



Justice for Sale?

Judicial candidates are scrambling to raise ever more money — much of it from people and groups that eventually come before the courts. Alternatives must be found, say legal advocates, or the public's faith in an impartial judiciary could be at risk. 9

The Joyce Foundation supports efforts to protect the natural environment of the Great Lakes, to reduce poverty and violence in the region, and to ensure that its people have access to good schools, decent jobs, and a diverse and thriving culture. We are especially interested in improving public policies, because public systems such as education and welfare directly affect the lives of so many people, and because public policies help shape private sector decisions about jobs, the environment, and the health of our communities. To ensure that public policies truly reflect public rather than private interests, we support efforts to reform the system of financing election campaigns.

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For information on programs of the Joyce Foundation, please consult our web site, www.joycefdn.org, or call our offices to request a copy of our annual report or guidelines pamphlet. 312.782.2464

MissingLink




The labor market is the tightest in living memory. So what do we do about people who still can't find a job?

When Congress passed the 1996 federal welfare reform bill, some analysts worried that there just weren't enough jobs for people on welfare. The economic boom has helped solve part of that problem, creating 10 million new jobs since 1994. In the same period, the number of families on welfare fell by more than half, from 5 million in 1994 to 2.4 million in mid-1999. Not all those people have found work, of course and, given part-time jobs, low wages and lack of benefits, employment has hardly guaranteed self-sufficiency.

Meanwhile, over two million families remain on welfare. As those families get closer to the 5-year lifetime limits on benefits set by the 1996 law, policymakers and advocates are taking a closer look to see what's stopping them from getting a job and what can be done to help. And that's led to a new interest in a model that goes back at least to the 1930s: publicly funded jobs.

"Most of our experience with publicly funded jobs has been in economic downturns," says Joseph Antolin, a former Illinois Department of Public Aid official who's now with Catholic Charities in Chicago. "What's different now is that we're obviously in an upswing, but some people are being left behind." This time around, the



strategy is being touted not to help masses of willing workers for whom there are no private sector jobs, but instead to ease the transition to private sector jobs for people who have a couple of strikes against them.

What kind of strikes? Antolin ticks off a list: Many have never worked. Most are functionally illiterate, often school dropouts with low reading and math skills. Some have criminal records. Others suffer from mental illness, domestic violence, substance abuse. Such problems can put off even the best-intentioned (or most desperate) private employers. Even if such applicants do get hired, they may have a hard time taking orders and adjusting to the workplace.

One approach to help hard-to-place people, argue Antolin and others, is to give them real work for real wages in a subsidized, supportive environment to smoothe the transition to the world of work.

Catholic Charities is setting up a pilot transitional jobs program to offer 90 participants (200 a year) minimum wage jobs, funded by the city's Office of Workforce Development, for up to six months. During that time Catholic Charities staff will stay on top of workplace problems, such as miscommunication or lack of confidence, that might threaten the placement, and at the same time help participants look for more permanent employment.

The jobs will be real jobs, with real work done for the employers, Antolin stresses. Most positions will be in homeless shelters, food pantries, and other nonprofit organizations. That's because, says Antolin, "we've found that nonprofits are willing to work with clients who bring a certain amount of unpredictability that the private sector might not be willing to deal with."

A similar program in St. Paul will test a broader employer pool. LifeTrack Resources (formerly the St. Paul Rehabilitation Center), a social service agency that helps adults with disabilities and other disadvantages, is planning to place publicly funded workers in its own packaging assembly plant, in nonprofit and government jobs, and in some private sector jobs as well.

Minnesota's 2.6% unemployment rate is exceptionally low, but LifeTrack's Jan Mueller estimates that 9,000 families in Ramsey County (St. Paul) and 13,000 in Hennepin County (Minneapolis) are still headed by people who aren't strong candidates for available jobs. "Many have never worked before, or they may have worked in farming communities in Laos or Vietnam or Somalia," says Mueller. "Or they may have given birth when they were very young. They just don't have the kind of experience employers need." Meanwhile the welfare clock is ticking. "They might have 24 months left before the law says they need to be self-sufficient. And they're not anywhere near that."

LifeTrack's program will place up to 400 participants in publicly funded jobs at between \$6 and \$7 an hour. Workers will spend 35 hours a week at work, of which five hours are devoted to "soft skills" (punctuality, following orders, dealing with conflicts). Those with limited English will learn what Mueller calls the language of the workplace: "boss," "timecard," "vacation," "sick leave" — "the kind of words you don't know if you've never had a job."

For both programs, Joyce funding (\$325,000 for the Chicago program, \$420,000 for St. Paul) will fund an evaluation to find out what kinds of participants and employers work best and what features of the program can help ensure success. "We think we have a good model," says Mueller. "We'd like to make it a 'best practice' model so that it can be replicated across the state."

