

2015 PRO BONO INSTITUTE Annual Conference

March 4-6, 2015 CAPITAL HILTON Washington, DC

Helping you fulfill the promise of pro bono

Pro Bono Expo Table Descriptions

Table 1

Medical-Legal Partnership 2.0: Legal Care as a Core Component of Primary Care

The healthcare landscape is transforming rapidly, and deeper integration of healthcare services and social services (including legal services) is inevitable. Implementation of health reform is generating new opportunities for pro bono attorneys to engage in a range of medical-legal partnership (MLP) initiatives. Join us to discuss the newest MLP pro bono opportunities against the twin backdrops of increasing material hardship among low-income patients and a dramatically changing healthcare delivery landscape.

Host: Samantha Morton

Organization: Medical-Legal Partnership | Boston

Table 2

Winning the Case Against Animal Cruelty

The Animal Legal Defense Fund (ALDF) has blazed the trail for stronger enforcement of anti-cruelty laws and more humane treatment of animals. ALDF's groundbreaking efforts to push the U.S. legal system to end the suffering of abused animals are supported by thousands of dedicated pro bono attorneys. Join us to learn about the rapidly growing field of animal law and related pro bono opportunities.

Host: Tom Linney

Organization: Animal Legal Defense Fund

Table 3

Measuring Outcomes and Impact

How can law firm and in-house pro bono programs and public interest organizations use meaningful monitoring metrics associated with key outcomes to connect their day-to-day work with the program or organization's overall vision? Join us to learn about the development of an effective Monitoring and Evaluation Plan, data synthesis, and reflection/improvement processes, as well as the particular challenges associated with evaluating outcomes and impact on programs supporting people experiencing disadvantage.

Hosts: Fiona McLeay and Rebecca McMahon

Organization: Justice Connect

Table 4

Direct Legal Services Opportunities for In-House and Business Lawyers

Learn about pro bono projects that provide limited-scope, direct legal services to low-income small business owners and are especially well-suited for in-house and corporate lawyers. Join us to discuss how pro bono attorneys can provide valuable transactional assistance in areas, such as entity selection, corporate governance, contracts, commercial leases, tax, intellectual property, and succession planning, which are critical to helping small business owners mitigate the risks associated with starting a business and build a stable legal foundation upon which to grow.

Host: Jennifer DaSilva

Organization: Start Small Think Big, Inc.

Table 5

Can We Define a Legal Services "Desert"?

Many service regions are examining the gap in legal and pro bono services between urban and rural areas. But sometimes it can be difficult to articulate which areas count as "rural." Drawing from the work in the anti-hunger movement to define "food deserts" (i.e., communities that face unique barriers to accessing healthy foods), let's discuss how this concept could apply to legal services to identify justice "deserts." What factors might we include in the formula to try to identify "isolated" communities?

Host: Julia Wilson

Organization: OneJustice

Table 6

Preventing Domestic Violence

There are a variety of ways that pro bono attorneys can protect survivors from family violence, including helping clients obtain domestic violence-based immigration relief, participating in restraining order clinics, and providing limited-scope representation. Join the discussion to learn about pro bono opportunities to assist those affected by domestic violence in your communities.

Host: Staci Lambright

Organization: Bay Area Legal Aid

Table 7

Cross-Sector Partnerships to Grow Pro Bono at the Local Level

The Public Interest Law Initiative has developed pro bono committees in six judicial circuits in Illinois to raise awareness of the need for pro bono. Comprised of members of the bench, the private and organized bar, and staff from law schools and legal service organizations, these committees work at the local level to address their own communities' needs. Join us to discuss how to initiate, enhance, and

promote pro bono in your communities. Bring ideas, questions, and challenges from your own experience.

Host: Michael Bergmann

Organization: Public Interest Law Initiative

Table 8

Improving the Delivery of Pro Bono Trainings

The California Pro Bono Training Institute, coordinated by the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles, OneJustice, and Neighborhood Legal Services-Los Angeles, is a statewide, online clearinghouse for substantive trainings that will provide legal services organizations and pro bono attorneys with easily accessible, highly engaging, and on-demand CLE courses relevant to pro bono work for low-income clients. Join us to discuss how this model will create a more efficient pro bono delivery system by increasing access to trainings, reducing the creation of duplicative trainings, and connecting legal services organizations and private attorneys.

Host: Phong Wong

Organization: Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles

Table 9

Pro Bono and Public Defense

In the U.S., the criminal justice system casts a wider net than in any other developed nation, and current events have shined a spotlight on the experience of poor people and people of color accused of crimes. To meet the critical need for more resources for public defense and system-wide reform, we are expanding pro bono opportunities in both individual client representation and impact litigation. Join us to discuss these opportunities, as well as innovative models for engaging firms and legal departments in law reform efforts.

