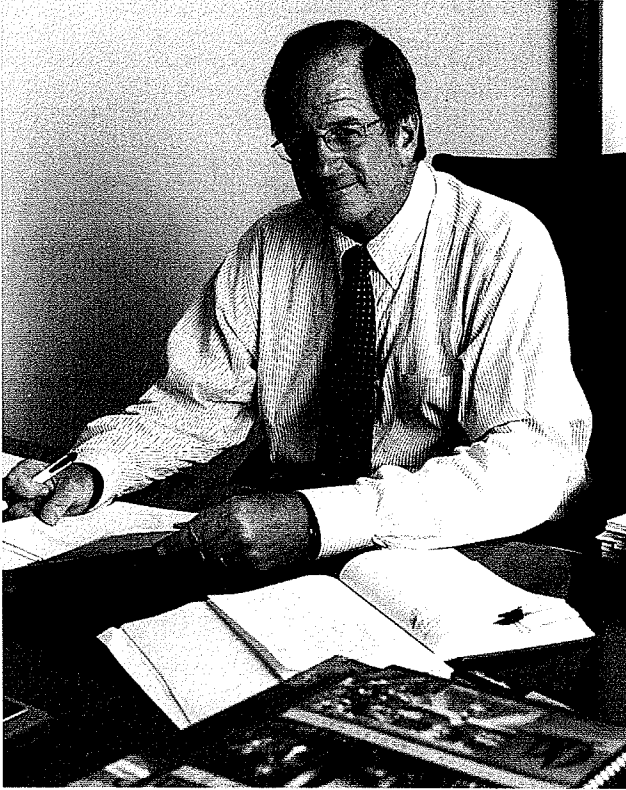


# Thompson Hine's Mike Hardy Leads Collaboration



*The*  
**Legal Aid Society**  
*of Cleveland*



Michael Hardy, Esq.

Thompson Hine LLP nominated the MetroHealth and Legal Aid partnership for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation funding. Michael Hardy, partner-in-charge of Thompson Hine's Cleveland office, is making it his mission to drive local support to sustain the partnership between Legal Aid and MetroHealth. (see page two)

"Through the pro bono program at Thompson Hine, we've handled a great number of litigation cases involving children and indigent appeals," says Mike. "So we knew that there was an unmet legal need in the community. This collaboration brings about a more holistic approach – both legal and medical. It provides a wonderful opportunity for us to bridge those two disciplines."

Mike also is leading an advisory council for the Community Advocacy Program. This entity will provide guidance to the program as it grows.

Mike's efforts demonstrate how members of the legal community are coming together to do something about the unmet legal needs of the area's poor. These unmet legal issues can have a devastating impact on the lives of low-income families.

In addition to Thompson Hine, other local funding partners for the collaboration include The Cleveland Foundation, Benesch, Friedlander, Coplan & Aronoff LLP; Eva L. and Joseph M. Bruening Foundation; Calfee, Halter & Griswold LLP; The Callahan Foundation; The George Gund Foundation; Saint Luke's Foundation of Cleveland, Ohio; and United Black Fund of Greater Cleveland, Inc.

If you are interested in supporting Legal Aid's partnership with MetroHealth, call 216-861-5217.