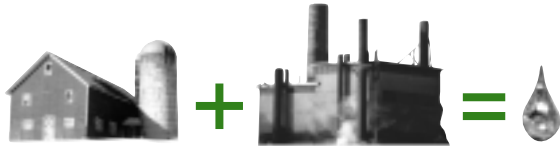
Antolin adds another reason to study the model closely. "We don't know what the welfare supports for families will look like when the next economic downtown comes," he says. "If this model proves successful, we'll have the experiential basis to say, publicly funded jobs can work — and they're more meaningful and dignified for the people involved, they enable them to keep their skills up, and they have some real value for the rest of the community."

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FormulaForCleanWater



An innovative trading scheme helps factories and farmers work toward a common goal: getting to clean water in the most cost-effective way.

Besides its fabled football team, Green Bay, Wisconsin has other claims to fame. The beautiful bay itself, which opens onto Lake Michigan, is the world's largest fresh water estuary. The region boasts the biggest concentration of paper mills on earth. Most of the area's vast white pine forests were long ago fed into the mills, and the land is now largely agricultural, notably dairy farms; Wisconsin produces 30% of the country's cheese (not for nothing are Packer fans called "cheeseheads").

Between them, however, the dairy farmers and the paper mills pose grim environmental challenges to the bay, and in turn to Lake Michigan. Now an environmental group, with Joyce help, is testing a scheme that may bring farms and factories together in an innovative and cost-effective approach to cutting water pollution.

The two groups start from different places. Prodded by the Clean Water Act, factories and sewage treatment plants have cut back on pollution going into waterways by 86% over the last two decades, estimates Bruce Johnson of Fox-Wolf Basin 2000, a Wisconsin environmental group. "But that only reduced overall pollution by 35%," says Johnson. "What hasn't been addressed is the waste and pollution coming from rainwater."

Rain washing off farmers' fields carries with it fertilizers, pesticides, and crop and animal wastes into rivers and the bay. While there are well-established techniques to reduce such runoff, farmers often do not or cannot invest

in them, either because they haven't been required to or because they lack the money. Planting non-crop buffers along streams, for example, could absorb contaminants and keep them from running off, but that takes valuable land out of production. Manure storage pits to divert animal waste require upfront capital and operating costs that are often too high for small- to mid-size farms.

But what's too much for a farmer may be very affordable for a paper mill. And that's the germ of the trading idea.

When water is seriously degraded, next cleanup steps become increasingly expensive for all parties. Why not, Johnson suggests, enable factories to get credit for pollution reduction by paying the costs farmers would have to incur to divert animal waste, reduce pesticide use, and take other steps to protect the water? Controlling run-off from farms in some cases would be more beneficial to water quality than the next technological step a factory could take as an "end-of-pipe" measure to control effluent. Watershed trading doesn't excuse factories from regulation. It just allows them to take the steps that will do the most good for overall water quality.

While such trades have been arranged elsewhere on an individual basis, Johnson wants to take it a step further by creating a market where pollution reduction credits can be traded. With previous Joyce grants, his group has collected water quality data and pollution reduction strategies, developed a model trading scheme, and begun shopping it around to farmers, industry leaders, regulators, and environmental groups. Now, with a two-year, \$150,000 grant, the group aims to complete at least one trade and monitor its impact on water quality over a period of years. And it will work with regulators to lay the groundwork for watershed-based trading in Wisconsin and throughout the Great Lakes region.

Meanwhile, another Joyce grantee, the World Resources Institute, is constructing a web site to inform local officials about the promise of watershed trading.

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JusticeForSale?

Funding judicial campaigns: there must be a better way.

To Nathan S. Heffernan, retired chief justice of the Wisconsin Supreme Court, the cost of judicial elections and the way they're financed have gotten totally out of hand.

“My first statewide campaign in 1965 cost \$50,000. By last year, the incumbent chief justice and her opponent spent \$1.2 million in a very contentious race.”

Wisconsin isn't unique. In this spring's primaries for seats on the Illinois Supreme Court, three candidates spent over \$1 million each and a fourth spent \$900,000, according to the Illinois Campaign for Political Reform. The previous record, \$804,000, was spent by a field of five candidates in one race a decade earlier.

“When you have to raise that kind of money,” said Heffernan, “there is pressure to go to the people who want you to do something for them — lawyers, corporations, and interest groups with issues coming before the court. That is the last thing you want in judicial elections.”

To help devise alternatives, the Joyce Foundation is making grants totaling nearly \$450,000 to the American Bar Association and two other groups to research the scope of the problem and develop reform options.

Judicial candidates are generally bound by the same state laws that apply to other candidates. While legislative, gubernatorial and presidential campaigns have come under scrutiny in recent years, reformers have paid little attention to judicial fundraising. But with the amounts skyrocketing, that's beginning to change.

Heffernan says that the link between who gives to judicial campaigns and how judges rule is “more a problem of perception than of reality.” Others are not so sure. A survey of Texas judges conducted last year by that state's Supreme Court and its bar association found that almost half believed contributions had a significant effect on courtroom decisions. And an analysis of Ohio Supreme Court

decisions by the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* found that the court ruled in favor of 20 big-contributing attorneys' clients in two out of three cases that came before it.

“With facts like these, the public is coming to the conclusion that justice is for sale, whether that is true or not,” said Professor Kent Redfield of the University of Illinois at Springfield.