Host: Sarah Nolan

Organization: Brooklyn Defender Services

Table 10

Pro Bono and Legal Literacy Programs

The Neighborhood Legal Services Program partners with community-based organizations, pro bono attorneys, and law students to provide targeted, legal literacy programs on critical areas of client needs such as custody and child support, tenants' rights, and employment law. Join us to discuss the lessons we have learned about developing effective, interactive legal literacy programs and how we can dexterously use volunteers with a range of legal experiences to conduct these programs.

Host: Heather Hodges

Organization: Neighborhood Legal Services Program

Table 11

Transactional Pro Bono Assistance for Nonprofits

Learn about ways in which in-house and law firm attorneys can collaborate to provide transactional and business pro bono services to nonprofits, while at the same time developing or strengthening their existing relationships. Join us to discuss models for collaboration, pitfalls to avoid, and best practices for success.

Hosts: Marcia Levy and Katherine Peden

Organization: Pro Bono Partnership

Table 12

The Criminalization of Homelessness

Despite a lack of affordable housing and shelter, a growing number of U.S. cities have enacted laws that treat the life-sustaining activities of homeless people as criminal acts. These laws are ineffective, expensive to taxpayers, and they often violate the constitutional rights of homeless people. Join us to explore this disturbing trend, the success of recent litigation challenging these laws, and constructive and cost-effective alternatives to criminalization policies.

Host: Tristia Bauman

Organization: National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty

Table 13

The Crisis in Death Penalty Representation

The American Bar Association Death Penalty Representation Project works with pro bono attorneys from hundreds of law firms and legal departments to help address the critical need for representation in death penalty cases. A shockingly large number of death row inmates across the U.S. do not have counsel to represent them in their appeals, while others have counsel who are significantly under-resourced. Join us to learn about various pro bono opportunities and discuss how you can help death row inmates.

Host: Michael Lasher

Organization: American Bar Association Death Penalty Representation Project

Table 14

Providing Pro Bono Assistance to Children and Families

The Children's Law Center works with hundreds of pro bono attorneys each year to provide legal advocacy to vulnerable children and families. Join us to discuss how pro bono attorneys can provide valuable representation in numerous legal areas critical to child and family well-being, such as adoption, custody, guardianship, housing, and special education.

Host: Nancy Drane

Organization: Children's Law Center

Table 15

Pro Bono in Australia

Discussion will center around the state of pro bono in Australia. We will highlight innovative and replicable activities, and discuss the current strengths and challenges which pro bono lawyers are facing in Australia.

Host: Annette Bain

Table 16

Meeting the Challenges of Rural Pro Bono

Rural America lags far behind the rest of the country in nearly every measure of success, including access to justice, which is impeded by geographic isolation, inadequate technology infrastructure, fewer attorneys serving the rural poor than the urban poor, little or no tradition of pro bono activity, fewer pro bono programs working in rural areas, and the urban/rural funding disparity. Join us to discuss how pro bono attorneys can help meet the needs of the rural poor.

Host: Jeff Ponting

Organization: California Rural Legal Assistance

Table 17

The Name Change Project

The Transgender Legal Defense & Education Fund's Name Change Project provides legal name changes to transgender community members by matching them with trained pro bono lawyers from law firms and legal departments who represent them during the name change process. Without a legal name change, transgender people face tremendous obstacles to full participation in society. Join the discussion and learn more about how our Name Change Project helps transgender people negotiate the name change process and live authentic and equal lives.

Host: Michael Silverman

Organization: Transgender Legal Defense & Education Fund

Table 18

Holistic Defense and Pro Bono Collaboration

Holistic Defense, pioneered by The Bronx Defenders, combines aggressive legal advocacy with a broader recognition that for most poor people arrested and charged with a crime, the criminal case is not the only issue with which they struggle. To be truly effective advocates for clients, defenders must broaden the scope of their representation to address both the collateral consequences of criminal justice involvement as well as the underlying issues that play a part in driving clients into the criminal justice

system. Join us to discuss the benefits and challenges of creating pro bono partnerships that are rooted in a holistic defense model.

Host: Annie Pineda

Organization: The Bronx Defenders

Table 19

Creating and Enhancing Pro Bono Initiatives Through Fellowships

As law firms and legal departments seek to establish new pro bono projects or expand existing ones, Equal Justice Works Fellows are uniquely positioned to play a role. Fellows have helped law firms launch new signature projects by providing subject matter expertise, strategic advice, and pro bono referrals on an ongoing basis, and have helped energize legal departments seeking to launch new pro bono initiatives by providing a focal point through their fellowship project. Join the discussion on how fellows can help law firms and legal departments create or enhance their pro bono programs.

Host: Mia Sussman

Organization: Equal Justice Works

Table 20

Advocating for Fair and Impartial Courts

With each passing election cycle, special interest money is pouring into our state courts – nearly \$14 million was spent on television ads for state Supreme Court races this past November. The need for reform to protect our state court systems has never been greater. Join us for a discussion of available pro bono opportunities, including engaging in efforts to reform state judicial selection methods; defending against legal challenges to judicial campaign regulations; formulating strategies for increasing diversity on the bench; defending courts from political attacks; and deepening the relevancy of fair courts issues to impacted constituencies.

