

ABA/ NLADA 2004 Equal Justice Conference

**Promoting Pro Bono Through Statewide and  
Regional Pro Bono Partnerships**

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**Brief Description:**

Statewide and regional partnerships can enhance pro bono recruitment, retention, and recognition. Several statewide and regional pro bono manager networks exist to coordinate efforts to work with private attorneys and law schools. Representatives from four of these partnerships will discuss how they started, what they have accomplished, and what they hope to accomplish in the future. Share your questions and ideas for establishing or strengthening a pro bono managers network in your area!

**Topical Outline:**

- I. Why form a statewide or regional partnership?
  - a. Coordinate recruiting and placement, especially for very specialized areas of practice or other professionals, including translators.
  - b. Make a coordinated outreach to local firms to increase pro bono participation.
  - c. Facilitate nominations for statewide pro bono awards and recognition.
  - d. Work with local law schools to help the schools be more responsive to the programs' needs.
  - e. Redirect volunteers a program can't place.
  
- II. How do you form one?
  - a. What if you build it and they still don't come?
  - b. Do you need a formal structure?
  - c. Membership issues—self-selection or by invitation
  
- III. Web site
  - a. Deciding whether to have one
  - b. "It's so easy a five-year old could do it"—where's a five year old when you really need her?
  
- IV. List serv
  - a. Educating members on its value and etiquette
  - b. How to establish a list serv
  
- V. Group Discussion