Legal Aid Shores Up Pro Bono to Help Meet Increased Need

During legal aid’s strategic planning process, the programs identified ways to increase service to clients, and to address the needs of some of the hardest-hit areas of the state. Both Central Oregon and the Washington County region had seen increases in the poverty population by over 50%. Funding from the legislature helped legal aid hire additional lawyers in those hardest-hit regions and also helped legal aid shore up pro bono efforts to stretch limited resources. David Thornburgh, Executive Director of the Oregon Law Center, gives credit to the Governor and First Lady, legislators, the State Bar and Oregon lawyers for recognizing the dramatic increase in the numbers of low-income Oregonians who need legal aid's help.

The Portland Large Firm Committee, chaired by Joel Mullin, Stoel Rives; Beth Skillern, Bullivant Houser Bailey; and Larry Reichman, Perkins Coie, raised almost $390,000 --- close to their goal of funding the equivalent of eight legal aid lawyer positions. The Mid-Sized Firm Committee, co-chaired by Mark Wada, Farleigh Wada Witt and Mike Silvey, Roberts Kaplan, raised almost $80,000. The Associates Committee, chaired by Andrew Schpak, Barran Liebman; Brian Flanagan, Schwabe Williamson; and Amy Edwards, Stoel Rives, drummed up enthusiasm for the Campaign by holding three events: the now-annual

Cont’d page 16

The pro bono team has already scored several successes. This April they helped Central Oregon's legal aid office start a Bankruptcy Clinic. The Bankruptcy Clinic is a model program that has been operating successfully in the Portland area for more than a decade and was developed in partnership with the Debtor-Creditor Section of the Oregon State Bar, the Lewis and Clark Legal Clinic, and Judge Perris of the US Bankruptcy Court. The team is also working to expand the pro bono list-serv--- which allows pro bono lawyers to select individual cases they can handle. Sharon stated that "training for our volunteer lawyers on substantive topics is now available on the internet. As an added bonus, the trainings qualify for CLE credit."
Garvey Schubert was the large firm that had the highest percentage increase in the number of donors over last year—a 63% increase. Volunteers William Kabieisen and Samuel Kauffman are pictured here.

Tonkon Torp partners and CEJ volunteers Darcy Norville, Ron Greenman, and Kristin Bremer. Tonkon Torp received an award for the largest firm committee in largest dollar increase in donations.

Justice Council 2009

Michael Kennedy
Randall B Kester
Wesley W Kirley
Glenn S Klein
James L Knoll
Sara Kehok
Peter H Koehler Jr
Hon Paula J Kuehn
Frank V Langfi ft III
Debra Fee Jing Lee & Peter Sage
Justin D Leonard
Lisa M Lesage
Richard F Lieberman
Ann M Linniger
Mark A Long
Mervyn H Loya
David R Ludwig
Jesse D Lyon
Anita G Manishan
Chrys A Martin
Anita G Manishan
Chrys A Martin
Ann M Linniger
Mark A Long
Mervyn H Loya
David R Ludwig
Jesse D Lyon
Anita G Manishan
Chrys A Martin
Anita G Manishan
Chrys A Martin

LASSO Board Chair Michael Mason and Attorney General John Kroger at the Annual Awards Luncheon.
In Honor

Tace Barton
John Mullin
Ian Crawford
Terry & Peggy Crawford
Maya Crawford
Sandy Hansberger
Jenée Gifford
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William Haberlach
Janice Watson
Ed Haendel
Sandy Hansberger
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Garry L. Kahn
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In Memory

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Reilha Brophy
Ario Denecke
Anne Denecke
Val Doherty
Brenda JP Readin
Ross Gangle
Marcia Olhalmillar
Doug Gard
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Thad M Gayer
Hon William P Haberlach
Kevin Kiser
Debra Frey Jing Lee & Peter Sage
Jim Smis
Faye Wesler


Bar Associations

Constitutional Law
Construction Law
Consumer Law
Criminal Law
Diversity
Elder Law
Environmental & Natural Resources
Estate Planning
Government Law
Indian Law
Labor & Employment Law
Litigation
Real Estate & Land Use

Clatsop County Bar Association
Cass & Curry Counties Bar Association
Jackson County Bar Association
Lane County Bar Association
Marion County Bar Association
Multnomah Bar Association
Oregon State Bar
Oregon State Bar Sections
Administrative Law
Appellate Practice
Business Law
Business Litigation
Civil Rights

Larry Rew, Pendleton Attorney 1936-2009

Pendleton lawyer Larry Rew was a powerful advocate for legal services in Oregon. Larry, along with Jay Waldron, was credited with establishing a pro bono standard in Oregon, urging all practitioners to provide at least 40 hours of donated legal services per year and to contribute to the Campaign. Larry considered supporting access to justice a key component of professionalism. He was the architect of the pro bono program at the legal aid office in Pendleton, and that model has been the gold standard for rural legal aid offices. He continued to volunteer in the Pendleton legal aid office up until his death.

