

FACT SHEET

Who We Are & What We Do:

Pro Bono Net is a nonprofit organization that works in close partnership with nonprofit legal organizations across the United States and Canada to increase access to justice for the millions of poor people who face legal problems every year without help from a lawyer. We do this by (i) supporting the innovative and effective use of technology by the nonprofit legal sector, (ii) increasing participation by volunteers, and (iii) facilitating collaborations among nonprofit legal organizations and advocates working on similar issues or in the same region.

Founded in 1998 with a grant from the Open Society Institute, Pro Bono Net has developed a broad base of support from foundations, law firms, corporate sponsors and nonprofit partners alike, to build web platforms that offer powerful and sophisticated online tools to pro bono and legal aid advocates, and to provide critical legal information and assistance directly to the public. Our model has been adopted in 30 states, reaching roughly 70% of the poverty population and lawyers in the United States.

Our Programs:

Probono.net (<u>www.probono.net</u>) is a national, online resource for legal aid and pro bono attorneys, law professors and students, and related social services advocates. The site promotes collaboration and makes it easier for pro bono attorneys to get involved, saving them time and connecting them with opportunities, training events, mentors, and searchable libraries of practice resources they won't find anywhere else. The site is organized by topical "practice areas" and geographic regions, built and maintained by public interest legal organizations and law firms throughout the country. Members include more than 65,000 advocates from hundreds of public interest organizations and private firms.

LawHelp.org (<u>www.lawhelp.org</u>) is an online resource that helps low and moderate-income people find free legal aid programs in their communities, answers to questions about their legal rights, court information, links to social service agencies, and more. This resource, which served nearly 4 million visitors in 2009, was built and is maintained in partnership with hundreds of legal aid, pro bono and court-based programs across the country.

LawHelp Interactive (www.lawhelpinteractive.org) is a national program providing free online legal document assembly for poverty law and court access to justice programs across the country. Interactive online interviews, created by legal aid and court access-to-justice programs, enable users to draft complete, properly-formatted legal documents. Online document assembly increases opportunities for unrepresented litigants to achieve justice on their own and improves efficiency for legal aid organizations, pro bono programs, and courts. The College of Law Practice Management awarded its 2010 InnovAction Award to Pro Bono Net in recognition of LawHelp Interactive.

Pro Bono Manager (www.probono.net/probonomanager) With the support of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Pro Bono Net has developed a customized, hosted web application to increase law firms' pro bono practice management capacity. Operating as a secure, seamless extension of a law firm's intranet, *Pro Bono Manager* integrates content from the public interest legal community regarding training events, volunteer opportunities and news with powerful reporting, knowledge management and lawyer matching tools that draw on data from the law firm's internal systems.

Pro Bono Net State Network

Alabama Alaska California Colorado

District of Columbia

Florida Georgia Guam Hawaii lowa Louisiana Massachusetts (Boston)

Micronesia Minnesota **Mississippi** Montana Nevada **New Mexico New York North Carolina** Oklahoma Oregon

Pennsylvania South Carolina

Texas

Virgin Islands Virginia Washington Wyoming Alberta Ontario

National Projects

ABA Military Pro Bono Project

Hosted by the ABA Standing Committee on Legal Assistance for Military Personnel www.militaryprobono.org

Asylum Law

Hosted by Human Rights First, Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights of the SF Bay Area, The Advocates for Human Rights and the Northwest Immigrant Rights Project www.probono.net/asvlum

Corporate Counsel Pro Bono Coordinators

Hosted by Corporate Counsel Pro Bono Coordinators **Executive Committee**

www.probono.net/corporatecounsel

Death Penalty

Hosted by the ABA Death Penalty Representation Project www.probono.net/deathpenalty

Defending Immigrants

Hosted by Immigrant Legal Resource Center, NLADA, National Immigration Project and Immigrant Defense **Project**

www.defendingimmigrants.org

Haitian Immigration Pro Bono Project

Hosted by Lawyers Earthquake Response Network www.probono.net/haitianimmigration

Holocaust Survivors Justice Network

Hosted by Bet Tzedek

www.holocaustsurvivorsprobono.org

Human Rights

Hosted by the Human Rights Institute at Columbia Law School

www.ushumanrightsonline.net

Immigration Advocates Network

Hosted by the Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. and other leading national immigration organizations www.immigrationadvocates.org

Hosted by the National Association of IOLTA Programs www.iolta.org

National Disaster Legal Aid

Hosted by the ABA, National Legal Aid & Defender Association, Legal Services Corporation, and Pro Bono Net

www.disasterlegalaid.org (formerly www.katrinalegalaid.org)

National Wage and Hour Clearinghouse

Hosted by the National Employment Law Project www.-just-pay.org

Prisoners' Rights

Hosted by Prisoners' Legal Services of New York, The Legal Aid Society, and Illinois Institute for Community Law www.probono.net/prisoners

Pro Bono Counsel

Hosted by the Association of Pro Bono Counsel www.probonocounsel.org

Reentry.net

Hosted by the Bronx Defenders

www.reentry.net

National Campaign to Restore Civil Rights

Hosted by New York Lawyers for the Public Interest www.rollbackcampaign.org

National Language Access Advocates Network

Hosted by N-LAAN

www.probono.net/nlaan

National Pro Bono Week

Hosted by the ABA Center for Pro Bono www.celebrateprobono.org

School to Prison

Hosted by ACLU

www.schooltoprison.org

Self Help Support

Hosted by the National Center for State Courts www.selfhelpsupport.org

Student Hurricane Network

Hosted by the Student Hurricane Network www.studentjustice.org

International Projects

International Pro Bono

Hosted by the International Bar Association www.internationalprobono.org

Media Law and Freedom of Expression

Hosted by the International Bar Association Media Law Committee

http://www.probono.net/medialaw/

Media Defense Programme

Hosted by the Southern Africa Litigation Centre http://www.probono.net/salc/