

## Looking Back on 2007:

### Affordable Homes of South Texas

McAllen Affordable Homes and CDC of South Texas were two affiliated nonprofits that operated for years with missions to provide affordable housing to low-income families. They merged into one organization, **Affordable Homes of South Texas**, to reduce administrative costs. **John Ale**, a managing partner of the Houston office of **Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP**, handled most of the extensive corporate restructuring necessary for the merger from Houston. Robert Calvillo, executive director of



an AHST family

Affordable Homes of South Texas, described how “the merger was a relatively easy process - not because we knew what we were doing, - but because of John Ale and his diligence in helping us to accomplish our objective.” Mr. Ale took an extra step and flew down to the Valley

to oversee the final merger. He described the experience as a “great privilege to help two terrific community development corporations in Hidalgo County merge their operations. The board and the professional staff were helpful throughout the process.”

### Hays-Caldwell Women’s Center

Personnel issues can derail an organization from its primary mission. **The Hays-Caldwell Women’s Center** provides education, violence prevention services, and crisis intervention to victims of family violence, sexual assault and child abuse. **Scott Mellon** of **Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher, LLP** volunteered to assist the organization with a complex personnel issue. Marla Johnson, the center’s executive director, wrote, “I wanted to tell you that it was truly wonderful to work with Scott H. Mellon. He treated our issue with professionalism and was very thorough in researching legal issues

related to a personnel problem that needed to be addressed with sensitivity. He gave us clear direction and addressed all of our concerns. The issue was resolved to everyone’s satisfaction and we were able to retain a valuable employee.”

### Caritas of Austin: Do Good Deli

**Caritas of Austin**, like many other charitable organizations, faces constant funding challenges in its fight against poverty, hunger, and homelessness in Austin. The board decided to open the Do Good Deli to bring in a steady stream of income for the nonprofit. The deli caters business lunches and events and has walk-in downtown clientele. **Sarah Bremer, Marcus Brooks, and Ben Leff** of **Vinson & Elkins** formed a limited liability company to operate the Do Good Deli. Beth Atherton, executive director of Caritas of Austin, described how “Vinson Elkins’ in-kind donation allowed program dollars to continue to directly benefit those who need services.” “This was an amazing experience,” Sarah Bremer recounted. “As a young lawyer it was great to be involved in a project with ample client interaction. I felt like I ran the transaction and that was a great feeling.”

### Legal Guides for the Homeless: Street Smart

Texas C-BAR, in partnership with Legal Aid for the Homeless and Texas RioGrande Legal Aid (TRLA), recently published a legal guide for the homeless population in Austin: “Street Smart Austin”. In an easy-to-read format, it describes the specific city ordinances regarding panhandling, loitering and other common legal problems that a homeless individual might face. **Hunton & Williams LLP** in three cities have taken on the task to create “Street Smart Dallas” (attorney **Amber Rogers**), “Street Smart Houston” (attorney **W. Scott Matney**), and “Street Smart San Antonio” (attorney **Jeffrey Walsh**). All three of these manuals are expected to be published within the year.



# Texas C-BAR's Supporters:

January 1, 2007 – December 31, 2007

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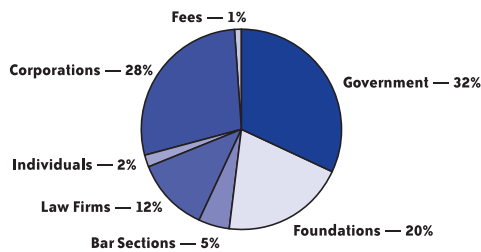
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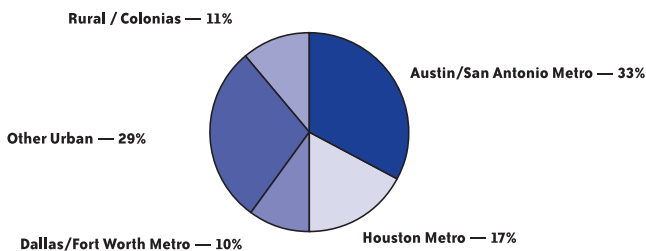
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## 2007 Profiles

