

CREATING A SUCCESSFUL SERVICE PROGRAM IN YOUR JRCLS CHAPTER

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT TEAM 2018



J . REUBEN CLARK LAW SOCIETY

THE JRCLS COMMITMENT TO SERVICE

“I hope that you will use your education, your degree, and your license to practice law to serve people. Many people today cannot afford legal services. . . . In my own personal experience, I received more satisfaction from helping people in these economic circumstances, whose property and health were at risk, than I did in representing big corporations.” Pres. James E. Faust

American Bar Association Model Rule 6.1

Every lawyer should render at least **50 hours of pro bono** legal service each year to:

- a) Persons of limited means; or
- b) Charitable, religious, civic, community, governmental, or educational organizations in matters that are designed primarily to address the needs of persons of limited means.



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CREATING A SERVICE PROGRAM STEP-BY-STEP

- Designate
- Connect
- Recruit
- Organize
- Report



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STEPS TO SUCCESS

- **Designate** a Service Coordinator (Can be a Chapter Officer):
- **Connect** with your Area Director and Service & Outreach Committee member, discuss ideas suited to your area: http://www.jrcls.org/?folder=committees&page=public_service&id=3 Review JRCLS website for ideas. FAQs (malpractice etc.) here: http://www.jrcls.org/?folder=pro_bono&page=faq
- **Recruit** chapter members and potential members – promote service as a primary reason for membership. Consider referral program http://www.jrcls.org/?folder=pro_bono&page=service_church, or regular / periodic email with links to local pro bono needs and opportunities.
- **Organize** chapter events / participation in community events. A simple matrix can be found here: <http://jrcls.org/service/Matrix.pdf> Outstanding Chapter Award often includes one project each year.
- **Report** your chapter's experience to the Service Committee through photos or videos - inspire other chapters, share ideas. See current examples from U.S., International Chapters here: http://www.jrcls.org/?folder=pro_bono&page=experiences



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PARTNERING FOR SUCCESS

Partner with local bar association, church, community, or government agencies:

- Offer pro bono resources to LDS priesthood leaders; can include list of local service providers, directory of JRCLS members. Guidelines and sample letter here: http://www.jrcls.org/?folder=pro_bono&page=service_church
- Connect with legal aid groups, Church groups, Bar Association or government agencies. See <http://www.probono.net/celebrateprobono/resources/> Research local needs, assess need for volunteers, offer JRCLS involvement. Legal aid organizations often provide malpractice coverage and training, might allow attorney/client in need to enter as a pair. Look for local needs on JustServe.org: <https://www.justserve.org/>
- Consult ABA list of organizations providing pro bono service in each state: https://www.americanbar.org/directories/probono-directory/pb_directory_map.html (consult your Service and Outreach Committee member outside USA); and groups serving special needs: http://apps.americanbar.org/legalservices/findlegalhelp/usa_freehelp.cfm Also see Legal Services Corporation to find local groups: <http://www.lsc.gov/grants-grantee-resources/our-grantees>
- Arrange presentation to your chapter by local bar association, legal aid or service group (CLE!) - discuss opportunities and encourage JRCLS participation.



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MORE STEPS TO SUCCESS

- Recruit non-practicing attorneys, including Women In Law
 - http://www.jrcls.org/?folder=committees&page=women_in_law&id=7
- Partner with JRCLS Student Chapter & other local law students
 - Students are often aware of opportunities through their schools and are eager to work with you. Find the nearest JRCLS student chapter: <http://www.jrcls.org/chapters/locations.php>
 - Find ABA student resources and guidelines here: https://www.americanbar.org/groups/probono_public_service/resources/directory_of_law_school_public_interest_pro_bono_programs/resources.html
- Organize participation in local non-legal service opportunities
 - Research local service opportunities (examples include food drives, school Law Day instruction, community or high school moot court); contact organizer and offer JRCLS support
- Report your success to the Service Committee and ask any questions:
 - Richard Sheffield RSheffield@fslaw.com or Jim Moss jrm@paynefears.com



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ABA PRO BONO CHALLENGE

- JRCLS encourages each chapter to plan a service project around the ABA pro bono celebration each October:
<https://www.probono.net/celebrateprobono/>
- ABA has assembled extensive resources and suggestions:
<https://www.probono.net/celebrateprobono/resources/>



CONTACT INFO

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