Larry also firmly believed that lawyers should make financial contributions to support legal aid. He served as the statewide co-chair for the Campaign’s annual fund drive for many years and he led the fundraising and county bar outreach efforts in eastern Oregon. Larry served as Oregon State Bar President and was a member of the 1996 Oregon State Bar Legal Services Task Force that was critical in shaping the configuration of legal services in Oregon.

In addition to being a lawyer with the law firm of Corey Byler and Rew, Larry was a rancher and a cowboy, and was known for his hearty laugh and his winning smile.

Andy Lee, Schwabe Williamson; and Ben Miller, Harrang Long, with Governor Kulongoski at the Mahonia Hall Young Lawyer Event.

Phil Goldsmith and Justice Rives Kistler at the Annual Awards Luncheon.

In Honor

Judy Rew and Emily Harnden at the Annual Awards Luncheon.

Bar Associations

Constitutional Law
Construction Law
Consumer Law
Criminal Law
Diversity
Elder Law
Environmental & Natural Resources
Estate Planning
Government Law
Indian Law
Labor & Employment Law
Litigation
Real Estate & Land Use

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Phil Goldsmith and Justice Rives Kistler at the Annual Awards Luncheon.
Top Contributors

Total donations include firm or corporate gifts, individual members, and/or in-kind donations.

Oregon Women Lawyers 133,492
Oregon Trial Lawyers Association 126,568
Snoq River LLP 80,599
Trohman Torp LLP 47,460
Schwabe Williamson Wyatt 40,086
Stoll Berne 39,198
Williams Love O’Leary & Powers PC 30,000
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Miller Nash LLP 24,770
Baron Liebman 23,325
Oregon State Bar 22,500
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Perkins Coie LLP 18,380
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Marion County Bar Association 3,500
Pacific Continental Bank 3,500
Garrett Herman Robertson PC 3,475
SAIF Corporation 3,465
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Williams & Kastner & Gibbs PLLC 2,981
Ballard Smith Jensenstolke Wilson 2,855
Oregon Governor’s Office 2,775
Oregon Supreme Court 2,710
McDowell & Radner PC 2,600
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Multnomah Bar Association 2,500
OSB Litigation Section 2,500
Pioneer Trust Bank 2,500
Steenom Schumann Tewksbury Cregighton & Rose PC 2,550
Sterling Savings Bank 2,500
Susman Shanik LLP 2,470
Chernoff Villauer McClung & Stensel 2,400
Frohmayer, Deatherage, Pratt, Jamieson, Moore, Armosina & McGovern PC 2,100
Professional Liability Fund 2,100
Oregon State Bar 2,095
Gervarts Mennes Larson & Howe PC 2,038
Litler Mendelson PC 2,030
Cox County Bar Association 2,000
Lady Justice Martha Walters addressed the attendees about the importance of access to justice.

**BEND LUNCHEON**

About 60 lawyers attended the Bend Luncheon. Howie Arnett, CEJ statewide co-chair, introduced Leigh Dickey from the Central Oregon LASO office. Leigh noted that the Central Office was hard hit by the recession, with a more than 50% increase in the poverty rate in the past 10 years. Because of money from the state legislature, her office was targeted to add an attorney position. Neil Bryant asked Bend area lawyers to dig deep and help support the cause of equal access to justice.

*(Continued page 6)*

(Clockwise from top left) Michelle Vlach-Ing emceed the Salem Luncheon. Prof Valerie Vollmar and Dean Symeonides of Willamette University College of Law, at the Salem Luncheon. Hon Neil Bryant, former state senator, urges Bend-area lawyers to support legal aid. Former Attorney General Hardy Myers presents First Lady Mary Oberst, a tireless advocate for legal aid, with the Public Access to Justice Award.
On December 14, 2009, about 100 lawyers packed the jury room at the Jackson County Courthouse for lunch. Eric Foster, Jackson County Bar President, and Tim Gerking, a CEJ statewide co-chair, welcomed their colleagues. Justice Rives Kistler spoke about the important role lawyers play in helping clients present relevant evidence and critical legal arguments. Debra Gartland, CEJ statewide co-chair, emceed the event.