Hosts: Bert Brandenburg and Scott Greytak

Organization: Justice at Stake

Table 21

Providing Pro Bono Assistance with Public International Law

The Public International Law & Policy Group (PILPG) is a global pro bono law firm that provides legal assistance to states and governments with the negotiation and implementation of peace agreements, the drafting of post-conflict constitutions, and the creation and operation of war crimes tribunals. Join us to discuss where PILPG is currently working and why pro bono assistance is vital in these contexts, and learn how to get involved in our work.

Host: Brett Edwards

Organization: The Public International Law & Policy Group

Table 22

Walking and Talking Pro Bono

The Cyrus R. Vance Center for International Justice collaborates with law firms, clearinghouses, bar associations, and law schools to institutionalize pro bono practice throughout the legal profession. Join us to discuss how we provide legal representation to human rights and environmental NGOs and international public agencies on cutting-edge pro bono matters through partnerships with lawyers across the world.

Host: Dina Stukanow de Paterson

Organization: Cyrus R. Vance Center for International Justice

Table 23

Reproductive Freedom as a Global Fundamental Human Right

The Center for Reproductive rights is dedicated to using the law to advance reproductive freedom as a fundamental human right and to transforming the landscape of reproductive health and rights worldwide. The Center has worked in more than 50 countries on cases, fact-finding reports, legal publications, and law reform efforts and has spearheaded the use of international litigation on reproductive health issues. Join us to discuss the expansion of our pro bono program with opportunities for advocacy and litigation before the U.N.

Host: Marlene Halpern

Organization: Center for Reproductive Rights

Table 24

Representing Immigrant and Refugee Children

In 2014, more than 68,000 children fleeing violence in Central America and Mexico arrived alone in the U.S. and were placed in deportation proceedings. Despite the complexities of the U.S. immigration system and the enormous stakes involved, unaccompanied children are not provided counsel. Without counsel, they are often unable to effectively present their case in immigration court and can be returned to their home countries, where their well-being, or even their lives, may be in danger. Kids in Need of Defense (KIND) works with law firms and legal departments to ensure that no child is forced to appear in immigration court alone.

Host: Alice Fitzgerald

Organization: Kids in Need of Defense

Table 25

Disaster Legal Services

Each time a disaster strikes, the legal community responds with enthusiasm. But what can pro bono attorneys do to more effectively leverage their pro bono efforts? How can we better prepare in advance

of a crisis for both the immediate, short-term outpouring of support and the long-term need? Join us to discuss how we could build a preparation plan.

Hosts: Carol Bockner and Tiela Chalmers

Organizations: New York City Bar and Alameda County Bar Association

Table 26

Patent Pro Bono Program

The United States Patent and Trademark Office is supporting the efforts of nonprofits across the country to create regional patent pro bono programs. Each regional program matches inventors who qualify (e.g., income threshold, residency, and other requirements) with local volunteer patent attorneys licensed to practice before the USPTO. In turn, under-resourced inventors across the U.S. will have the opportunity to secure legal counsel to assist with their patent needs.

Hosts: Jennifer McDowell and Erik Metzger

Organizations: United States Patent and Trademark Office and Intel Corporation

Table 27

Assisting Nonprofits in Financial Distress

The Law Project works with hundreds of pro bono attorneys each year to provide transactional legal services to community-based organizations. Join us to discuss how pro bono volunteers can provide valuable resources and representation in areas such as employment, corporate governance, creditor workouts, settling tax disputes, dissolution, and bankruptcy, which are critical to helping nonprofits navigate a financial crisis or close with grace.

Host: Erica Spangler Raz

Organization: The Law Project

Table 28

Representing Veterans at the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims

The Veterans Consortium Pro Bono Program recruits volunteer attorneys to represent veterans (or their survivors) before the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims. The program screens cases for merit, and offers comprehensive training and support to participating attorneys. Join us and find out how you can help our nation's veterans and their family members secure their benefits.

Host: Louis George

Organization: Veterans Consortium Pro Bono Program

Table 29

Save a Life from Your Desk

The Iraqi Refugee Assistance Project works with law firms and legal departments to represent thousands of refugees throughout the Middle East and Afghanistan whose lives are in danger as a result of their work as interpreters for the U.S. military, or who face sexual and gender-based violence. Join us to learn how you can get involved and help displaced people navigate the refugee resettlement system to find safety.

Host: Becca Heller

Organization: Iraqi Refugee Assistance Project

Table 30

Pro Bono in Singapore

Discussion will center around the state of pro bono in Singapore. We will highlight innovative and replicable activities, and discuss the current strengths and challenges which pro bono lawyers are facing in Singapore.

Host: Helena Whalen-Bridge

Organization: Center for Transnational Legal Studies

Table 31

Pro Bono in Brazil

Discussion will center around the state of pro bono in Brazil. We will highlight innovative and replicable activities, and discuss the current strengths and challenges which pro bono lawyers are facing in Brazil.

Host: Fabio De Sa e Silva

Organization: Harvard Law School