The buyers — campaign contributors — are overwhelmingly individuals and entities with a vested interest in how courts decide cases. Leading the pack are trial lawyers and insurance, financial services, and gaming interests. Firms that build and manage prisons also give, apparently hoping that tough judges will boost demand for their services. Then there are the interest groups — pro- and anti-abortion organizations, death penalty advocates and opponents — with focused agendas.

“The prospect of money influencing judicial decisions stands in sharper relief against the public's expectation of judges than it does in the other two branches,” said Jeff Malachowsky, co-director of the National Institute on Money in State Politics. “A jaded public may accept that influence is being exerted on their legislators and their governors, but they still believe in the constitutional guarantee of impartiality and lack of bias in the courts.”

So how to preserve an independent judiciary? Since 1937, the ABA has advocated “merit selection” to replace judicial elections. Modeled on the federal judicial appointment process, the ABA proposal calls for a neutral advisory panel to propose candidates, with appointment and confirmation by executive and legislative bodies. While 21 states have merit selection at some level, no state has moved to appointment since 1994, and the vast majority of trial court and appellate judges around the country still face some form of election.

Among those who support or are resigned to electing judges, a growing number are pressing for public financing as a way to insulate the judiciary from the taint of taking money. With support from a two-year, \$213,376 grant, the ABA's Standing Committee on Judicial Independence will establish a commission to develop standards for public financing of state judicial elections.



“We may believe merit selection is best, but some states will never switch to an appointment process,” said the ABA’s Eileen Gallagher. “Given that, we need to look at the election process and see what can be done to get the best people on the bench. Public financing holds the promise of leveling the playing field, so that someone with a large personal fortune or a huge war chest isn’t able to overwhelm a better-qualified opponent.”

Among the few states that have adopted any form of public financing for judicial elections to date is Wisconsin. A statewide commission chaired by former Justice Heffernan proposed that candidates be given some public funding in exchange for a promise to limit overall campaign spending. This spring, two candidates in a contested race for the state high court were each given \$13,500 after promising to limit overall spending to \$215,615. Meanwhile, backed by public education efforts by the Wisconsin Citizen Action Fund, a bill that would appropriate \$1 million for voluntary public financing with spending limits for Supreme Court candidates made it through the State Senate but died in the House.

As it works on the public financing option, the ABA hopes to build on its other recent efforts to promote judicial independence. Those include significant revisions of the ABA’s model code of judicial conduct — which now calls on judges to disqualify themselves from cases in which one party’s previous contribution might call the judge’s impartiality into question — and a call for neutral panels to evaluate judicial candidates.

One group that has been evaluating judicial candidates for more than 30 years, the Chicago Council of Lawyers, also wants to improve the selection process. Malcolm Rich, executive director of the Chicago Council and its organiza-

tional partner, the Chicago Appleseed Fund for Justice, said he plans to use a one-year \$80,150 Joyce grant to analyze campaign disclosure forms and interview lawyers, judges, candidates, contributors and voters. The goal: follow the money and see where it leads.

Rich said he wants to test “whether the advent of subcircuits [smaller districts] in 1992 has intensified the pressure to raise larger sums of money; whether people make contributions after an election is no longer in doubt to curry favor with a sure winner; whether the increased money is resulting in a loss of confidence by the public; whether the slating process puts selection in the hands of a small number of powerful people; and whether bar group evaluations are being marginalized as elections are increasingly influenced by money.”

Those seeking specific reforms insist that they are missing a key tool: data. Filling that gap is the objective of another Joyce-funded project. Building on its model for legislative and executive races, the National Institute on Money in State Politics will use a one-year, \$153,600 grant to develop a database on contributions and judicial decisions in the supreme courts in Wisconsin and Illinois and the appellate and supreme courts in Michigan.

“We may very well find a direct correlation between who gives and how judges rule,” said Malachowsky. “More likely, we will find systemic correlations; that is, business interests or trial lawyers give money to candidates who support their point of view, and over time, as one side or the other prevails at the polls, we will see that decisions are shaded to that side’s liking.”

Malachowsky adds that figuring out whether any of these systems biases decisions in favor of contributing interests is important no matter what is found. “If the answer is ‘yes,’ our data can be useful to those who would do something about it. If the answer is ‘no,’ we can tell the public that they have nothing to worry about.”

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Gun Violence

Protecting the Children

With the anniversary of the Columbine tragedy last month, and with the string of tragic school shootings continuing, pressure is mounting for measures to protect children from gun violence.

Over 8 million American children live in households with unlocked guns, reported a study in the *American Journal of Public Health*, one-third of those in homes where firearms are either loaded or stored with ammunition nearby. Yet “the absence of guns from children’s homes and communities” is the best way to prevent firearm injuries to children, according to the American Academy of Pediatrics.

In an April statement the physicians group called for a ban on handguns and semiautomatics and comprehensive regulation of firearms. It also recommended that pediatricians screen their patients for guns in the home and other violence risk factors. The Joyce Foundation has funded previous AAP initiatives to organize pediatricians to reduce gun violence.

