

At Shumaker, community involvement is in our DNA

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Shumaker's Toledo office was a proud sponsor of the 10th annual Toledo Pride celebration with professionals and staff participating in the parade.

For decades, community involvement has been a cornerstone at Shumaker. It is part of the solid foundation of our law firm that was founded nearly a century ago. But our dedication to the communities we serve is so much more than a handful of words or a tag line.

At Shumaker, we fulfill our pledge to be engaged community partners by investing both our financial and human capital in dozens of wide-ranging efforts to enrich our neighborhoods and improve the quality of life for everyone. In 2020, we contributed more than \$400,000 to numerous nonprofit organizations and community activities. As a firm, we also recently surpassed a milestone of helping to raise more than \$2.5 million for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society over the past four years. All totaled, more than 260 lawyers, 50 paralegals, and nearly 500 employees volunteered thousands of hours to organizations that embrace diversity and are committed to creating more vibrant communities that offer opportunities for everyone.

Behind every one of our community efforts is a personal story and a personal connection.

Our Toledo and Columbus, Ohio offices financially support organizations, such as Equality Toledo, Advocates for Basic Legal Equality (ABLE), the Toledo Cultural Arts Center, and Mid-Ohio Foodbank. Our lawyers serve on boards or are affiliated with groups, including Mobile Meals, Legal Aid of Northwestern Ohio (LAWO), the Boys and

Girls Clubs of Toledo, Big Brothers and Big Sisters of America, and Nationwide Children's Hospital Development Board, just to name a few.

Also in Toledo, Shumaker lawyers banded together and raised money to provide food donations to frontline health care and essential workers at ProMedica Toledo Hospital during the COVID-19 pandemic. Led by Toledo partner Rebecca Shope, we worked with restaurants in the community and donated the meals over a three-week period.

"Not only does this help those directly fighting the COVID pandemic, but it also supports our local restaurants that are struggling," Shope said.

Shumaker's commitment to serving diverse communities stretches far beyond Toledo and Columbus. We have seven offices in five states — including Tampa and Sarasota in Florida, Charlotte in North Carolina, Charleston in South Carolina, and Bloomfield Hills in Michigan. In every one of those locations, we are strengthening the fabric of the community and helping create the ties that bind us together.

In Florida, we financially support Equality Florida, the Florida Orchestra, the Tampa Hispanic Bar Association, and the Sarasota County Bar Association Council for Diversity and Inclusion. Many of our professionals are affiliated and serve on boards, such as the American Heart Association, Tampa Museum of Art, and the Boys and Girls Clubs of Sarasota County.

Our Florida Leadership Shumaker program provided Christmas gifts to dozens of at-risk children through A Brighter Community's (ABC) Holiday Assistance Program.

"Particularly in this difficult year, our participation made the holidays much brighter for many folks — the children we provided gifts for, their loving families, and for the entire Shumaker team that contributed to shopping for and delivering gifts," said Shumaker Partner Victoria Knight Alae.

In the Carolinas, Shumaker professionals are involved with Opera Carolina, Make-A-Wish Foundation of Central and Western North Carolina, Ronald McDonald House, and the Charleston Animal Society.

"At Shumaker, we know that being a great lawyer and an active citizen in our community go hand in hand," said Tom Dillon, Management Committee Chairman. "Our professionals live and work in the communities we serve, and our commitment to those communities extends far beyond the local courthouses and business conference rooms. This is our home and we remain steadfast in being involved and being a good neighbor."

For more information, go to [shumaker.com](https://www.shumaker.com).