

ABA/ NLADA 2007 Equal Justice Conference

AmeriCorps: Using National Service Resources to Develop New Programs and Increase Organizational Capacity

Presenters:

Alison L. Paul
Deputy Director
Montana Legal Services Association
616 Helena Ave. Suite 100
Helena, MT 59601
Ph: 406-442-9830 x. 15
E-mail: apaul@mtlsa.org

Michelle Hauer
Volunteer Coordinator
Montana Legal Services Association
616 Helena Ave. Suite 100
Helena, MT 59601
Ph: 406-442-9830 x. 12
E-mail: mhauer@mtlsa.org

Crystal Utley
Katrina EJW AmeriCorps Attorney
Mississippi Center for Justice
P.O. Box 1023
Jackson, MS 39215
Ph: 601 352-2269
E-mail: cutley@mscenterforjustice.org

C. Kenneth Perri
Executive Director
Legal Assistance of Western NY, Inc.
One Franklin Square, P.O. Box 487
Geneva, New York 14456
Ph: (315)781-1465 ext. 713
E-mail: kp@lafl.org

Cole McMahon
Senior Program Manager - AmeriCorps
Equal Justice Works
2120 L Street, NW
Washington, DC 20037
Ph: 202.466.3686 ext.120
E-mail: cmcmahon@equaljusticeworks.org

Brief Description:

This session will describe how legal aid programs can use AmeriCorps members to create new programs, build capacity to conduct current programs and develop sustainable volunteer programs. The discussion will include the use of AmeriCorps*VISTA members, AmeriCorps*Direct members and AmeriCorps*Attorneys through Equal Justice Works.

Topical Outline:

- I. Introduction
- II. Overview of AmeriCorps Programs
 - a. History of AmeriCorps and the Corporation for National Service
 - i. Learn and Serve
 - ii. Senior Corps
 - iii. AmeriCorps Programs – NCCC, AmeriCorps State/National and AmeriCorps*VISTA
 - b. AmeriCorps State/National
 - i. Member Commitments
 - ii. Member Benefits
 - iii. Direct Service Focus
 - iv. Examples of Projects
 - c. AmeriCorps*VISTA
 - i. Member Commitments
 - ii. Member Benefits
 - iii. Capacity Building Focus
 - iv. Examples of Projects
- III. AmeriCorps Attorney Perspective – What a program needs to know before embarking on an AmeriCorps Attorney program
- IV. Equal Justice Works – Pro Bono Legal Corps
 - a. Example of AmeriCorps National Grant that provides attorneys to legal services programs
- V. Legal Assistance of Western New York, Inc.
 - a. Example of AmeriCorps Direct Program (uses for intake) and EJW AmeriCorps Attorney program
- VI. Montana Legal Services Association
 - a. Example of AmeriCorps*VISTA program (uses for capacity building and project development) and EJW AmeriCorps Attorney program
- VII. Question/Answer and Wrap-up

Supplemental Materials

(distributed at session)

1. Presentation Powerpoint
2. Legal Assistance of Western NY, Inc. - Law Students in Action Project Report to Community
3. Narrative portion of funding application for AmeriCorps Direct Project of Legal Assistance of Western NY, Inc.

Bibliography & Website Links:

Find out about what is available in your state.

<http://cns.gov>

Montana Legal Services AmeriCorps*VISTA Program

<http://www.mlsavista.org>

Pro Bono Legal Corps: sponsored by Equal Justice Works

<http://www.equaljusticeworks.org/participants/pppblc.php>

Law Students In Action Project with Legal Assistance of Western New York

http://www.lawny.org/lawny/index.php?option=com_content&task=section&id=13&Itemid=112

Mississippi Center for Justice

<http://www.mscenterforjustice.org>

Rev. 4/20/2007

H:\Training\2007 Equal Justice Conference\AmeriCorps Session\Americorps Presentation outline NLADA format.doc