Law Student Externs: Training the Next Generation and Expanding Services

- David Godfrey, American Bar Association Commission on Law and Aging, Washington, DC
- Kevin Kelly, Legal Assistance of Western New York, Inc., Ithaca, NY
- Andrea Marsh, The University of Texas School of Law, Austin, TX
- Keith L. Morris, Elder Law of Michigan, Lansing, MI

Law student externs expand capacity and train the next generation of lawyers. The 2014 amendments to the law school accreditation standards require six hours of experiential learning by 2016, and experiential learning includes externships. This session will discuss how to set up an externship program, and how to recruit, train, and supervise students to expand services.
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David Godfrey
Senior Attorney
ABA Commission on Law and Aging
Washington DC 20036
David.Godfrey@Americanbar.org
202-662-89694

Keith L. Morris
Keith L. Morris, J.D., M.P.A.
President, Elder Law of Michigan | Director, Center for Elder Rights Advocacy
3815 W. St. Joseph, Ste C200 | Lansing, MI 48917
p: 517-853-2385 | c: 517-402-2810

Andrea Marsh
Clinical Lecturer and Director, Richard & Ginni Mithoff Pro Bono Program
William Wayne Justice Center for Public Interest Law
The University of Texas School of Law
727 E. Dean Keeton Street
Austin, TX 78705
(512) 232-6170
amarsh@law.utexas.edu

Kevin Kelly, Esq.
Staff Attorney
Legal Assistance of Western New York, Inc.
(FKA: Tompkins/Tioga Neighborhood Legal Services)
215 North Cayuga Street
Ithaca, New York 14850
Brief Description:

Program Goals (what you will learn):

1. Talk to a Law School about establishing an externship that meets the law school accreditation standards
2. Have ideas on how to recruit law students, even if you are not near a law school.
3. Understand the importance of selection, training and supervision.
4. Understand how to structure externships so that the law student learns and expands program capacity

Topical Outline:

1. What is an externship?
   a. How does this differ from Pro Bono
   b. ABA Standards for experiential learning requirement (DG to create power point)
   c. What kind of supervision is needed
   d. How to building learning into your placement?
   e. Pro Bono
      i. Requirements (NY experience – Law School requirements)
      ii. General Law Student Pro bono
2. A Recruiting Strategy
   a. How can legal aid programs set up effective recruitment programs
   b. Online, onsite and conferences
   c. Email and Video Chat
   d. Recruiting if you are not near a law school
   e. Bringing law students home for the summer
   f. Kevin LSC grant- recruiting law students for new NY 50 hour requirement
3. Selection, training and supervision
   a. Interviewing,
   b. intake
   c. training

phone:  (607) 273-3667
fax:  (607) 273-5521
Kevin Kelly – kkelly@lawny.org
d. Supervision

4. Making it exciting for the student:
   a. Are you client or policy driven – different students want different experiences
   b. Working on real issues
   c. Interaction with real clients
   d. Take them with you – Court – legislative or administrative hearings – outreach and community education
   e. Create networking opportunities.

5. Case Studies
   a. Legal Aid Program has a need for help expanding services with X and faces the following challenges in attracting students
   b. Law School A, has students needing experiential learning credit – has limited experience in working with local legal services providers
   c. Law student Y, wants experience with ZZZ area of law, how can he find a placement
   d. Law Student D, wants to work in Small-Town USA for the summer to be near his terminally ill dog – advice for finding an externship placement