Meanwhile, HELP for Survivors and the Bell Campaign are organizing

a Mother’s Day event on Chicago’s lakefront to press for “sensible gun laws.” The event, to coincide with the Million Mom March in Washington, will include speakers, voter registration, and efforts to mobilize local chapters to work on changing gun policies. Similar efforts are planned for other cities around the country.

Two-thirds of Americans favor prohibiting ownership or use of firearms by people under 18, according to the 1999 National Gun Policy Survey being released this spring by the National Opinion Research Center and the Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Policy and Research. Large majorities also support such measures as mandating that new guns be childproof and making owners liable for injuries if children get access to improperly stored firearms.

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Breathe Easy: Fuel Cell Bus Experiment a Success



Chicago's two-year experiment with zero pollution hydrogen fuel cell buses concluded in March with the Chicago Transit Authority vowing to bring the next generation of the buses to the city's streets as soon as funding can be secured.

"This very successful program proves that hydrogen fuel cells can power transit buses in the daily grind of revenue service," said CTA President Frank Kruesi. Officials of Ballard Power Systems, which built the fuel cells, said the buses had improved in acceleration and reliability during their time in Chicago. "By the end they outperformed the regular (diesel) buses," said Ballard CEO Firoz Rasul.

Michael Simmons, who drove the buses during their Chicago run, added that passengers "asked lots of questions" and were generally enthusiastic about

the history-making experiment. Simmons said he enjoyed driving the high-tech vehicle and found that it performed as smoothly as the standard bus. In fact, Kruesi reported that drivers were lining up to drive the fuel cell routes because of the high profile of the new technology.

The Joyce Foundation, in cooperation with a coalition of grantees, Partners for Environmental Transportation, turned one bus into a moving billboard advertising its environmental and public health benefits.

"Very few people realize that the CTA and the City of Chicago have been the global leaders in using fuel cells in real-life public transportation," said Joyce President Paula DiPerna.

The fuel cells convert hydrogen, either directly or as derived from fuels such as natural gas or methanol, into electricity; the process emits only water vapor and trace amounts of pollution. Fuel cells are the cleanest technology available or in development for buses. Using the Chicago findings, Ballard unveiled the next generation of fuel cell buses last October.

"Besides air pollution, global climate change is

increasingly urgent,” said DiPerna. “That’s all the more reason for Chicago to continue to play a pioneer-

ing role in this technology, which provides power while minimizing the impact on the environment.”

Employment

Welfare Study Leads to Civil Rights Probe

Research indicating that Wisconsin welfare agencies fail to meet the needs of Hmong immigrants, released late last year by the Institute for Wisconsin’s Future, has led to a federal civil rights inquiry.

Hmong aid recipients reported problems reading agency materials, reaching caseworkers, and getting translation help. In addition, while most lack job skills and 60 percent have no formal education, fewer than 10 percent received skills training or basic education classes.

“If you can’t read or write English and the only job preparation you’ve had through Wisconsin Works is make-work assignments, your chances of coping in the labor market are not very good,” said IWF’s Vicky Selkove. “The state has failed to provide these participants with the skills needed to achieve W-2’s goal of self sufficiency.”

The federal Department of Health and Human Services Office of Civil Rights launched an investigation to determine whether the

Hmong, who came to the U.S. as refugees after the Vietnam War, were being denied services on the basis of ancestry.

State officials denied the charges, citing the availability of Hmong-speaking interpreters in welfare agencies. They noted dramatic reductions in the Hmong caseload as evidence of welfare reform’s success. The federal investigation is continuing.

Similarly, last fall, University of Minnesota researchers found that immigrants who spoke neither English nor Spanish had greater difficulties with Minnesota’s welfare system than did English- or Spanish-speaking recipients.

Besides improving language assistance, the IWF study called for expanding educational and training opportunities, extending the two-year time limit on welfare benefits, and raising benefits for big families.

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Supreme Court Decision Upholds Key Reform Plank

Laws limiting contributions to political candidates are constitutional, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in January in a case widely seen as an important test of campaign finance reforms.

In a 6-to-3 decision, the high court upheld a Missouri law limiting contributions to \$1,000 as constitutionally acceptable to prevent corruption or the appearance of corruption. “Leave the perception of impropriety unanswered,” wrote Justice David Souter, “and the cynical assumption that large donors call the tune could jeopardize the willingness of voters to take part in democratic governance.”

“This is a major victory for campaign finance reformers,” said Brennan Center Deputy Director Deborah Goldberg, who was lead counsel for one of the defendants in the case, *Nixon v. Shrink Missouri Government PAC*. “The Court has given states the green light to adopt reasonable contribution limits.”

The Brennan Center, a Joyce grantee, has advocated reexamining the

1976 *Buckley v. Valeo* decision, which upheld limits on contributions but said spending limits violate free speech. In the Missouri case, a former candidate for state auditor argued that the contribution limits also violated free speech by prohibiting him from raising enough money to mount an effective campaign.

