

October 2009

As part of the ABA National Pro Bono Celebration, the Dauphin County Bar Association reminds its members of the DCBA's pro bono leadership and the various pro bono opportunities available.

The Dauphin County Bar Association has long been a statewide leader in providing pro bono legal services. In 1991, members adopted a Pro Bono Resolution which established the mechanism whereby each member is asked to accept a certain number of pro bono cases annually or make a financial contribution. The Resolution provides:

that the Dauphin County Bar Association urges each member of the Association to contribute at least one-half day of service each year to the Dauphin County Pro Bono Program. A member may opt out of the Dauphin County Bar Association Pro Bono Program in lieu thereof is encouraged to contribute the sum of \$400 annually to Central Pennsylvania [now MidPenn] Legal Services.

Due to the members' strong support, the Association later asked members to accept only two cases or contribute \$300. This expectation of participation continues to this day. DCBA uses the alphabetical membership list to send a scheduling email to each member inviting them to participate when it is that member's turn. Based on the strength of the basic pro bono referral program, DCBA has added additional pro bono opportunities over the years.

Questions or want more information, please contact Sandy Ballard sandy@dcba-pa.org. Below are the DCBA programs:

1. Pro Se Custody and Divorce Clinics
2. Bankruptcy Roster Project
3. Lost Boys Project
4. Paralegal Pro Bono Partnership
5. Pro Bono Mediation
6. Modest Means Panel
7. Virtual Clinic Project – inactive
8. Educational Advocacy Project – inactive
9. Homeless Outreach Project
10. Nonprofit Initiative
11. Courthouse Self Help Center
12. Pro Bono Guardian Monitors
13. ABA Grant to Consider Attorney for Child in Custody
14. Custody Mentorship Program