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What You Help Fund

2009-2010 Campaign for Equal Justice Revenue & Expenses

Our audited financial statements are available on our website, www.cej-oregon.org.

**Operating Income***
- Annual Funds $1,000,260
- Grants* $33,750
- Interest & Other $4,320
- Contract Revenue $3,750
- In Kind Contributions $3,250
- Total Income $1,045,330

**Program Expenses**
- Education & Outreach $119,000
- Other Funding Initiatives $67,360
- Funds Distributed $676,800
- Total Program Expense $863,160

**Supportive Expenses**
- Administrative $53,000
- Fundraising $128,000
- Total Supportive Expenses $181,000

**Total Expenses** $1,044,160

*This figure does not reflect grants obtained by legal aid programs as a result of CEJ's efforts, nor does the figure reflect increases in state and federal funding due to CEJ's efforts.

Legal Aid Funding Sources

LEGAL AID

Legal aid provides direct representation to about 20,000 low-income clients each year. Legal aid works to stretch its limited resources with telephone advice, hotlines, special purpose clinics, and pro bono recruiting and coordination. They also publish booklets and teach classes to help prevent legal problems and to help some clients prepare for self-representation.

Outreach to low-income clients for example to Native Americans or the elderly, encourages people isolated by distance or circumstances to ask legal aid for help. Legal aid also maintains a statewide website with legal information and, in some communities, a listserv where pro bono lawyers may select cases.

SAVING HOMES

Legal aid helped the Martin family save their home from foreclosure. A dishonest mortgage broker convinced the Martins they were receiving a fixed rate mortgage at 1.5%, but in reality, their new mortgage was an “adjustable negative amortization loan”—a type of loan now barred by HUD. The family's rate increased dramatically after only two weeks and a stiff prepayment penalty made refinancing out of the question. They now have a sustainable mortgage and a stable home for their family.

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Photo by Julie Keefe

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What You Help Fund

Pro Bono Programs

Oregon’s legal aid offices operate a number of pro bono programs for low-income clients and volunteer lawyers. These include the Volunteer Lawyers Project (Domestic Violence Project, OSB Debtor-Creditor Section Bankruptcy Clinic, Pro Se Assistance Project, Legal Aid Night Clinic, and the Senior Law Project), Neighborhood Legal Clinics, other Law Firm Sponsored Clinics, ELVIS (Emeritus Lawyer Volunteers in Service), and other programs in regional legal aid offices. In an effort to easily match pro bono lawyers and low-income clients, legal aid also operates the ProBonoOregon Listserv, a weekly email listserv that posts pro bono cases from programs serving the legal needs of low-income clients. To sign up for the listserv, send an email to: probonooregon-subscribe@mail.lawhelp.org

Legal Aid Funding Sources

Since 1977, legal aid has received a small portion of dedicated court filing fees. Through the Legal Services Program, the Oregon State Bar distributes these funds to legal aid and oversees legal aid programs in order to deliver statewide access to justice to low-income Oregonians. Legal aid is able to use this stable funding to leverage additional funding from 90 different sources. With total funding, we meet less than 20% of the legal needs of the poor.
Lori Deveny took home the prized rubber chicken award at Laf-Off’s second show (Top). Laf-Off emcee Sonia Montalbano, Elliott Ostrander & Preston surprises Judge Wollheim (Above).
Party Under the Stars; a young lawyers’ reception at the Governor’s home, Mahonia Hall; and a special showing of *To Kill a Mockingbird* at Portland’s Hollywood Theater.

OTLA Lawyers continued their tradition of support for the Campaign by contributing more than $126,000. Linda Eyerman, Gaylord Eyerman Bradley; Phil Goldsmith; Linda Love, Williams Love O’Leary Powers; Steve Piucci; and N Robert Stoll, Stoll Berne, wrote letters to their colleagues to ask for support. Linda Love, Linda Eyerman, and Mark Friel, Stoll Berne, made calls to their OTLA colleagues in support of legal aid.

OWLS members used their statewide list-serv and the help of OWLS Past-President Norma Freitas, Willamette Law School; Trudy Allen, US Bancorp Equipment Finance Inc; Sarah Crooks, Perkins Coie and also a CEJ Board Member; Toby Graff; Katherine O’Neil, Cecil Reniche-Smith, Department of Justice; and Robert Varitz, Robert Varitz PC; to urge OWLS members to contribute more than $133,500.