Justice Stephen Breyer, in a concurring opinion, wrote that other limitations on speech, such as rules of debate, are constitutionally acceptable “to prevent a few from drowning out the many.” Justice John Paul Stevens went further, denying that limiting money amounts to limiting speech: “Money is property; it is not speech,” Justice Stevens wrote.

Other Joyce grantees, including the National Voting Rights Institute, Democracy 21, and Public Citizen Litigation Group, had filed briefs in the case.

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John Bonifaz, NVRI,
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GrantsApproved

The following grants were approved at the April 6, 2000, meeting of the Board of Directors:

Education

Bank Street College of Education

New York, New York \$270,000

To conduct a national public education campaign on the results of the Chicago Small Schools Study. (1 yr.)

Benton Foundation

Washington, DC \$622,215

To continue monitoring the "e-rate" program, a federal initiative that provides significant discounts on telecommunications technologies to schools and libraries. (16 mos.)

Center for Law and Education, Inc.

Washington, DC \$300,000

For continued support of the federal Title I and School Reform Project, which aims to ensure that federal Title I funds are used to provide low-income children the opportunity to achieve at high levels (2yrs.)

Chicago Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, Inc.

Chicago, Illinois \$180,200

For its monitoring and evaluation of the reauthorization and implementation of Title I funding, a key federal program to enhance educational opportunities for poor and minority children. (2 yrs.)

Chicago Panel on School Policy

Chicago, Illinois \$250,000

To report on Chicago public school reform initiatives, to involve parents in school activities, and to disseminate its findings to a wider audience. (2 yrs.)

Children's Defense Fund - Ohio

Columbus, Ohio \$312,000

To promote policies consistent with developing family-friendly schools (small schools) in Ohio. (3 yrs.)

Coalition for Improved Education in South Shore

Chicago, Illinois \$250,000

To work with the South Shore Education Task Force in implementing a community-wide reading and math literacy program, and to continue work on the restructuring of South Shore High School. (2 yrs.)

Commercial Club Foundation

Chicago, Illinois \$75,000

To assist the Chicago Public Schools in developing and implementing strategies to recruit and screen prospective teachers and match applicants with schools. (1 yr.)

Designs for Change

Chicago, Illinois \$520,000

For continued policy reform initiatives aimed at the basic restructuring and improvement of public education systems in Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, and Milwaukee. (3 yrs.)

Designs for Change

Chicago, Illinois \$260,000

To support the development of the Learning Path Institute, an institution to prepare parent and community leaders with the advocacy, organizing skills, and knowledge to enable them to impact public policy and secure human service jobs. (3 yrs.)

Education Commission of the States

Denver, Colorado \$405,000

To assist the Cleveland Public Schools in developing a performance-based accountability and data management system that will enable the district to assess progress toward improving student achievement. (1 yr.)

Education Development Center, Inc.

Center for Children and Technology

New York, New York \$100,000

To promote discussion among researchers and Joyce grantees in order to share information, strategies, and advice about integrating technology into teaching and learning. (1 yr.)

Greater Cleveland Roundtable

Cleveland, Ohio \$164,700

To assist the Cleveland Municipal School District in developing a comprehensive blueprint that integrates technology into teaching and learning and supports district educational plans and goals. (1 yr.)

Leadership for Quality Education

Chicago, Illinois \$187,100

To intensify the recruitment, startup, and operation assistance it provides to charter schools in the Chicago metropolitan region, and to continue exploring the base for charter schools in Cleveland. (2 yrs.)

Metropolitan Planning Council

Chicago, Illinois \$200,000

To promote school financing reforms that would reduce reliance on property taxes as a funding source, ensure greater equity among districts in Illinois, and broaden citizen access to communication and information technologies. (2 yrs.)

Northwestern University
School of Education and Social Policy
Evanston, Illinois \$227,812
To analyze technology-enhanced science curricula to determine how effectively they meet the literacy needs of poor readers and the instructional needs of teachers. (2 yrs.)

Northwestern University
School of Education and Social Policy
Evanston, Illinois \$441,000
To support a partnership of eleven urban and suburban, public and private schools in the Chicago area that aims to foster relationships among administrators, teachers, and students in support of improved curricula and teaching techniques and to create multicultural exchanges between city and suburban students. (2 yrs.)

Tomas Rivera Policy Institute
Claremont, California \$100,000
To investigate under-representation of Latino youth among college entrants, focusing on what Latino parents in Chicago, Houston, and Los Angeles understand about college admission requirements and how well their schools are preparing children for college. (1 yr.)

University of California, Los Angeles
National Center for Research on Evaluation, Standards, and Student Testing
Los Angeles, California \$839,059
To continue efforts to help the Chicago Public Schools develop a new method of collecting and analyzing data for use in measuring educational progress and preparing school improvement plans. (3 yrs.)

University of Chicago
Department of Education
Chicago, Illinois \$1,172,520
To support the Consortium on Chicago School Research to continue and expand its research on Chicago school reform, with a particular focus on high school restructuring policies. (3 yrs.)

