As we face the challenges of lockdowns and reopenings, protests and COVID tests, I’d like to give a shout-out to four things for which I continue to be grateful in this environment of uncertainty.

1) **New Tutoring Space** Lend-A-Hand now has permanent space on the fourth floor of the Chicago Bar Association building. We have a library and room for plenty of learning materials. Someday when we resume face-to-face tutoring, Lend-A-Hand’s tutoring center will be there to catapult our students and program to greater heights.

We are grateful to the Chicago Bar Association for giving us the opportunity to renovate its former servery into a special place for our students and tutors.

2) **The Internet** While face-to-face tutoring ended in mid-March, Lend-A-Hand has been able to sustain student-tutor relationships and support student learning online. Through Google Meet, students and tutors have been able to connect for quick calls and full-blown tutoring sessions. Students also can read high-quality fiction and nonfiction selections via accounts Lend-A-Hand set up for them on Readworks.org and Raz-Kids.com.

3) **Committed Volunteers** The dedication of our volunteers is extraordinary. Online tutoring was originally supposed to conclude by Memorial Day. Then it was extended to June 30 because our tutors wanted to continue supporting their students. Now some student-tutor pairs will keep going through July.

As we all are learning, online meetings do not always go smoothly. Problems joining a video call or getting kicked off are part of our new normal. Who doesn’t still struggle to unmute their microphone? We appreciate the patience of Lend-A-Hand’s volunteer tutors in dealing with these technology snafus.

4) **Generous Sponsors and Donors** Our annual awards dinner (and primary fundraiser) was cancelled this spring because of the virus outbreak. But the law firms that had already agreed to sponsor the dinner all made good on their commitment. Because of the generosity of these sponsors, we will be able to move forward with our programming this fall.

We also want to acknowledge all of Lend-A-Hand’s donors. Your support enables our program not only to continue but also to thrive during these turbulent times.

Stay safe and healthy—

Erin Clifford
Board President
2019-2020 DONORS

Your generosity touched the lives of more than 1,700 at-risk youth in Chicago this year.

Jonathan B. Amariol
John Ambrogi
Kimball & Karen Anderson
Alexander Arezina
Jacquelyne M. Belcastro
Eileen Bell
Kia Bell-Bey
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CBA Executive Director Terry Murphy, one of the individuals responsible for the establishment of Lawyers Lend-A-Hand to Youth, is stepping down after serving nearly 50 years at the Chicago Bar Association.

As a founding board member, Terry oversaw the growth of Lend-A-Hand from CBA presidential initiative to an independent 501c3 that received a $2 million cy pres award in 2006. The 2007 recipient of the Abraham Lincoln Marovitz Philanthropic Award (Lend-A-Hand’s highest honor), he gave his enthusiastic approval and support when approached about the formation of Lend-A-Hand Tutoring four years ago.

It was also Terry who offered Lend-A-Hand the opportunity to renovate an old servery on the fourth floor of the Chicago Bar Association and turn it into a permanent space for the tutoring program.

“Terry Murphy has been one of Lend-A-Hand’s biggest cheerleaders over the years, and he understands the importance of our mission to both at-risk youth and the legal profession,” said Lend-A-Hand Executive Director Kathryn McCabe.

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CBA Assistant Executive Director Beth McMeen will become the new Executive Director effective Sept. 1, 2020.
For twenty-five years, Lawyers Lend-A-Hand to Youth has awarded grants to support the general operations of neighborhood mentoring and tutoring programs serving at-risk Chicago youth. The following programs are our 2019-20 grantees:

Access Living of Metro Chicago facilitates mentoring relationships between youth and adults with disabilities.

America Needs You pairs low-income, first generation college students with a mentor coach.

Chicago Lawndale AMACHI mentors students with an incarcerated parent or family member.

Chicago Lights tutors low-income youth and helps them excel academically and socially.

College Mentoring Experience is dedicated to giving minority students an opportunity to have a college education through mentoring, college tours and academic tutoring.

Family Matters forges connections between youth and adults in the Rogers Park neighborhood as they develop academic and life skills.

G.E.M.S. at St. Sabina’s is designed to reshape the behaviors of teenage girls from Chicago’s South Side.

iMentor matches students in their partner public schools with a college-educated mentor to help them on their college journey.

Dan Cotter of Howard & Howard raised $12,000 for Lend-A-Hand last summer by bench pressing 319.7 pounds.

He’s at it again. Lend-A-Hand tutor and former board president Dan Cotter of Howard & Howard returned to competitive weightlifting this year to raise money for Lend-A-Hand Tutoring. Last July, while lifting 319.7 pounds in the bench press category of the Chicago Summer Bash, Dan also raised $12,000 for Lend-A-Hand.

Dan started his lifting fundraisers in 2002 and has raised well over $350,000 for Lend-A-Hand. In 2014, he took a break from lifting to serve as the president of the Chicago Bar Association. When he found out that Lend-A-Hand needed funds to pay for the renovation of its new tutoring space in the CBA Building, he came out of retirement to gather pledges based on the weight he would lift in competition.

In addition to raising money for Lend-A-Hand, Dan also finished in first place in his division and came very close to setting a new record.

“I support Lawyers Lend-A-Hand because of the great work it does for youth in at-risk communities”
— Dan Cotter

Dan Cotter of Howard & Howard raised $12,000 for Lend-A-Hand last summer by bench pressing 319.7 pounds.

2020 GRANTEES

Lend-A-Hand Tutoring has its first class of eighth graders who are graduating from our program and heading to high school.

Congratulations to the following LAH eighth grade graduates (and their tutors):

Jalen Cannon (Jonathan Beato)
Englewood STEM High School

Marshay Jones (Andrea Williams)
Englewood STEM High School

Takayla Jones (Hon. Cynthia Cobbs)
Johnson College Prep High School

Elijah Smalls (Kevin Zickterman)
University of Chicago Charter School

iMentor matches students in their partner public schools with a college-educated mentor to help them on their college journey.

Living Works promotes the academic success and emotional well-being of 150 students at Joyce Kilmer School in Rogers Park.

Midtown Educational Foundation guides Hispanic and African American students of average academic ability to achieve above average results.

LAH’s First Graduation Class