



A CALL TO ACTION

What You Can Do To Help Legal Aid In Your Community

- **Understand how funding for legal aid works and support increased funding on both the state and federal level.** Supporting access to justice is a bi-partisan cause.
 - **Put your lawyer trust account funds with a “Leadership Bank”.** These banks are committed to maximizing the rate of return on IOLTA accounts. The interest from these accounts is distributed by the Oregon Law Foundation. Contact the OLF to locate the Leadership Banks in your community. www.oregonlawfoundation.org
 - **Do pro bono work through your local legal aid office.** Contact your local office. Some offices provide direct referrals, others use pro bono lawyers to assist in case screening. Remember that the offices are stretched and that administering pro bono programs takes office resources. Please be patient.
- Sign up to receive a weekly email with available pro bono cases at: probonooregon-subscribe@mail.lawhelp.org. Right now the list serves the Portland metro area and Bend. Expansion plans are in the works.
- **Give generously to the Campaign for Equal Justice.** The best way to increase access is to create more legal aid staff attorney positions.
 - **Include the Endowment Fund in your estate plan.** Gifts and bequests to the Endowment Fund will grow to be a source of perpetual, stable support for Oregon’s legal programs and a lasting legacy for donors. For more information contact Sandy Hansberger at (503) 295-8442 or sandy@cej-oregon.org.
 - **Understand how legal services are delivered in your community** so that you can make appropriate referrals for low-income clients.
 - **Become involved in your local legal aid offices’ priority setting.** Periodically, your local office seeks input on the legal needs of the low-income client community and the priority of these legal needs.
 - **Take a legal aid lawyer to lunch.** No kidding. Get to know the lawyers and their work. Besides, it would be a really nice thing to do.