Total Education \$6,876,606

Employment

Catholic Charities
Chicago, Illinois \$325,000
To evaluate and help improve its Transitional Jobs Program, which is designed to help welfare recipients gain paid work experience and move into private employment. (1 yr.)

Chicago Association of Neighborhood Development Organizations (CANDO)
Chicago, Illinois \$200,000
To lead the State Agenda coalition, a consortium of job-training and economic development groups that addresses state-level workforce development policy. (2 yrs)

Child and Family Policy Center
Des Moines, Iowa \$600,000
Continuing assistance to four Iowa counties in implementing welfare reform policies that bring welfare recipients out of poverty and in designing an employment demonstration program for people who remain outside or disconnected from the labor market. (3 yrs.)

Economic Policy Institute
Washington, DC \$200,000
To analyze employment rates, incomes, and other factors affecting the low-wage labor market and to foster debate about how policy can improve the economic well-being of low-wage workers. (2 yrs.)

Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy
Washington, DC \$233,000
For a comprehensive analysis of how Illinois' tax system affects residents at different income levels; to develop recommendations for reducing tax burdens on low-income families; and for work in other Midwest states to update taxpayer information and respond to questions about new tax proposals. (2 yrs.)

Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee
Milwaukee, Wisconsin \$130,363
To research trends in demand for emergency health, food, shelter, and other services in Milwaukee County; to explore implications for state welfare policy; and to staff a bipartisan Wisconsin legislative working group on welfare reform and poverty policy. (18 mos.)

Legal Assistance Foundation of Chicago
Chicago, Illinois \$478,700
To examine the extent to which racial discrimination in selected Chicago neighborhoods and suburbs limits job opportunities for low-income African-Americans in the retail and service sectors. (2 yrs.)

LifeTrack Resources Inc.
St. Paul, Minnesota \$420,000
To evaluate TransitionWorks, a publicly funded jobs program for persons moving from welfare to work, and to disseminate the results. (2 yrs.)

Manpower Demonstration
Research Corporation

New York, New York \$375,000

To complete its evaluation of Cleveland's welfare policy as part of a national study of welfare in four urban areas. (3 yrs.)

Mid-Minnesota Legal Assistance, Inc.
St. Paul, Minnesota \$619,992

To advocate for policies that increase career and wage advancement opportunities and improve education, skills and learning options for low-income working families and those transitioning from welfare to work. (3 yrs.)

National Employment Law Project, Inc.
New York, New York \$525,000

To develop and promote recommendations to render state unemployment insurance systems in the Midwest more beneficial to low-wage workers, including those who are temporary, part-time, or on unpaid leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act. (3 yrs.)

SSI Coalition for a Responsible
Safety Net

Chicago, Illinois \$522,000

To serve as a regional clearinghouse for information on workforce development policies for low-income people with disabilities who receive Supplemental Security Income benefits, and to strengthen the Midwest network of state policymakers and advocates working to improve employment policies for the low-income disabled. (3 yrs.)

University of Chicago, Center for
Urban Research and Policy Studies
Chicago, Illinois \$169,515

To foster dialogue among state employees, legislators, researchers, advocates, and journalists on welfare reform in Illinois by sponsoring meetings on the implications of research findings for policy and disseminating summaries of critical welfare research. (3 yrs.)

Work, Welfare and Families
Chicago, Illinois \$304,000

To establish a regional partnership of state and local policy advocates in the Midwest to share information and strategies related to welfare policy and to develop a coordinated agenda for the upcoming debate on reauthorization of the federal welfare law. (2 yrs.)

Total Employment \$5,102,570

Environment

American Council for an
Energy-Efficient Economy
Washington, DC \$150,000

To support its ongoing efforts to demonstrate a market for cleaner, greener cars in partnership with the Clean Car Campaign. (2 yrs.)

American Council for an
Energy-Efficient Economy
Washington, DC \$125,000

To promote federal policies that encourage energy efficiency. (2 yrs.)

Clean Air Task Force
Boston, Massachusetts \$400,000

To support the Clean Air Task Force's efforts to promote the clean-up or replacement of old coal-burning power plants that cause a high proportion of the air pollution in the Great Lakes region and beyond. (2 yrs.)

Council of State Governments
Lexington, Kentucky \$100,000

For the Multistate Working Group on Environmental Management Systems to design an in-service training academy that would help states take a broad "systems approach" to environmental protection and improvement. (6 mos.)

Delta Institute
Chicago, Illinois \$226,500

To help develop a regulatory framework for reducing the toxic pollution that enters Lake Michigan through the air. (2 yrs.)

Environmental Law and
Policy Center of the Midwest
Chicago, Illinois \$600,000

To continue its policy and legal advocacy to ensure environmental benefits in the context of Midwest utility restructuring. (2 yrs.)

Environmental Law Institute
Washington, DC \$170,000

To study the relationship between environmental enforcement and incentive-based approaches to environmental protection at the state level. (1 yr.)

Fox-Wolf Basin 2000, Inc.
Appleton, Wisconsin \$150,000

To complete an innovative water pollution control project. (2 yrs.)

