May 2020 | Corporate Engagement eNews

Welcome to a special issue of Sneak Peek, the National Legal Aid & Defender Association’s (NLADA) corporate engagement newsletter. In this issue we will update you on the positive impact of NLADA’s policy work on the COVID-19 crisis, and our Corporate Advisory Committee’s work to advance UN Sustainable Development Goal 16, as well as how you can engage NLADA in your regular operations and also your pro bono activities. We also invite you to visit the refreshed Corporate Advisory Committee (CAC) webpage to find current information, a listing of CAC member benefits, and how to become a member.

COVID-19 Resources
NLADA has created a page on its website to house resources and information related to coronavirus response. The purpose of this site is to highlight valuable information from NLADA and its partners and help advocates navigate the multitude of important information being produced by experts in the range of legal services delivery areas affected by the current pandemic. This page is regularly updated with new materials and national policy developments covering a broad range of issue areas, as well as a calendar of virtual events of interest to legal services organizations. Learn more »

Emergency COVID-19 Funding
NLADA is proud once again to partner with the CAC to secure funding for the Legal Services Corporation (LSC). In March and April, NLADA with the CAC leadership, delivered letters to the Senate and House Leadership and Appropriations Committees urging the appropriations of emergency supplemental funding for the LSC to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic. This critical effort helped secure an additional $50 million in federal funding for LSC’s response to the pandemic with ongoing advocacy for additional dollars to LSC in future supplemental appropriations. Learn more »
Goal 16 Working Group Update

On Thursday, February 27, 2020, NLADA held its first CAC conference call of the year, which included a discussion of policy initiatives tied to our Goal 16 Working Group. The Goal 16 Working Group identifies access to justice policy initiatives that can be advanced through collaboration between NLADA and the corporate community. The working group was successfully registered as NLADA’s commitment to advancing Goal 16 of the Sustainable Development Goals with the United Nations SDG Partnerships Platform. More information about NLADA’s efforts to advance Goal 16 with its corporate partners can be found here, including the work that led up to the issuance of our policy brief Access to Justice is Good for Business.

To facilitate the work of the Goal 16 Working Group, NLADA has launched a new NLADA CAC member-only Microsoft Team that allows members access to issue briefs and policy background for the working group’s activities. The working group meets four times a year with our next meetings scheduled for:

- Thursday, June 18 — NLADA CAC Video Conference Call from 2:00pm EDT — 3:00pm EDT
- Week of September 21 — Possible NLADA Side-Event on Corporate Engagement on Access to Justice on the Margins of the 75th Session of the UN General Assembly New York, NY (Possibly Virtual)
- Week of November 9 — NLADA-CAC Meeting during NLADA’s 2020 Annual Conference Crystal City, VA

Corporate Advisory Committee Membership

CAC members play a vital role in advocating for much needed financial and pro bono resources for the legal community across the US, help drive critical attention to key legal issues both in the civil and criminal justice systems, and provide an invaluable sounding board and advocate on access to justice policies. COVID-19 brings new challenges to the equal access to justice community and is placing strains on already limited resources, which makes the work of the CAC even more critical and timely. The CAC also helps generate needed resources for NLADA that furthers our mission and supports the work of our national membership. The impact CAC members can, and do, have on our mission-driven work is invaluable particularly during these challenging times. We encourage you to review the full array of benefits to CAC members posted on our corporate engagement webpage. The CAC was established 27 years ago by corporate leaders and today, our members serve as our partners in the pursuit of justice for all and established thought leaders on key policy issues.

Please join the CAC today to align your company and yourself with general counsels and their legal teams from some of the most prominent corporations who are passionate about access to justice. Your support is critical to our success and makes a difference.

For additional information please contact Aileen Moffatt, Vice President External Affairs at a.moffatt@nlada.org or 202-452-0620 x 223, or go directly to the website to expedite your membership.
Exemplar Celebration & Social Justice Art Auction

NLADA's annual Exemplar Awards Celebration and Social Justice Art Auction originally scheduled for June has been rescheduled for Wednesday, September 16, 2020. This annual, inspiring event will honor our Exemplar Awardee, Marcus V. Brown, executive vice president and general counsel at Entergy Corporation. Please watch your email for an announcement of the new date. We would like to thank those of you who have already pledged your support as sponsors of the Dinner, and hope that others will consider sponsoring this festive and rewarding occasion. A full catalogue of the art to be sold at the auction will be previewed online this summer. For additional information on sponsorship or the event, please contact Chelsey Gibson, Major Gifts Officer, at c.gibson@nlada.org. Learn more »