the AAA-ICDR Foundation.

AAA-ICDR Foundation Representatives Attend the National Conference on Citizenship's 2023 Annual Conference on Citizenship: The Future of Citizenship in Washington, D.C., on November 30th

This conference convened a wide range of civic leaders, practitioners, elected officials, and technology experts to explore how we can shape the future of citizenship. The event also featured a preview of the “Healthy Democracy” map, produced by the National Civic League, showing the constellation of organizations working to strengthen democracy in America.

One of the breakout sessions focused on the AAA-ICDR Foundation's 2022 Special Initiative grant to the National Civic League to promote and measure civility by producing a Civility Index, working with three pilot communities to embed civil discourse practices into public settings, and convening local leaders to refine and disseminate these tools and practices. It was powerful to hear about this project directly from our grantees!



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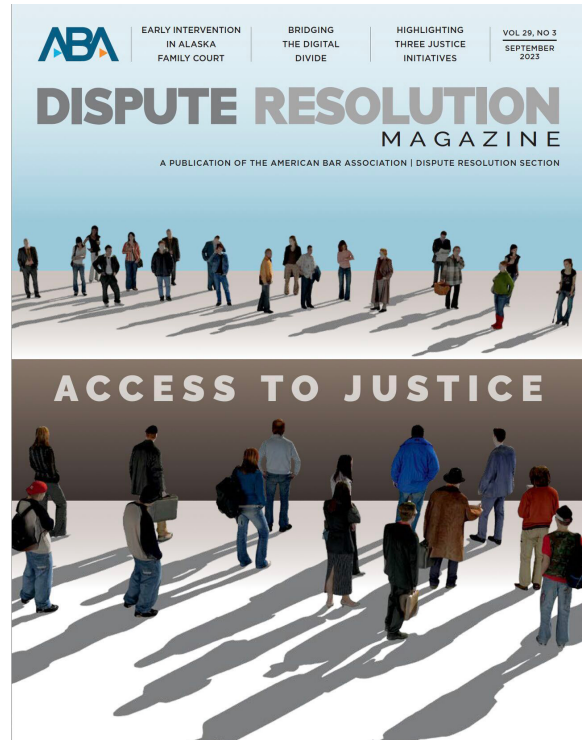
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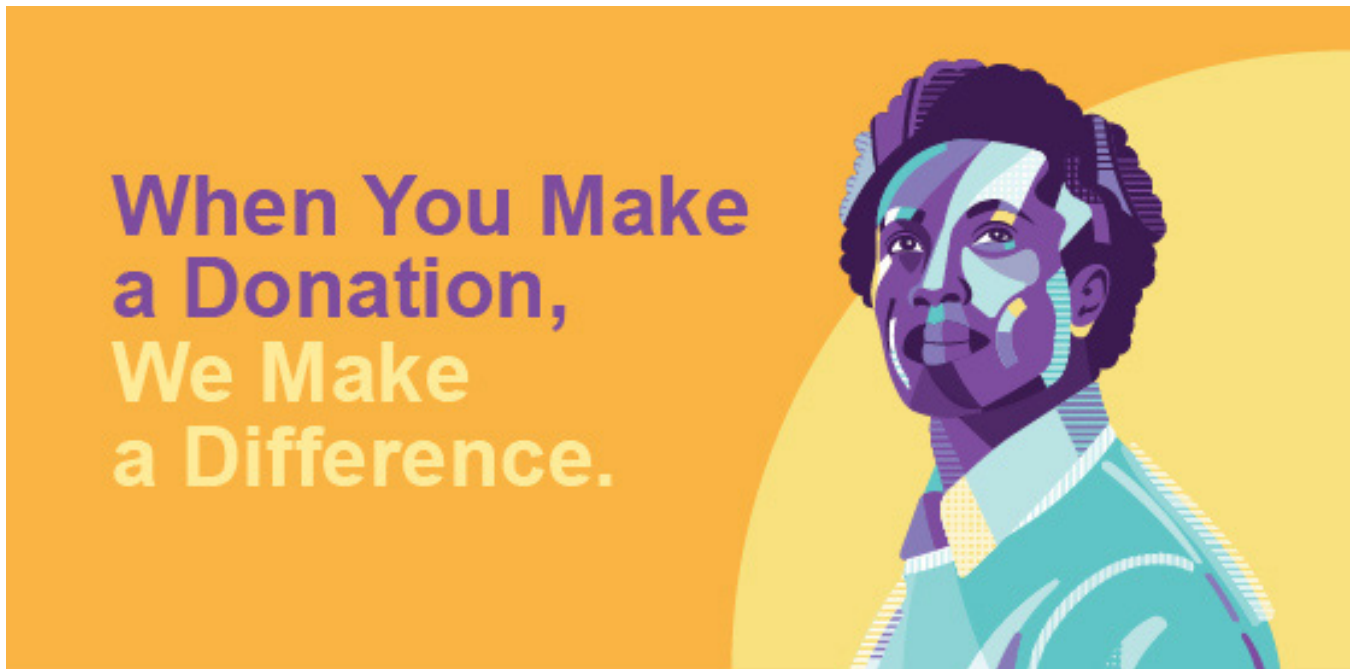
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Foundation Article on Grantees Published in ABA Dispute Resolution Magazine

The American Bar Association's Dispute Resolution Journal published an article by the AAA-ICDR Foundation titled **Advancing Access to Justice Through Alternative Dispute Resolution: AAA-ICDR Foundation Grantees in Focus**. The article highlights how the Foundation's overall funding impact is advancing access to justice through ADR, specifically highlighting the effect of three AAA-ICDR Foundation grantees.





Consider Additional Support for the Foundation and Its Mission

Events in the U.S. and throughout the world remind us of the importance of the Foundation's mission of supporting the prevention and resolution of conflicts by expanding access to ADR. For information on the Foundation's work during 2023 and how to make an additional donation, [please click here.](#)