National Wildlife Federation
Ann Arbor, Michigan \$185,000

To support a combination of legal, scientific, and regulatory advocacy activities dedicated to achieving reductions in toxic pollution that reaches the Great Lakes through the air. (1 yr.)

Natural Resources

Defense Council, Inc.

New York, New York \$250,000

To continue promoting clean energy in federal electric utility restructuring policy and providing technical and policy support to encourage the cleanup of older coal-fired electric power plants that cause a high proportion of the air pollution in the Great Lakes region and beyond. (2 yrs.)

Northeast-Midwest Institute

Washington, DC \$300,000

To support the Great Lakes Program. (2 yrs.)

Ohio Environmental Council

Columbus, Ohio \$203,811

For continued support of its Lake Erie Clean Water Project. (2 yrs.)

Physicians for Social Responsibility

Washington, DC \$98,000

To identify research and policy gaps around the possible relationship between environmental factors and certain diseases. (18 mos.)

Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council

Conway, Michigan \$199,368

To develop new policies to strengthen relationships between environmental advocates and environmental officials in Michigan. (2 yrs.)

Total Environment \$3,157,679

Gun Violence

Alliance for Justice, Inc.

Washington, DC \$300,000

To support a focus on public policies to prevent gun violence in its First Monday Program, which mobilizes college, graduate, and law students to become informed advocates in a critical public policy issue. (2 yrs.)

Citizens for a Safer Minnesota

Education Fund

St. Paul, Minnesota \$300,000

To create the Gun Violence Organizing Project, a state-local partnership to step up the level of policy advocacy around gun violence prevention in Minnesota. (2 yrs.)

Communication Works, Inc.

San Francisco, California \$560,122

To develop and implement communications strategies for promoting a public health-oriented gun policy of comprehensive health and safety regulation of the industry. (3 yrs.)

New York Academy of Medicine

New York, New York \$750,000

For Doctors Against Handgun Injury (DAHI), a new coalition of learned medical societies and organizations dedicated to mobilizing the influence, authority, and clinical expertise of physicians to reduce handgun injury. (3 yrs.)

Physicians for Social Responsibility

Washington, DC \$150,000

To involve medical and public health students and professionals in policy advocacy activities associated with the Alliance for Justice First Monday Program on Gun Violence in America. (1 yr.)

Toledo Ecumenical Area Ministries

Toledo Metropolitan Mission

Toledo, Ohio \$33,200

To strengthen operations of the Ohio Coalition Against Gun Violence. (1 yr.)

Wisconsin Anti-Violence Effort (WAVE) Educational Fund

Milwaukee, Wisconsin \$506,414

To develop and coordinate the policy-oriented activities of a multi-disciplinary coalition to reduce gun violence in Wisconsin. (3 yrs.)

Total Gun Violence \$2,599,736

Money and Politics

American Bar Association

Fund for Justice and Education,
Standing Committee on Judicial Independence

Chicago, Illinois \$213,376

To develop and promote standards for and models of public financing for state judicial elections. (2 yrs.)

American Friends Service Committee

Chicago, Illinois \$50,000

To promote campaign finance reform in Cincinnati through public education on a proposed charter amendment (1 yr.)

Fund for Justice

Chicago, Illinois \$80,150

To analyze the financing of judicial elections in Cook County (particularly at the sub-circuit level); examine the effects of political finance practices on the quality and independence of the county's judicial system; and develop and promote reform recommendations. (1 yr.)

Minnesota Alliance for Progressive
Action Education Fund

St. Paul, Minnesota \$200,000

For educational and advocacy efforts to replace Minnesota's current partial public election financing system with full public financing. (2 yrs.)

Money and Politics Iowa

West Des Moines, Iowa \$156,530

To promote campaign finance reform in Iowa through database development, research, public education, news media outreach, and policy advocacy. (2 yrs.)

National Health Law Program, Inc.

Los Angeles, California \$45,000

To document the influence of political contributions and high-priced lobbying on health policy and to encourage partnerships between health care and campaign finance reform advocates. (1 yr.)

National Institute on Money
in State Politics

Helena, Montana \$153,600

To develop a searchable data base and coding system and publish analyses of political contributions to, and expenditures by, candidates for appellate judgeships in selected Midwest states. (1 yr.)

University of Illinois at Springfield
Institute for Public Affairs

Springfield, Illinois \$93,134

To promote political finance reform through database development, research, publications, and technical and policy assistance to elected officials, journalists, and reform activists. (2 yrs.)

Total Money and Politics \$991,790

Culture

Chicago Sinfonietta, Inc.

Chicago, Illinois \$160,000

To strengthen its programming and attract new audiences. (2 yrs.)

Columbia College Dance Center

Chicago, Illinois \$50,000

To boost its audience development and marketing efforts in preparation for a move to a new downtown site. (1 yr.)

Urban Institute

New York, New York \$75,000

For research on the financial support system for individual American artists. (18 mos.)

Total Culture \$285,000

Special Opportunities

Center for National Policy

Washington, DC \$100,000

To develop a database of federal expenditures broken down by congressional districts in Illinois, Michigan, and Ohio. (1 yr.)