Rod Lewis; Vicki Smith, Lane Powell; and Ed Harnden, Barran Liebman, worked hard on increasing funds from all past Campaign contributors. Emily Donis, Precision Castparts; Paul Ehrlich, adidas; and Peter Koehler, Nike, led the charge with corporate counsel. Nena Cook, Sussman Shank and Bill Crow, Schwabe Williamson & Wyatt lent their weight as past OSB Presidents to appeal to OSB Sections to contribute over $20,000. Campaign leaders were invited to attend a reception honoring them at Mahonia Hall.

The Marion Polk Committee, chaired by Kathryn Jackson; Michelle Ing, Crowell and Ing LLP; and Christine Chute, Department of Justice, raised more than $67,000 in support of legal aid. Lane County Campaign Chairs John Gartland, Gartland Nelson McCleery Wade & Walloch and Gerry Gaydos, Gaydos Churnside & Balthrop were helped by Joe Richards, Luvaas Cobb and Merv Loya, University of Oregon School of Law and raised a record $80,000. Lawyers in Bend, led by Howie Arnett, and Dennis Karnopp, both of Karnopp Peterson, and Neil Bryant of Bryant Lovelein brought in $12,000 for the Campaign. Jackson County lawyers Tim Gerking, Brophy Mills; William Carter, Mediation & Arbitration; and Eric Foster, Foster Denman, helped to raise more than $22,000 in Jackson and Josephine counties. Larry Brisbee, Brisbee & Stockton, and Matt Kehoe wrote letters and made phone calls in Washington County and increased the amount of contributions to over $50,000.

The Campaign Thanks the Following Corporate Sponsors of 2009-2010 Events:

- **adidas**
- **Bank of the Cascades**
- **Beovich Walter & Friend**
- **C & C Court Reporting**
- **In2itive Technologies LLC**
- **Mercury PDX**
- **Mountain West Investment**
- **Naegeli Reporting Corporation**
- **NIKE, Inc**

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**Mike Silvey, Caplan Roberts, reports on the successes of Portland’s mid-sized firm committee at the Annual Awards Luncheon.**
Marcelina works with the OLC’s Project Against Workplace Sexual Assault of Indigenous Farmworkers. The Project, a part of OLC’s Indigenous Project, aims to improve the health and safety of indigenous farmworkers by reducing sexual harassment and assault in the workplace and provides civil legal services to speakers of indigenous languages. The Project has been supported over the past five years through a variety of local and national grants and is the first of its kind in the northwest addressing the issues of indigenous farmworkers and sexual harassment in the field. Marcelina has been a tireless, creative and pioneering advocate. A former farmworker herself, Marcelina has accomplished ground breaking work in Oregon’s farmworker community, where sexual violence was rarely—if ever before—addressed.

Marcelina Martìnez

Marcelina Martìnez, an Oregon Law Center (“OLC”) paralegal, received the Creating Healthy Alternatives to promote Non-Violence and Gender Equity (CHANGE) Award from the Attorney General’s Sexual Assault Task Force. The Award was established to honor Jan Hindman, who dedicated her life to addressing sexual violence, and to recognize Oregonians who have made a difference in their communities.

CEJ BOARD NEWS

Frank Langfitt, Ater Wynne, assumes the position of CEJ Board Chair on April 1, 2010. Rod Lewis, formerly with Davis Wright Tremaine, is Board Vice President; Sarah Crooks, Perkins Coie is Secretary; and Ron Greenman, Tonkon Torp, continues as Treasurer.

In December 2009, CEJ Executive Director Sandy Hansberger received the OSB President’s Special Award of Appreciation for forging and strengthening the relationship between the Campaign and the Oregon State Bar.

Ed Harnden, Barran Liebman, CEJ volunteer and board chair from 2005-2009 received the 2009 Judge Learned Hand Lifetime Achievement Award presented by the Oregon Area Jewish Committee for his outstanding volunteer service, including his work for the Campaign for Equal Justice. Justice Tom Balmer presented the award to Ed at a luncheon on November 17, 2009.

Frank Langfitt and Sandy Hansberger

Legal aid lawyers Pam Hahn, Cashauna Hill, David Koen, and Monica Goracke

Pam Hahn, staff attorney with the Multnomah County Office of Legal Aid Services of Oregon (LASO), received her law degree from Lewis and Clark. She began her work in family law ten years ago as part of an AmeriCorps project designed to combat domestic violence. Pam has been representing domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking victims ever since both through direct representation and as a part of a coordinated community response.

Cashauna Hill received her law degree from Tulane, and joined the Oregon Law Center in 2009. Cashauna represents individuals whose rights have been violated under local, state and federal laws prohibiting housing discrimination and is currently working on several cases involving sexual harassment and even sexual assault against vulnerable low-income women.

