

Pro Bono Opportunities

Our neighbors need our help. But not everyone can afford to pay legal fees. We know we should volunteer at least 50 hours each year to represent low income clients, but it's not always easy. Here are some ways you can build pro bono into a busy practice. The rewards personally and to our system of justice are worth it!

Vermont Volunteer Lawyer Project is a statewide program matching volunteer attorneys with low-income clients. You choose when, where and the types of cases you will accept, and VVLP provides the screening, referral and support. For more information or to sign up, contact Angele Court, VVLP Coordinator, at 802-863-7153, or at acourt@lawlinevt.org.

Vermont Free Legal Answers allows lawyers to answer legal questions on-line for low income Vermonters. Practice pro bono law anywhere, anytime. Learn more or sign up at www.vt.freelegalanswers.org.

Legal Advice Clinics are a great way to offer brief but valuable legal advice. Clinics are hosted by some courts and by various non-profit organization in many areas of the state. Check out the listings on the VBA website at www.vtbar.org. Click on For the Public, then Pro Bono Legal Services.

Pro bono opportunities exist in every state court in Vermont. Consider volunteering in your **local probate or family division**, where the need is especially great. For more ideas, or to start your own pro bono project, contact Mary Ashcroft, Esq, VBA Legal Access Coordinator at mashcroft@vtbar.org