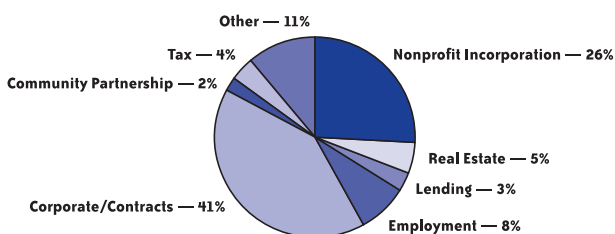
### Income Distribution



### Geographic Distribution of Matters Referred



### Types of Legal Matters Referred



## Year Totals

# CBAR *At a Glance*

- Leveraged **over \$940,000** in volunteer attorney resources for nonprofits and microentrepreneurs
- **Assisted 218 nonprofit organizations** across Texas and made **143** new pro bono referrals to volunteer attorneys
- Provided transactional pro bono opportunities to **110 attorney volunteers** recruited from **31** law firms and corporate counsel departments
- **Delivered 23 legal resource workshops** delivered to more than **650** nonprofit managers, board members, and attorneys across Texas
- **Published**

*STREET SMART AUSTIN: KNOW YOUR RIGHTS!*

# LAMP *At a Glance*

- **Assisted 79 microentrepreneurs** across Texas served through **10** new pro bono referrals, **47** in-house representations, and **22** brief services and individual consultations
- **Delivered 22 legal workshops** to more than **172** microentrepreneurs
- **Delivered 9 legal workshops** to more than **122** technical assistance providers
- **Published**

*RECORD KEEPING AND TAXES: A TOOLKIT FOR MICRO-ENTREPRENEURS*

# 2008 Legal Workshop Calendar

The following is a list of Texas C-BAR and LAMP's workshops scheduled for February through May 2008. This list may be updated as new workshops are scheduled. For more information about any of these workshops or to request a workshop in your area, call (512) 374-2760, or email [info@texasbar.org](mailto:info@texasbar.org)

## Texas C-BAR Workshops

### **Human Resources and Employment Law**

#### **March 5, 2008 — Midland**

Sponsored by the Nonprofit Management Center. For more information, please contact Cecilia Nelson at (432) 570-7971.

### **The Revised Form 990--Preparing for a New World**

#### **March 7, 2008 — Austin & Dallas**

Sponsored by Pfizer. For more information, see our website at [www.texasbar.org](http://www.texasbar.org).

### **Legal Compliance Update**

#### **March 10, 2008 — Corpus Christi**

Sponsored by Texas Association of Community Development Corporations. For more information, please contact TACDC at (512) 916-0508.

### **Risk Management**

#### **March 19, 2008 — Marble Falls**

Sponsored by Texas Tech. For more information, please contact Barbara Walden at (830) 798-9548.

### **The ABC's of Risk Management**

#### **May 9, 2008 — Austin, Dallas & Houston**

Sponsored by Pfizer. For more information, see our website at [www.texasbar.org](http://www.texasbar.org).

### **Lobbying & Legal Update**

#### **May 13, 2008 — Tyler**

Sponsored by United Way of Tyler / Smith County. For more information, please contact Vicki Harvey at (903) 581-6376.

## LAMP Workshops

### **Basic Legal Issues for Small Businesses**

#### **March 6, 2008 — Laredo**

Sponsored by the Texas Center for Border Economics and Enterprise Development at Texas A&M International University. For more information, please contact (956) 326-2550.

## Texas C-BAR Welcomes New and Returning Attorney Volunteers

From 10/25/07 – 1/24/08

Jacqueline Abbott, *ExxonMobil*  
Grant Adams, *Hunton & Williams LLP*  
Yuliya Balabon, *Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld, LLP*  
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## University of Texas School of Law Community Development Clinic

Heather Way, *Supervising Attorney*  
Scott Brown, *Student Attorney*  
Patrick Fasoro, *Student Attorney*  
Julie Gremillion, *Student Attorney*  
Natalie Martinez, *Student Attorney*  
Analisa Padilla, *Student Attorney*  
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Texas RioGrande Legal Aid  
4920 N. IH-35, Austin, Texas 78751

phone: (512) 374-2710 or (800) 369-9270, ext. 2710

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## About Texas C-BAR

Texas Community Building with Attorney Resources (Texas C-BAR) is a statewide business pro bono project that provides nonprofits with the legal tools they need to enhance the quality of life in Texas communities. Legal Assistance Microenterprises Project (LAMP) provides legal assistance to very small business owners. As a special project of Texas RioGrande Legal Aid, Texas C-BAR currently partners with law firms and corporations throughout Texas to help nonprofits better the lives of thousands of low-income families throughout the state. For more information about Texas C-BAR, LAMP, or to participate in our pro bono program, please contact Texas C-BAR.

4920 N. IH-35, Austin, Texas 78751

phone: (512) 374-2710 or (800) 369-9270, ext. 2710

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