David Koen, a Multnomah County LASO lawyer since 2009, received his law degree from Georgetown and worked as a legal aid lawyer in New Orleans. David’s work focuses on foreclosure prevention. He works with housing counseling agencies, OLC, and training pro bono attorneys to try to combat the problems faced by the 22% of home owning families who are low-income.

Monica Goracke, a native Oregonian and Stanford law graduate, is the managing attorney in the Portland Office of the Oregon Law Center (OLC). Monica leads the Portland OLC office in addressing problems that are caused or worsened by poverty, including clients who are dealing with claims for unpaid wages, staggering medical bills, an inability to access affordable housing, and those trying to obtain or keep unemployment benefits.

We Believe in Justice

Full article appeared in the April issue of the Multnomah Lawyer. Re-printed here with permission.
OWLS (continued)

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Tracy M McGrew
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Judge Kelly Skye and Leah Mallon and Denise Gorrell of Keel Alterman chat with First Lady Mary Oberst at Mahonia Hall

Linda Eyrerman and Steve Pucci at Mahonia Hall

J Matthew Donohue
Wm Keith Donizer Jr
Brian Craig Dretke
• R Benedict Dumaghan
• Reese Dwyer
• Kristin Winnie Eaton
• Travis Eva
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• Denise Nicole Gorrell
John Paul Graff
Shari R Gregory
• Douglas D Hagen
• Eugene Hallman
Jett Harris

Robert Stoll, Stoll Berne, and Nick Fish, Portland City Council, at the Awards Luncheon

Jordan E Lavy
• J Michael Alexander
• J Ashlee Ables
• John Casey Mills
• Andrea B Nicotera
Elizabeth R Newell
• Ari A Okano
• Patrick E O'Neil
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• Thomas A McVilie
The Endowment Fund

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he Oregon Access to Justice Endowment Fund (OATJEF) began in 2001 to support the future of Oregon's statewide legal aid programs. Endowment funds are held by the Oregon Community Foundation. OATJEF was created and supported by the Oregon State Bar, the Oregon Law Foundation and the Campaign for Equal Justice. In order to save administrative costs, OATJEF was merged with the Campaign for Equal Justice effective July 1, 2007. The fund is now referred to as the Campaign for Equal Justice Endowment Fund, and funds will continue to be held by the Oregon Community Foundation. Please consider making a planned gift to the Endowment! For more information, call Sandy Hansberger at (503) 295-8442.

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Edward (“Ned”) Clark, Salem Attorney
1923 - 2009

“Our justice system is the best in the world and it needs to be protected. It’s an honor to be part of this system.” — Ned Clark

Ned and Pat Clark made the first $1,000 contribution to the Campaign when it began in 1991 – a true lead gift. As the story goes, when Ned was leaving the house to attend the first Campaign organizing dinner, his wife Pat asked him if he had his checkbook. Ned replied, “No,” and Pat said, “Well, you better get it. They’re not inviting you because of your good looks.”

Ned served as Oregon State Bar President and was a leader with the Oregon Law Foundation. He was the recipient of many community leadership and bar awards, including the Marion County Bar’s Professionalism award, and was a generous supporter of a number of charities.

Ned left a generous gift to help preserve the future of legal aid.

Edward (“Ned”) Clark, Salem Attorney
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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.

Put your lawyer trust account funds with a bank that will maximize the rate of return on IOLTA money that goes to support legal aid.

www.oregonlawfoundation.org

Do pro bono work though your local legal aid office. Administration resources are often limited, so please be patient. In the Portland metro area and Bend sign up at: probonooregon-subscribe@mail.lawhelp.org.

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 to help build stable future support for Oregon’s legal programs. 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 office’s case priority setting.

Take a legal aid lawyer to lunch. Get to know the lawyers and their work.

For more information go to www.cej-oregon.org, “A Call to Action”

A Call To Action

Thank you for contributing to the Campaign. We apologize if we left out or misspelled anyone’s name.

Luncheon and Kickoff photos: Mike Renfrow
Graphic Design: waterknot.com

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For more information go to www.cej-oregon.org, “A Call to Action”

ABA Lobby Day participants Kathy Evans, 2010 OSB President; Steve Pucelli, OSB President Elect; Sandy Hansberger, CEJ; David Thornburgh, Oregon Law Center; Teresa Schmid and Susan Grabe, OSB. Not pictured: Ed Hamden, Judge Ellen Rosenblum, and Libby Battlan.

Steve Goldberg: Bernie Thurber, Davis Wright; Art Schmidt, OLC at the Annual Awards Luncheon

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