Federation for Community Planning

Cleveland, Ohio \$56,700

To help develop an information system to establish communication between the Cleveland Municipal School District and health and human service providers in Cleveland (9 mos.)

Total Special Opportunities \$156,700

Joyce Millennium Initiatives

Young Women's Leadership Charter
School of Chicago

Business and Professional People
for the Public Interest

Chicago, Illinois \$525,000

To develop and evaluate a research-based curriculum to help students excel in math, science, and technology. (3 yrs.)

Midwest Pilot Carbon Emissions
Trading Program

Northwestern University
J.L. Kellogg Graduate School
of Management

Evanston, Illinois \$347,600

To design a pilot program for the voluntary trading of carbon dioxide and other emissions that cause climate change, with the goal of resolving methodological and operational issues so that a second, implementation phase — an actual market — could be organized and based in the Midwest. (1 yr)

Brown v. Board of Education
50 Years Later

University of California,
Los Angeles

Los Angeles, California \$345,754

To study the effects of school desegregation through the eyes of the generation that experienced it first hand. (3 yrs)

Total JMI \$1,218,354

Total Grants Approved
\$20,387,435

ForMoreInfo

Reports, web sites, and information of interest

Education

The [Benton Foundation](#) reports that the E-Rate — the federal program that offers schools and libraries a subsidized educational rate for telecommunications services — is working. *The E-Rate in America: A Tale of Four Cities* examines how Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, and Milwaukee school districts have used the program and provides a toolkit for school officials. www.benton.org; 202.638.5770

Employment

The [Economic Policy Institute](#) and the [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities](#) report that despite economic growth and a tight labor market, income gaps between high- and low-income families have widened in 46 states since the late 1970s. *Pulling Apart: A State-by-State Analysis of Income Trends* outlines the causes of growing inequities and offers policy options for states to address them. www.epinet.org; 202.775.8810

Environment

The [Environmental Defense Fund](#) website shows the environmental impacts of motor vehicles from manufacture, use, and disposal. “A Guide to Cleaner Vehicle Production, Use & Disposal” includes steps producers and consumers can take to prevent pollution. www.environmentaldefense.org/programs/PPA/vlc/

Gun Violence

The [Violence Policy Center](#), in cooperation with the National Opinion Research Center at the University of Chicago, analyzed recent gun surveys and documented region-by-region support for stronger gun laws. www.vpc.org/press/0003norc.htm; 202.822.8200

Money & Politics

An [Alliance for Better Campaigns](#) poll finds that the major networks averaged 36 seconds a night of candidate discourse during the primary season. The Alliance offers a guide for the television industry to open the airwaves to brief nightly issue forums for candidates. www.bettercampaigns.org; 202.879.6755

Special Opportunities

The [National Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium](#) website offers information that will help ensure an accurate count of the Asian Pacific American community in the 2000 Census. www.napalc.org/programs/census/index.html

The [Illinois Coalition on Immigrant and Refugee Rights](#) released *Don't Count Me Out*, which includes recommendations for obtaining an accurate Census count of historically undercounted populations and a directory of outreach efforts. 312.332.7360 ext. 16

Foundation Launches Joyce Millennium Initiatives

The Joyce Foundation is marking the new millennium with a series of major grants to support significant “intergenerational” work that carries forward the mission of the Foundation into the new century.

“We are living in a thrilling but exceedingly challenging moment in history,” said Joyce President Paula DiPerna. “The Joyce Millennium Initiatives are intended to mark this intergenerational transition, by reinforcing and strengthening landmark principles, as well as catalyzing and encouraging exceptional new efforts.”

The first three Joyce Millennium Initiatives are:

- \$345,754 for *Brown v. Board of Education, 50 Years Later*, which will explore the experience and impact of school desegregation as seen through the eyes of the first generation to attend desegregated schools.
- \$347,600 for the design phase of the *Midwest Pilot Carbon Emissions Trading Program*, which would create a market for voluntary trading of carbon dioxide and other emissions that cause climate change.
- \$525,000 to enable the *Young Women's Leadership Charter School of Chicago* to develop a curriculum that addresses contemporary challenges in math and science training and redresses underrepresentation of women in math and science leadership. (See grant listings on page 21.)

“This first round of Millennium grants represents a range of intergenerationally significant activities,” said DiPerna. “Few principles are more basic to our notions of freedom and human rights than school integration. Similarly, women, despite much progress, continue to be under-represented in the highest levels of math and science, key portals to progress in any age, but especially in our increasingly technology-focused era. Thirdly, climate change is a product of the Industrial Age, but society continues to irresponsibly place the resolution of the problem at the feet of the next generation. Our grant puts some of the responsibility back where it belongs—on those of us who are reaping the benefits of the earlier Industrial Age.”

Proposals for Joyce Millennium Initiatives, which range between \$250,000 and \$1 million, are at the invitation of the Foundation.

The next proposal deadlines are:

April 14, 2000
for the July 2000 board meeting
August 15, 2000
for the December 2000 board meeting
December 8, 2000
for the March 2001 board meeting

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Work In Progress

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